

### 30. Role of the *Avathaar* in the cosmic play

*Like oil in the thil seed*

*Like ghee in milk, fragrance in a flower,*

*Juice in a fruit, fire in wood,*

*Divinity is everywhere.*

*EMBODIMENTS of the Divine Aathma!* From ancient times, the questions, "Where is God?" and "How does he appear?" have been agitating the minds of people. The answers have been sought by different ways of investigation, The believers, non-believers, those with doubts and others have not been able to get clear answers to these questions. To comprehend the truth, one should look within oneself. This cannot be learnt from text-books or from teachers. *Chaithanya* (Consciousness) is there in the mind and pervades everywhere. The power of vision in the eye and of taste in the tongue are derived from this *Chaithanya*. People are using the sense organs but do not know the source of the power which activates them.

*Chaithanya* cannot be comprehended by the physical vision. It is within everyone in very close proximity. People undertake external exercises and spiritual practices in vain to find it. The entire Creation is a manifestation of the Divine Will *Prakrithi* (Nature) is the manifestation of God. Man is also part of *Prakrithi* and thus has the Divine power in him.

#### ***Chaithanya* is the seed of entire Universe**

A seed germinates and grows into a plant and then into a tree with branches, leaves flowers, etc. The seed of the entire Universe is *Chaithanya* (Pure Consciousness). It is *Sath-chith-aanandha*. It grows in full bloom in the human being and blossoms into the flower of Awareness. Thus God incarnates in man. To understand this truth is the goal of human life. It is the mind that stands in the way of this realisation. The mind is perverted when it is centred on the ego (body consciousness) of a person but when it is directed towards the *Aathma*, it becomes sublime. One puffed up with ego forgets Divinity. Thinking on the physical plane and looking at the external world, man is not able to understand the Divinity within him.

It is wrong to think that spirituality has nothing to do with worldly matters. The physical world also reflects Divinity. There are two entities, *Svabhava* and *Prabhaava* the former emanating from the True Inner Self and the latter from worldly pursuits. Because man forgets his true Divine nature he is wallowing in troubles and tribulations. He is reflecting only animal qualities in his actions. Only when one enquires within, one has the chance of realising Divinity.

Today we are celebrating Ganesh *Jayanthi*, the birthday of Vighneshvara. Who is He? What is His greatness? What has He taught to the world? We celebrate the *jayanthi* but do not make any effort to understand the *thatvas* (principle) behind it. His supreme teaching by His own example is oneness of the Universe. When He was asked to go round the universe to get a prize from his parents, He just circumambulated His parents Lord Shiva and Paarvathi and claimed that He had completed the trip around the universe by going around them, as Lord Shiva and Paarvathi represented the Universe.

### **Unity in a family is the basis of unity in society**

The vehicles of Shiva, Paarvathi, Ganesha, Subrahmanya and the objects worn on their bodies all get on harmoniously though they are in their original nature antagonistic to each other. Take the examples of the lion, the vehicle of Paarvathi, living in peace with the elephant, the form of Ganesha, and the bull, the vehicle of Shiva, the peacock, the vehicle of Subrahmanya, bearing no enmity towards the snake, the garland of Shiva.

Unity in a family is the basis of unity in society. Though there are lots of common features among mankind, people are not able to visualise their unity, but promote only their differences. The cause for the lack of peace in the world is the absence of harmony in thought, word and deed in each individual, which is reflected in the lack of unity among different individuals.

Spiritual values have been given up, resulting in the turmoil that we see today. Ganapathi taught that one should respect one's parents and thereby win their grace and secure bliss.

The form of Ganapathi cannot, by any human standards, be termed as handsome. He has a small head, big stomach and uncouth form. But still we are captivated by His form and like to see Him more and more and worship Him. Beauty does not lie in the *Aakaara*, the external form but can be experienced even in *Vikaara* (apparent uncouthness). Ganesha sacrificed his own tusk and used it as a pen to write down the Mahaabhaaratha to the dictation of Vyaasa, for the benefit of humanity. Man worships God only for selfish purposes. No one is prepared to sacrifice anything for getting Divine Bliss, while men are prepared to go to any length for worldly pleasures. Your mind and heart should be rendered pure to worship Divinity. You should see unity in diversity.

### **Role of the Divine in the cosmic drama**

In the cosmic drama, the Divine has His own role to play. When one takes up a role in a drama, he should act according to the role and not according to his state in real life. Behind the screen he comes into his own. You should understand this truth clearly. A man may take up the role of Raama in a drama. Then he has to adhere to the principles of *Sathya*, *Dharma*, *Shaanthi* and *Prema* which governed all Raama's actions, though in actual life, the actor may not be righteous. Similarly God assumes a role in the drama of the world in human form. He has to behave as a human being only. This should be clearly understood by all.

### ***Avathaar* will not transgress rules and regulations**

Krishna was *Paramaathma* (Supreme power) and *Sarvajna* (All-Knowing). Though He was very close to Dhraupadhi, at the time when she suffered humiliation in the court of Dhuryodhana, who ordered that she be disrobed, Krishna made an endless supply of saris to protect her honour. Some persons ask why Krishna did not punish Dhuryodhana on the spot when he was perpetrating such a heinous crime against a noble woman who was so devoted to Him. No doubt, Dhraupadhi was highly devoted to Krishna and Krishna had also the power to punish Dhuryodhana. But in this drama several more scenes had to be enacted. Dhuryodhana was predestined to be killed by Bhima in the war that was yet to come. So Krishna could not interfere.

Kamsa's life was in the hands of Krishna and Raavana's life was in the hands of Raama. Both Raama and Krishna are forms of Vishnu. But each had to play His specific role in His incarnation. For every incarnation there are certain rules and regulations which the *Avathaar* will not transgress. Mere mortals cannot understand the ways of the Divine.

In the Divine family of Lord Shiva, we should understand that Shiva represents Energy, Paarvathi represents *Prakrithi*. *Buddhi* (intellect) and *Siddhi* (fulfilment) are symbolic of Ganapathi and Subrahmanya, their sons. They are all one, though conceived in different forms. All the five fingers in the hands are not alike but different in size and shape. But when you do any work, they join together to give maximum effect. If all are of equal size, it will not be conducive to effective functioning. This is one of the secrets of God's creation.

### **Realise the wisdom of the Divine**

There was a mathematician taking rest under a tree, who wondered why a pumpkin creeper bore such a huge fruit, while the huge banyan tree over his head bore only tiny fruits. He was doubting the sense of proportion of God. During his sleep some fruits from the banyan tree fell on his body. On waking up he realised that if the huge tree which attracted people to take shelter under its shade, had big fruits, like pumpkins, their fall would be harmful to those resting under it. This experience made him realise the wisdom of the Divine.

You should try to have complete knowledge of anything. Partial knowledge is dangerous. You should study the nature of the heart. God thinks of *Loka-Shreyas* (the welfare of the whole world). He has a broad vision, while human beings have a narrow selfish outlook.

You should also expand your heart---not the physical heart, which may call for surgery if it expands. I am speaking about the spiritual heart. It is called *Hridhaya*, meaning one which is filled with *dhaya* (compassion). It is all pervading. If you think of America, your heart goes there at once. The physical heart is like a machine with limited scope. The heart with *dhaya* (compassion) is *Dhaivam* (God). If one has no *dhaya* his nature is devilish. Compassion is the most essential quality of a human being. Without compassion, man is inhuman. A compassionate heart reflects divinity.

God has no birth or death. He remains an Eternal Witness. How to realise such an entity who is *Aprameya and Apramana* (beyond description and beyond proof)? He responds only to *Prema*. You should understand God through love and spend your life with love.

*Discourse on 19-9-1993 at Sai Ramesh Hall at Brindhaavan.*

*You have been born for one purpose: to die. That is to say, to kill the "I". If Brahma dies, you become Brahmam, or rather, you know that you are Brahmam. All literature, all effort, all Yajna, all teaching is just to hold a mirror before you, so that you may see Yourself.*

**BABA**