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## **"Srimad Bhagavatam"**

**Discourse by Master Kumar on Sunday, the 30<sup>th</sup> of October 2013, at Visakh.**  
*(for private circulation to WTT members)*

*Canto 3:*

Kapila Maharshi was discoursing on the topics of Devotion, Yoga, Knowledge and Renunciation to his mother Devahuti. Devotion happens only when there is liking for Divine. Such a devotion will release you from the bondage of senses. The mind stabilizes and knowledge comes from within.

He further explains now. Mother! "In this creation, every object has a purpose. It is only that one should know how to use it."

One who does not know how to use objects properly he cannot relate to beings properly. There should be intelligent utilization of resources for the benefit of all. Such a one is said to be efficient and right user. Mostly objects are used in the wrong manner. Same with persons.

When a person comes to you for advise, you should direct him in such a manner that he fulfills himself and at the same time benefits the society. If you use that person for your personal benefit, it is equivalent to robbery. Even one should utilize his abilities for the benefit of the larger group and not just for his personal benefit.

As more and more wealth and resources accumulate around you, it means that you have augmented responsibility towards their utilization towards the benefit of all. What happens is you experience divinity and bliss in working for the benefit of others.

The purpose of Veda is to give such a knowledge of how to relate and use objects, persons, devas, etc. When you follow the Veda, you are not stuck in anything and there will be no consequences that emerge. At the same time your work pleases the devas and the lord as well. Working in such a manner should become natural to you. We should take good care of the beings lower to us in the cycle of evolution. We should take good care of the people working under us.

Also recognition and recollection of the devas would please the devas. You need not offer big things to them. Mere recollection of them pleases them and they grace you.

They greatly support you in all your activities without expecting anything in return. We should atleast recollect them to show our gratefulness towards them.

Every act that you do should be done with intent and interest. Sraddha is very important in performing every act. Quality of the work you do matters a lot. Even good maintenance of the objects that you hold is also very important. You should handle each and every object with care. Remember that every object in this creation is filled with millions of intelligences. Same with plants and animals. Some plants are more vibrant than the others, for example Tulasi plant. It is more valued compared to other plants. The greatness the awareness, the better should be the relation and care taken.

By doing acts with lot of Sraddha (interest and dedication), devas are pleased with you. Once devas are pleased with you, amazing acts happen through you. The devas cooperate with you in every possible manner. All the layers of your body are vitalized by their active cooperation. In fact they attained the status of devas by doing every act in the right manner as per dharma.

It is due to our ignorance and misdeeds that we face lot of problems, there are lot of diseases prevailing now days. It is because our mind and the thoughts that come from it are not streamlined. Our thoughts are very turbulent and consequently our actions as well.

That is why our elders instructed us to start our day with worship of the divine. Such worship results in the alignment of the mind with divine and consequently we get right thoughts at the right time. Worship should not be done seeking something. It should be done only for the sake of divine, for the love towards divine. It should grow to the extent that only the divine remains and we forget ourselves. Even in the acts that we do the divine works through us and we remain mere observers. For that to happen, we should surrender ourselves to divine.

Now Kapila is giving the splendour of divine worship. When true worship happens, the devotee does not remain and only the divine remains. The divine performs grand acts through such devotees who surrender themselves to him. Such devotees remain in complete alignment with divine all the time. Everything just happens through him. When you are with divine, activities happen through you effortlessly and without much of your interference. You can experience the splendor of divine action manifesting through you. It is not possible the other way round. You cannot do activities and at the same time try to worship the divine.

All the grand acts performed by devotees should be seen the splendour of divine manifesting through them. Recollecting such acts gives us inspiration on the path. Observe the grand qualities that they possess. Not only in them, we should also try to see the good qualities that each one around us possesses. It is an important practice. We are mostly interested in the bad qualities that one has and fail to see the good qualities. We are more interested in criticism. It is due to the jealousy that we have. A devotee sees only the good qualities even in the worst person. It is possible because he sees the divine in all.

Seeing the divine in all is given as the foremost practice. Once this stabilises in you everything else follows. Every act that you do happens as per dharma. You cannot do any act against the dharma when you see the divine in all.

A true devotee remains in complete alignment with divine and does not even seek liberation. He is always with him and does not have time to even think of liberation. He sees every incident that happens around him as a play of divine. It is just like watching a movie. We are disturbed merely by scenes in a movie, how can we remain stable and see the scenes really happening around as a movie. It is possible only for a true devotee because he sees only the divine and nothing else.

It is like a honey bee which is only concerned about the honey in every flower. It does not matter where the plant is present. The Plant may be present in a garden or on a wall or near some drainage. Similar is the case with a devotee. He is concerned only about the divine and not the place, person or situation he is in.

We discussed innumerable number of times that we should see the divine in all but still we fail. That is why this is said to be the grandest secret in creation. We discuss it millions of times and still forget. :)

Such a devotee does not crave any knowledge or powers. Hanuman is such a devotee. All the grand wisdom and powers accumulated and remain around him but he remains only with divine and does not care about them. He even does not remember that he possesses such powers. He had to be reminded of his powers when there raised the necessity to use them. He remains in constant penance. Rama says to Lakshmana when they see Hanuman for the first time “That person looks like an embodiment of the Veda. You talk to him courteously with respect.”

Generally people speak of attaining liberation. It is not some destination that we can reach. If you are in alignment with divine, you are already liberated and there is no need to think about liberation. One who is with divine, the wheel of time does not touch them. Such a one experiences incomparable bliss. We should read stories of such devotees. It is important for us to read their stories. They lead a simple life without any complications and just respond to any situation that arises, remaining in alignment with divine. Devotion is a splendour which synthesis everything into one.

So that is teaching of Kapila for today. We will continue in the next class.

-Swasthi