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## **"Srimad Bhagavatam"**

**Discourse by Master KPK on Sunday, the 19<sup>th</sup> of February 2017, at Visakh.**  
*(for private circulation to WTT members)*

### *Canto 4:*

We are discussing the story of Dhruva. The prelude to the story is that Swayambhuva was looking for a place for the beings to descend. He had a son by name Uttanapada and Dhruva is the son of Uttanapada through his 1st wife named Suneeti.

Beings descent into 7 planes of existence, that is from Satya Loka to Bhu Loka. Most of the principles that have descended till now are beings in the Tapo Loka which is the 6th plane of existence. All the Prajapatis, Kumaras, Rudras, Manus belong to the 6th plane except Daksha, who was initially in Jano Loka (4th plane) because of his ego. He did not recognize that his existence is due to the Divine presence. And as a result, most of the beings that descended through him have similar kind of nature. Daksha, later realizes the truth of his identity and he is then uplifted to a higher plane. We discussed that story in detail. Now for the beings in 4th plane to descend, earth is required. So we are now discussing how the globes have come into existence through the story of Dhruva.

In Dhruva's story, we discussed how he saw his younger brother on his father's lap and he too wanted to imitate him but his aunt (step-mother) stopped him saying that he is not lucky enough to sit on father's lap. We also discussed what that subtly means. It means that for one to tread the path of yoga, one need to have liking and aspiration towards the Divine. A Master looks for a disciple having such an aspiration. Without that aspiration and taste, one cannot stay in the path of Yoga even though he tries to enter the path due to imitation.

Dhruva could not understand the words of Suruchi and he goes away crying. He goes to his mother and sits on her lap. So he could sit on the lap of mother but not father. It means that he is close to the nature but not the Lord principle. Suneeti comes to know of what happened and she too feels sad. She tries to console her son. She tells him that everyone has to face situations like this due to past karma.

So here she is speaking about the law of karma. No one can escape karma. As Dhruva is still in his first life of this creation, where did his karma come from? It came from karma relating to his lives in previous creation. Dhruva was in Jano Loka (4th plane) when dissolution happened last

time. So he again ends up in the same plane. He cannot remain in a higher plane because this is his natural state. If you sleep tonight and wake up tomorrow, will your nature and habits change? They won't change during sleep right! This dissolution of creation is a kind of sleep. There is no progress during sleep. No change happens unless one tries to change himself. Change cannot happen if you just want it to happen. You need to have lot of commitment for change to happen. It won't happen so easily.

I recently gave a dictation for an article on a message coming from Master Maruvu. He says "Matter exists on all globes but the matter on planet earth is the grossest of all. Matter, here, possesses highest strength over spirit." So for spirit to come out of such dominance of matter, it requires tremendous effort. Such effort is not required for beings living on other planets. Matter on earth holds spirit in such a manner that beings keep taking lives after lives here only making little progress. That is why Master Maruvu tells that beings on earth require tremendous effort to come out of matter. So doing practice for little while daily, we cannot think that we have transformed a lot. Our efforts are mostly lukewarm. We need to be fiery in our practice. There is an analogy as well which is given. We heat up water to purify it but drink it only when it is lukewarm. The purity that it attained while heating is lost when the water becomes lukewarm. That is what happens with most of our practices.

Here, Dhruva is not like us. He does tremendous practice to uplift himself. He is so committed and dedicated to get onto father's lap. He gets the required will due to the words spoken by his aunt.

His mother tells him that he was born with this nature as per his past karma and nothing can be done about it. She also tells him that his aunt spoke the truth though it was harsh. Suneeti knows why her husband had more liking towards Suruchi and she knows that it is the same reason why her son was kept away. She tells him to follow the instructions of his aunt which is to worship Vishnu. By worshipping the Lord as Vishnu, one can be graced with the taste for Divinity and also can be graced with the presence of a Master.

Time has come for Dhruva to enter the path and for that the presence of a Master is required. The secret given here is if one worships the Lord, one will be graced by the touch of a Master. We should remember that if one gets the spur to enter the path of yogic, the first thing to be done is begin with Divine worship in whatever possible way. Then gradually he develops taste for Divinity and gets in touch with a Master. The Master initiates that aspirant in the path of Yoga and guides him from thereon. That is how initiation into Yogic path is possible.

So Suneeti tells Dhruva that if she wishes to sit on his father's lap, he has to follow the instructions of Suruchi. Vishnu can be seen in others by seeing the good qualities in others. We should not analyse the bad qualities in others. That is of no use and will in fact bring such bad

qualities into us. If you see and speak of good qualities, then they accumulate in you. You also gradually attain eligibility to see the Lord. Another way to increase our eligibility to see the Lord is to serve the beings in his creation. The more we serve seeing the Lord in others, the more the Lord is pleased.

Suneeti also tells Dhruva that his great grandfather (Brahma), grandfather (Swayambhuva) and father (Uttanapada) have entered the higher planes of Tapo Loka and Satya Loka through their practice of seeing the Lord in all. They could see the Lord because of their dedicated practice for many years. Brahma, the creator is not chosen randomly. None of the Prajapatis or Manus were chosen randomly. They did tremendous practice in their past lives to attain such states of awareness. She tells Dhruva further to surrender to Vishnu and says there is no better one to help him enter the path of yoga.

So Dhruva leaves his house with the will to worship Vishnu. Then Sage Narada comes to meet Dhruva. He touches Dhruva on his head and initiates him with Narayana mantra. Narada came because Dhruva responded with intense will to change himself. He did not simply forget the words of the aunt. Generally children forget after a while, when someone scolds them but Dhruva did not forget. He was so stubborn to get onto his father's lap. A reason for the will is because of his royal birth. He is the grandson of a Manu, who is a ruler with kingly nature. Dhruva too has that nature. Generally people with such nature have strong will and they cannot forget deeply spoken words so easily. If this strong will is channelized properly, it can do wonders. If it is channelized in the wrong direction, it can lead to destruction. So, right channelization is important.

Narada says "You seem to have a very strong will. You are very young. It surprises me that you have left your place just because your aunt scolded you. But the direction you are going in is not smooth. Better go back and live in the comfort of your family." If we hear such words, we are immediately convinced and go back. Dhruva was not so. Such words are spoken to test the strength of one's will. Dhruva replies "I am deeply hurt by the words of my step-mother. I can come out of this sadness only by filling myself with the taste of Divinity."

Dhruva is giving us a message here. If there is something that is paining you inside, the first thing that one should do is to recollect the Lord. That recollection works like medicine. It gives immediate relief to the person. If you keep thinking about the reason for your despair, then it leads to depression. That is the reason why lots of people go into depression. Once you go into depression, even to think about the Lord would be difficult. Even if advised, one would not be able to think of the Lord. So, one should go into Divine alignment when one is in despair. Once you go into depression, it becomes very difficult. Not all are lucky to recollect the Divine when one is sad. Here Dhruva was lucky.

Narada tells "You are a child and this is the time you should be playing. At this age, why do not feel insulted by the words of your step-mother? Why are you so deeply hurt? Just be satisfied that what you have faced now is the reason of your past actions. Do not take it too seriously." So Narada is testing Dhruva further.

Narada also tells "Dhruva! You are saying that you want to do penance to overcome the humiliation of your step-mother's words. It will be very difficult to continue doing penance because your feeling of humiliation fades away gradually and you will then have no reason to continue. Even normally, it is very difficult to reach the Lord. There are many who have been trying for years to reach the Lord but could not succeed. So think before you proceed." Narada is telling that it is not possible to reach the Lord if one does penance out of humiliation. Penance should begin with poise and not Rajas. Here Dhruva wanted to do penance out of Rajas. It is very difficult for such a penance to sustain.

Dhruva replies "Though the reason for me to come out is my step-mother's insult but my target is much higher. I wish to enter a higher plane of existence. I will channelise the will that came out of mother's words in this direction. I will do something that no one in this creation have done till now. I would like you to help me to proceed in that direction. I am in no mood to go back."

So Dhruva has now made his mind clear. He stated his ultimate target and requests Narada to help him reach that target. He knows that Narada is the best one to teach him. Narada too realises that Dhruva is not going to step back and aims something which is universal. It is not something petty which Dhruva wants. The cause might be petty but the effect is big and clear in his mind. Dhruva has all the will required to realise Divinity.

The story of Dhruva is considered very significant for aspirants because Dhruva shows how strong willed one should be to progress in the path. One cannot skip practice for silly things. Such a one attains no progress.

Next we also discuss how dedicated Dhruva does penance. Narada agrees to initiate Dhruva into penance. We will discuss about that in the next class on coming Sunday.

-Swasthi