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"Srimad Bhagavatam"

**Discourse by Master KPK on Sunday, the 17th of November 2019, at Radhamadhavam,
Visakhapatnam.**

(for private circulation to WTT members)

Canto 4:

We are discussing the conversation between Rudras and Prachetas where Rudra was telling about the Divine principle as told by the creator Brahma. We discussed the ways in which the Divine principle can be seen and experienced in this creation. We have almost come to the last part of this discussed.

In the last class, we discussed about the maya (illusion) in this creation. It is the maya that results in distinction of different objects in this creation and that is what prevents us from seeing the Divine essence in the background. We see the object but mostly fail to see the essence. It is this illusion that also results in death. If one learns to see the ONE divine essence in all, then maya doesn't affect one most of the times. Otherwise, we keep facing problems, ups and downs in life due to the effect of maya. Once who fails to see the Divine constantly, easily falls into maya. People of different faiths keep searching for the Divine but unless one realises the knowledge that the Divine in all permeating, one can never really see or experience the Divine. The search makes us forget that the Divine is everywhere. In Bhagawadgita, the Lord says that beings cannot see the Divine in an unmanifest state and even when the Divine manifests in a form, one still fails to see because of maya. Maya creates many identities over the true identity and as a result, we forget the true identity. We only remember the false identities of other people and their behaviour but fail to see the essence in the background of all. Any wisdom teaching tells you not to search for the Divine but to learn to see the Divine because the Divine is all permeating and present at all times. So, it is foolish to search for the Divine instead of learning to see through. The same way we all are eternal as beings but still people think that they should live for long. Is it not ignorance for an eternal one to think to live longer? You just have to gain and experience the related knowledge to realise that you are immortal. One who stays with the Divine at all times gradually realises immortality because aligning with the permanent one will make you realise that you too are permanent in existence.

Rudra tells that the splendour of one's creation depends on one's alignment with the Divine. Our life is our own creation. We are creators of our own lives just like there is a creator Brahma for this larger creation. This creation is a continuous process and progresses over lives. There are breaks given between lives and again we take birth. This keeps happening until a fulfilled state is reached.

Rudra also tells that the one who relates to the Divine constantly is the one with most sraddha (interest & dedication to any work that one does). So, a yogi is one with most sraddha because a yogi is one in synthesis with the Divine. That is what yoga means. Yoga is synthesis. Synthesis can

be with anything but aligning with the permanent one is an ultimate yogic experience. So, aligning with the Divine is what matters the most. Such a one is the most stable one. Divine alignment should not be limited to prayers and rituals. It should be a continuous process. Such a one's sraddha can be observed in every act one does. Any act he does will be splendid to see. The quality of work in every act determines how aligned one is to the Divine. Generally, people are dedicated to acts which they like but become casual or negligent at other times. One in Divine alignment will never neglect any act, however small it may be. There is no English word which is equivalent to sraddha. We somehow try to put it in multiple words. Annie Besant tried a lot to find an equivalent English word for 'sraddha' but could not.

Though the will to each one of us comes from the Divine, he lets us have free will. We can think it to be our will or think it to be the Divine will. Personal will might lead you to unwanted things and attachments while 'Divine will' will lead you to more splendid things. Divine will leads you to group activity while personal will might lead you to more of self-centered activity. Group activity has way more impact on the being than self-centered activity. Doing a prayer or ritual as a group is way more impactful than individual prayer or ritual. Masters of Wisdom always give weight to group activity and group consciousness. So, learn to move from individual consciousness to group consciousness. That is what Saturn does. He demolishes all our individual limitations. He will force you to accept a group and move along with it. People fear Saturn because they are so attached to individualistic things. A lady saint named 'Jilledamma' named her house "Andari Illu" which means "Everyone's house". Anyone could come and stay and eat in her house. There are no restrictions at all. She lived a highly splendid life in Divine alignment.

Rudra tells that one of the qualities of Divine is that in the form of time, it keeps swallowing the people. It means that the time keeps passing and time for departure approaches. The ones who will be spared are the ones who are in Divine alignment. Such a one just observes even at the time of departure without losing consciousness. Such a one is given the title 'Vijaya' meaning the victorious one. Such a one does not fear anything including death. Lord Krishna tells that one who is with me need not fear death. Krishna is just a name for the Divine principle. It does not matter what name you take as long as you align with THAT. Learn to be with the Divine and lead your life. Otherwise, you will be swallowed by the serpent of time.

Once you align with the Divine within, then all the required knowledge comes from within. You will know what you have to do. The work to be done by you comes to you. You need not run after anything. Knowers sit and align and the work to be done comes to them. We discussed how to go inside and relate to the Divine. When you have nothing to do outside, go inside. Even when you have to go outside for work, take the Divine along with you and remember that you are working along with HIM. One cannot sit stably inside without fulfilling the outside responsibilities. One cannot skip responsibilities and reach the Divine. So be it inside or outside, learn to be with the Divine.

Rudra says that one should relate to the mantra SO-HAM every morning. So, remember I AM THAT I AM every morning after waking up before getting into any other activity. If not, only I AM gets into the world and anything might happen because it is just ego. I AM with THAT I AM will make our life splendid. Rudra is telling that the trinity, the devas, the Sages, the Seers, etc. relate to the Divine via this mantra constantly. This mantra enables one to relate to the Divine throughout the day.

In this manner, Rudra gives these teachings to Prachetas who decided to take up a grand activity of service for the beings. Ultimately, he tells them to constantly relate to the Divine and let Divine alignment become a natural state. The Prachetas salute to Rudra seeing the Divine in him and then Rudra disappears.

With the teachings of Rudra in mind, Prachetas stabilize the mantra SO-HAM in them by conducting penance for many years and then they took up the work of enabling the senses and sense organs in all the forms given to the beings. They withdraw from the body once a life cycle in that body is coming to an end. So, when multiple senses weaken, it is an indication that one should start preparing oneself for departure from the body. Only one who knows the exit can depart, others have to be pulled out. Knowing the exit is a part of grand wisdom. Being pulled out of the body should be seen as an insult to oneself.

We will continue in the next class. Most of the coming weekends are filled with some activity or gurupujas. If possible, we will have 1 or 2 classes during the weekdays before the December call.

Try to keep recollecting what we have been discussing in the last few classes. Remember the main objective of relating to the Divine in and around you at all times.

-Swasthi