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"Srimad Bhagavatam"

Discourse by Master KPK on Sunday, the 12th of November 2017, at Visakh.

(for private circulation to WTT members)

Canto 4:

We are now discussing the story of Emperor Prudhu. He is considered among one of the avatars of Vishnu. There are avatars of Vishnu which are apart from the 10 avatars which are popularly known and Prudhu is one such. The Divine is present in every being of this creation but there are beings through whom the Divine shines forth with lot of brilliance. Such ones are referred to as avatars. The degree of awareness of such beings is much higher compared to others. The Divine qualities are highly visible in such ones. And it will be beneficial if we know about them and recollect them from time to time because it is easy way to relate to Divine. The quality of poise also grows in us as of result of recollection of avatars and their qualities. Last week, we discussed the qualities of Prudhu and how he was praised by those around him for his qualities.

We have the tradition of recognising and praising the Divine qualities in others as a result of which such qualities grow in us too. Whatever you see and remembers in others, the same sprouts up in you. If you see lot of negative in the other person, those negative qualities grow in you. So, praising is good but there is a caution in this regard. You should not praise others even though you do not see those qualities in them. Also, you should not praise others if the other person has some pride along with some good qualities. It will lead to downfall of such a person. That is what we saw in the one of the earlier stories of Daksha. Daksha had some good qualities of being a very capable person but Lord Shiva does not praise him because he knows that Daksha is already in some pride. If Shiva praises, he goes further into pride. Shiva recognises the capabilities of Daksha but not praise them openly. So, we should be careful as to who to praise openly and who not. Prudhu is not one who is in pride. He clearly knows that it is the Divine that is expressing through his qualities. He also says that it is not good to praise someone. But the Rishis present there tell him that it is good to praise as long as you know that the other person is not in pride. That is what we discussed in the last class.

So Prudhu is the first emperor on this planet and the service he does to the beings on this planet is vast. He happened to be the first Rajarshi on this planet. It is very important to know about him and what he did because in a way, we are all benefitted by his work.

Prudhu tells that one should always recognise the good qualities in the other person and not see the bad qualities. That will help you a lot in gaining those qualities. If you see more into seeing the

negative in others, then you start gaining on them and it will lead you into a very bad condition. There are some who criticise anyone and anything, thinking that they are entitled to do so but they do not know that they are causing their own downfall. It will lead one to a situation where one cannot see any good around oneself. It is a diabolic quality to be not able to see any good happening around.

Prudhu also tells that all good qualities belong to the Lord and so one cannot feel great that if one has lot of good qualities. If you feel great about them, then you fall into pride and the qualities start diminishing instead of growing further. So, having humbleness is very important to ensure that one does not fall into pride.

Master EK, here, gives some further explanation to us. Apart from praising qualities, one should be careful while praising others of the knowledge they possess. Just by reading lot of books, one does not become a man of wisdom. One needs to do lot of penance so that the knowledge assimilates and speaks out through him. Knowing sciences through book reading is completely different from gaining knowledge of that science through penance. You can praise the latter but not the former. Ramakrishna Paramahansa did not read any books. All the time he remained in communion with the Divine Mother and she taught him everything. When people questioned on any subject, she used to reply through him and made it appear that he knew everything.

I can relate one incident to you in this regard. Once Master EK and myself went to the house of a wealthy person in this city. He was a follower of Master EK and also my client professionally. He was in the process of selecting a groom for his daughter and got a good match. The boy was said to be highly cultured and they showed both the horoscopes to some well-known astrologers in the city and they said it is a perfect match. The groom's side too did the same and they were also told the same by astrologers they knew. This person asked Master EK to see the horoscopes once. Master EK rejected first saying "You seem to have already decided on the match. I do not want to influence you now." But that man persisted and Master EK asked "I will be blunt in telling what I see in the horoscopes. Are you ready to take it?" and he said yes. Master EK saw the horoscopes for just 5 seconds and immediately said "Do not go ahead with this marriage. I do not wish to speak further." Saying so we left immediately. That person abided by Master's words but still was feeling that he left a good match and wanted to know why Master EK rejected. He used to keep asking me and I said "If Master EK wanted to tell, he would have told. If he did not tell, we better not question that." So, 6 months passed by and one day when Master EK was in the dispensary, that man just came in and fell on the feet of Master EK. He said "You are a great one. I don't know how much thankful I am for your advice. That prospective groom who you rejected died today." Master EK said "I saw that but did not want to speak about it because if I speak, I will be taking away any chance that person had in living." Great ones know what to speak and they never speak anything negative because their word is so powerful that it will surely happen. I related this incident because all those astrologers who were highly scholarly and read lot of books could not see this but Master EK could.

The difference is the knowledge gained by Master is not because of books but because of his penance. He could see much deeper and aspects which ordinary astrologers cannot see. So, in this manner people think that they know a lot by reading books but true knowledge comes through penance.

Similarly, when I bought Radhamadhavam, there are many Vastu scholars who told me this building is not very good as per Vastu science and I did a mistake of purchasing it. When I told the same to Master EK, he said "Firstly we believe in Divine more than Science. And do not believe what they say about this place. They hardly know anything about the significance of this place." So that was kind of vision Master EK possessed due to his penance.

So, Prudhu tells that praise only those who really have the qualities and those who remain humble even after having all those qualities. Master EK explained that the same applies to knowledgeable ones. Praise only those who gained knowledge through penance and not just bookish knowledge. Also, Prudhu tells that if you wish to praise some qualities of a person, praise them by saying that the corresponding intelligence in that person is highly active. If one has very good hearing capability, you can say that the person has a very cooperative Jupiter. It also helps us recollect the intelligences. So, either we can recollect the intelligence or even better, recollect the Divine which stands as the basis for all the intelligences.

The Rishis and others who praised Prudhu tell that they feel very happy when they praise Prudhu. They say that it is good for them and it is their responsibility to recollect and praise the Divine qualities in someone like Prudhu. They know that Prudhu is very humble and so there is nothing wrong in praising him. They tell further "After hearing you speak, we now know that even your speech is wonderful and can enlighten others." One with a good speech capability can offer lot more through his speeches than what a wealthy man can offer through his wealth. So here Prudhu offers to his subjects not only his objective wealth but also the wealth of his speech.

Some more qualities of Prudhu are given now. He is said to be a very compassionate person. He will not punish his subjects for their mistakes but tries to transform them through his words and keeps them in a good path. Punishment is not really useful in most of the cases because even after going through the punishment, the person might do the same thing because the punishment did not transform his personality. So, something needs to be done to transform that person and that what Prudhu used to do with his subjects.

Once a person asked Satya Sai Baba, "Baba, there are lot of people who commit lot of mistakes and they come to you and offer money. Why do you entertain such people?" Baba replied "There is some good happening as they are coming to me. Firstly, their money is getting utilized for some service activities. Also, by coming here, some changes gradually happen in their personality and they will lead better lives in their coming birth, if not in this life. So, for me, their transformation

and upliftment are important. I do not wish to punish them though I know all the mistakes they committed." So Prudhu did the same with his subjects in the kingdom.

We should remember that this story happened when the body was not yet formed completely. The beings were still descending from subtle to gross planes on this planet. So Master EK gives some explanation as to the symbolism behind the story of Prudhu.

(Master read through the explanation given by Master EK).

We will discuss about this in detail in the next class.

-Swasthi