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"Srimad Bhagavatam"

Discourse by Master KPK on Sunday, the 8th of October 2017, at Visakh.

(for private circulation to WTT members)

Canto 4:

In the last class, we completed Dhruvopakhyanam, the story of Dhruva. At the end of that chapter it is told that those who read or listen to this story will be uplifted, will progress towards the higher planes, will experience peace and calm in life, will gain Divine qualities and be graced by the Lord. These are the fruits of reading or listening to Dhruvopakhyanam as told by Sage Veda Vyasa. So, it would be very fruitful if we keep recollecting the story of Dhruva from time to time.

Now Vidura asks Lord Maitreya to tell the story of Prachetas. Maitreya tells Vidura that first he will tell the story relating to the progeny of Dhruva and then come to the story of Prachetas. We have been discussing the whole of Cosmo Genesis as a question and answer session between Maitreya and Vidura.

We discussed that Dhruva had 2 sons named Utkala and Vatsala. The story of Utkala relates to what happened on earth after it formed and started rotating around itself. We have a region in India called Utkal region and that region is now known as the state of Orissa. Utkala means the consciousness (or light) which has the attributes of vertical travel. Ut = Vertical or Ascent, Kala = Light or consciousness. So, it is a light which is oriented upward. Someone who has his consciousness oriented vertically can be called Utkala. Now Maitreya tells about Utkala.

Utkala is said to be a very calm natured being by birth. He was not interested in much of objectivity. He had no objective attachments. That is because of his vertical orientation. He was seeing the light within and without. Generally, everyone sees a reflection of their inner nature and thoughts, in the outside. The same world is seen by different beings in different ways. Devotees see the whole world to be Divine. Great ones have their own view of the world. So that is the state of Utkala.

Utkala was always in a constant practice of Yoga, that is, he remained in constant Divine alignment and reached a state where he stood about the cycle of cause and effect. In a way he had no personal work in life. He remained mostly unattached from worldly relations. He was only attending to his duties and experiencing the Divine rest of the time. He was never interested in anything outside his sphere of duties. This kind of self-restraint comes naturally for those who are in alignment with

Divine. If we do not have this self-restraint, we keep receiving lot of unnecessary information from the surroundings through the mind and senses. So Utkala was not interested in anything but Divine. He was not much interested in being the King of the land. Seeing him to be very disinterested in objectivity, the ones around him used to criticize him. To the outer world he mostly appeared like a mad person with no interest in life.

The Ministers and other elders in kingdom decided that Utkala is not fit to continue as the King and decided to make his younger brother Vatsala the king. Vatsala had a wife by name Sarvardhi and they had 6 children. The children here symbolically represent the 6 seasons of a year. The first son is named Pushpanu and he had 2 wives by names Prabha and Dosha. Prabha means day and Dosha means night. So, through all these names, the different cycles of time were symbolically described. All these cycles existed only after earth started its rotation. Again, Prabha and Dosha had 3 sons each who are symbolic of 4-hour time durations spanning over a day and a night. Each of these time durations are given names which have meanings describing the nature of that particular time duration. The last son of Dosha is named Sarvateja who represents the early hours of the day before sunrise or the last 4 hours of night. Sarvateja means 'utmost brilliance'. It means that time (early hours before sunrise 2 AM to 6 AM) is very ideal for inner orientation and it results in increase of self-brilliance in a person. Similarly, each of the names have such subtle meanings describing the nature of time spans during a day. This Sarvateja had a wife by name Akusa and to him a Manu named Chaksusha was born. He is the 2nd among the Manus born after Swayambhuva Manu. And this Chaksusha Manu had 12 sons represents the 12 months of the year.

The first among the 12 sons is called Venu who turned out to be person of highly sadistic nature. He becomes the king and all his subjects in the kingdom used to suffer due to his rule. The priests in the kingdom decide to kill Venu to stop his tyrannical rule. They use certain powerful mantras to kill him but to ensure that the kingdom has a ruler, they bring out two beings from both the shoulders of Venu before his death. One was a boy and another was a girl who are said to be the incarnations of Vishnu and Lakshmi. The boy was named Prudhu. It is because of him that many of the wealth, in terms of trees, plants, fruits, vegetables, cereals, etc. that we have now were created on this planet. There is whole detailed story as to how Prudhu did that. That is a chapter by itself. This story is a kind of prelude to that chapter.

So, there are lot of names that appear in this prelude. We need not remember all of them as they are not so important in the story of this planet. If you want, you can just remember the hierarchy from Dhruva to Prudhu. The order is Dhruva - Vatsala - Angudu - Venu - Prudhu.

Apart from Prudhu and his wife, several others beings were created through the body of Venu by the priests. From his lap, dwarf like being who was dark in colour was born. Master EK writes that this was the first physical body on this planet. Until then, all the beings described existed only in subtler bodies. This man was named Nishadu. He was of very low intellect and beings like him are

among the first generation of cave men on this planet. They live mostly in the forests and live by hunting. Some of their future generations are whom we still see living in forest or tribal areas. They are very strong physically but have very poor intellect.

Prudhu, who is said to be an incarnation of Vishnu, becomes the emperor of the planet and he brings on this planet all the wealth that is required for the civilizations to grow and evolve. Most of the earlier kings that we had on this planet were born with a touch of Vishnu and hence they were considered equivalent to God.

Prudhu had a beautiful body with large ears. It indicated that he was a very keen listener and follower of Dharma. The girl who was born out of Venu's shoulder was named Archi. Archi means sunlight. She was given that name because she had the lot of brilliance like sunlight. She becomes the wife of Prudhu.

So, there were two different ethnic groups that were born from Venu on this planet. One group descended from the higher planes starting with Prudhu and Archi. They were born with very high intellect and become the rulers of the planet. They contribute a lot to the creation of wealth on this planet and help in the evolution of beings. The other group was directly born out of matter with very low intellect. They lived mostly in the caves and forests on the planet and are evolving gradually with the help of the former group. At some point in the past, these two groups undergo a merger and started evolving together. This merger between the groups resulted in beings who can be of either mundane nature or super-mundane nature. Some of us are more oriented towards super-mundane while most of us are more oriented towards the mundane. But all of us have to gradually move towards super-mundane as evolution happens.

The birth of Prudhu was an event of great celebrations for all the devas because it was for the first time that a Divine principle incarnated in a physical form. It was an event which resulted in completeness to the creation because man acts as a bridge between Divine and other beings of creation. With the birth of Prudhu, a connection between higher circles and mundane circles was formed. The creator Brahma himself comes to see Prudhu. All the progeny that comes through Prudhu are mostly born with dominant Divine nature and they distribute themselves in different parts of the planet. These people are the ones who help the other group born with mundane nature to evolve. So, the birth of Prudhu is such an important event in the history of this planet. This event is described in Bible as "the prophecy is fulfilled." When man is born in creation, the prophecy is fulfilled.

All the principles which were born in the Cosmic Person at the beginning of creation now take birth in man as well. That is described here now.

The body is said to have 7 gradations of matter right from semen to bone. These are described as the 7 tissues of the body. Kubera is the intelligence principle which is responsible for formation of these 7 tissues in the body. Indra is the intelligence principle which presents us with the senses and their centres near the brow centre. The spinal column is said to be presented by the principle of Yama. Our consciousness travels in this column up or down depending on our orientation. The one who follows Yama (Regulation in life) will gain the ability to travel up and down in this spinal column. The heart is said to be presided over by Brahma, the creator. The heart constantly pulsates and makes a subtle sound 'SO-HAM'. This is the sound of pulsation on the basis of which the heart beats and respiration happens. This is described as our 'armour' because once it stops pulsating, we cannot live in this body anymore. The pulsation is the basis for our existence in this body. It is also the basis with which we can enter the higher planes of the creation. One can prove the existence of subtler planes in this creation to oneself, only by aligning with this pulsation and going inward.

So overall, the human body is a great implement to experience all the planes of creation from most subtle to the most gross ones. There are some capabilities presented to the human body by other intelligences. We will discuss about them in the next class. Vishnu is said to have given Sudarshana. Sudarshana means the potential ability to see inward. In the same way, there are other potential abilities which are given to us which we need to explore. We will continue in the next class.

-Swasthi