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"Srimad Bhagavatam"

Discourse by Master KPK on Sunday, the 25th of October 2015, at Visakh.

(for private circulation to WTT members)

Canto 4:

We are discussing about the children of different Prajapatis. We discussed about Marichi, Atri, Angerasa and now we will discuss about Pulasthya. Havirbhu is the wife of Pulastya. Havirbhu means the one who takes everything that is offered in a fire ritual and accordingly she presents us with related fruits. Havirbhu is one of the daughters of Kardama. Pulasthya and Havirbhu had a son by name Agasthya. Agasthya is the one who causes hunger and digestion among the beings. He stands as that principle in creation. That is why when we are suffering from indigestion, we are advised to recollect Agasthya. He is present in us as the fire of digestion. This fire reduces the taken food into prana (life energy) and energy which is required by various organs and tissues. If this fiery principle is abundantly present in us, then digestion happens easily and even high intake of food does not result in obese stomach. This principle can be strengthened in us by recollecting Agasthya on a daily basis.

That is why we are advised to recollect all the 7 Sages on a daily basis (Agasthya is one among them). Also we should recollect the 3 logos on a daily basis. All the Prajapatis are also to be recollected. All these are present in us as different principles and by recollecting them daily, they are pleased and they grant their presence and cooperation to us. Our awareness too grows and there are many more advantages by recollecting them daily. We should remember that all the grand wisdom that we have now through Scriptures has come through the Rishis and recollecting them helps us understand all the secrets given in Scriptures.

Pulasthya had another son by name Visravan. Visravan's wife is Ilabala through whom he had a son by name Kubera. Though another wife by name Kaikasa, Visravan had 3 sons by names Ravana, Kumbhakarna and Vibhishana. So Kubera is the elder brother of Ravana and other 2.

Kubera is the one who enables us to swallow things. He presides over that activity among beings. Visravan means the one who has ears or the one who presides over hearing capability. Keekasa means neck and Kaikasa presides over the neck part. Her son Ravana is the one who presides over shouting capability of the throat. We should understand that Ravana principle in creation was present much before the Ravana that we know from Ramayana. Ravana is the one who gave a tune to sing the Vedas. Not everyone can chant the Vedas as per that tune. One needs

a very strong throat to be able to chant the Vedas for a long duration. Master EK advised us to atleast chant Purusha Sukta & Sri sukta on daily basis so that the vibrations that emerge through that chanting purifies our body. We should chant them with open mouth and we should know the pronunciation properly before chanting them. By singing stotras, the lower 3 centers and upper 3 centres are aligned by the throat centre. That is why throat centre is very important. Purity of speech is considered very important because it can purify you completely. Bad speech results in accumulation of lot of impurities. What you eat through your throat and what you speak through your throat are very important to maintain purity of the body.

Kumbhakarna is the one who presides over hearing and remembering capability. Karnam means ears. Hearing is a very big art. Not all can hear properly. Mostly people hear only partially and they forget a part of what is heard. Many people do not have the patience to hear everything and then respond. They respond even before hearing and understanding what is said.

Vibhishana means the one who takes away fear. Fear is what many suffer from in present age of Kali. People have fear of future, fear of health and fear of many more things. Fear goes away when your wisdom increases. When you are a true knower, then you do not fear anything. Vibhishana can grant us with that wisdom.

Even in the story of Ramayana, Vibhishana is the only one who takes the side of Rama because knew what is right. When you get fear, you need to think or recollect from your wisdom and as a result fear goes. In Mahabharata, Arjuna goes into fear at the beginning of the war and that is why Krishna had to grant him the wisdom to remove the fear from Arjuna. Arjuna was thinking too much of unnecessary things and as a result he started fearing. We too have the same problem. By thinking too much about unnecessary things, the wisdom does not come to our help. That is when Krishna talks of discriminative will (Buddhi). So when you get fear, you can recollect the principle of Vibhishana. We generally lose our discrimination when faced with a problem because we live mostly in mind and not in Buddhi. In Ramayana, Vibhishana always tries to tell what is right to Ravana, through his wisdom. Ravana does not listen and finally Vibhishana leaves Ravana.

So these 4 - Kubera, Ravana, Kumbhakarna & Vibhishana are the grandsons of Prajapati Pulasthya. We should understand them to be universal intelligences and not just characters in this story. So by understanding what principle they stand for, we can recollect them and gain their presence. The person Ravana descended from this principle of Ravana but he become a diabolic he followed some diabolic qualities. Same is the case with other characters in Ramayana.

We should try to recollect all the names and the meanings from time to time as a part of one's practice.

Now we go to Prajapati Pulaha. Pulaha's wife is Gati. Gati means locomotion. In which direction are we moving, is important. The direction includes the direction of body, senses and mind. What are we attracted to? What do we recollect in our mind generally? All the questions are important. Pulaha means the one makes us brood over things. If brooding is over Divinity, then we are in right direction. If the brooding is over unnecessary things, then we are going in the wrong direction. If we too much brooding over objective things, then we are stuck in them. Some people brood over unwanted things in free time causing irritation within and hence cannot remain without doing anything. Such ones find it very tough to remain silent and in no work state.

Pulaha had 3 sons by names Karmasrestha, Vareeyamsa and Sahishnu. Karmasrestha means the one who does high quality deeds. According to the quality of the deeds you do, you move in that direction. Action is very important and quality of action is very important. Action is the responsibility of every person born in this world. You do only what is to be done only when you remain in Divine alignment. Vareeyamsa is one who gives lot of intensity in the work you do. The work may be good or bad but he grants you with intensity. Then the 3rd one Sahishnu grants one with patience. Patience is required for one to do any work properly. If you work with impatience, the quality of the work goes down. If there is no patience, you get irritated or tired during the work and leave it incomplete. So the right combination of these 3 principles is very important for us to work.

We should understand that these principles descended before the beings because they are required for the beings to function in this creation. The greatness of the given names is that the meaning of the name itself signifies the principle it stands for. Master EK used the key of etymology to give us all the meanings. We should atleast have the responsibility to understand them properly.

We will continue in the next class.

-Swasthi