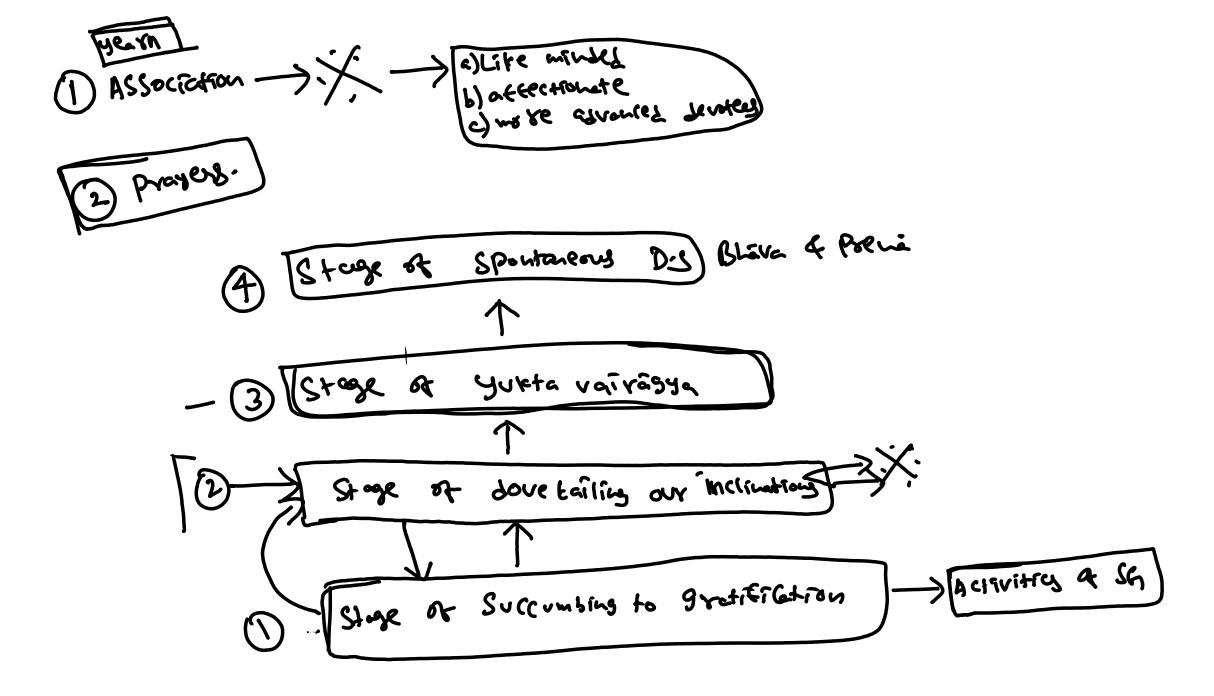
### Six Faults that Destroy Bhakti

# 6. Laulya - Ardent longing or greed

## Srila Prabhupada on Laulyam



Desires to expand the mind by perfecting mystic yoga, (merging into the existence of Brahman) or attaining whimsical material prosperity are all included within the category of greed (laulya).

All attempts to acquire such material benefits or so-called spiritual advancement are impediments on the path of Kṛṣṇa consciousness.

Modern warfare waged between capitalists and communists is due to their avoiding the advice of Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī regarding atyāhāra.

Modern capitalists accumulate more wealth than necessary, and the communists, envious of their prosperity, want to nationalize all wealth and property.

Unfortunately the communists do not know how to solve the problem of wealth and its distribution.

Consequently when the wealth of the capitalists falls into the hands of the communists, no solution results.

Opposed to these two philosophies, the Kṛṣṇa conscious ideology states that all wealth belongs to Kṛṣṇa.

Thus unless all wealth comes under the administration of Krṣṇa, there can be no solution to the economic problem of mankind.

Nothing can be solved by placing wealth in the hands of the communists or the capitalists.

If a hundred-dollar bill is lying on the street, someone may pick it up and put it in his pocket.

Such a man is not honest.

Another man may see the money and decide to let it remain there, thinking

that he should not touch another's property.

Although this second man does not steal the money for his own purposes, he is unaware of its proper use.

T<u>he third man who sees the hundred-dollar bill may pick it up, find</u> the man who lost it and deliver it to him.

This man does not steal the money to spend for himself, nor does he neglect it and let it lie in the street.

By taking it and delivering it to the man who has lost it, this man is both honest and wise.

Simply transferring wealth from capitalists to communists cannot solve the problem of modern politics, for it has been demonstrated that when a communist gets money, he uses it for his own sense gratification.

The wealth of the world actually belongs to Kṛṣṇa, and every living entity, man and animal, has the birthright to use God's property for his maintenance.

When one takes more than his maintenance requires—be he a capitalist or a communist—he is a thief, and as such he is liable to be punished by the laws of nature.

The wealth of the world should be used for the welfare of all living entities, for that is the plan of Mother Nature.

Everyone has the right to live by utilizing the wealth of the Lord.

When people learn the art of scientifically utilizing the Lord's property, they will no longer encroach upon one another's rights.

Then an ideal society can be formed.

T<u>he basic principle for such a spiritual society is stated in the fir</u>st mantra of Śrī <u>Īśopaniṣad:</u>

īśāvāsyam idam sarvam yat kiñca jagatyām jagat tena tyaktena bhuñjīthā mā grdhah kasya svid dhanam [Īśo mantra 1]

"Everything animate or inanimate that is within the universe is controlled and owned by the Lord. One should therefore accept only those things necessary for himself, which are set aside as his quota, and should not accept other things, knowing well to whom they belong."

K<u>rsna conscious devotees know very well that this material world is</u> de<u>signed by the complete arrangement of the Lord to fulfill all the</u> necessities of life for all living beings, without their having to encroach upon the life or rights of one another.

This complete arrangement affords the proper quota of wealth for everyone according to his real needs, and thus everyone may live peacefully according to the principle of plain living and high thinking.

Unfortunately, materialists who have neither faith in the plan of God nor any aspiration for higher spiritual development misuse their Godgiven intelligence only to augment their material possessions.

They devise many systems—such as capitalism and materialistic communism—to advance their material position.

They are not interested in the laws of God or in a higher goal.

Always anxious to fulfill their unlimited desires for sense gratification, they are conspicuous by their ability to exploit their fellow living beings.

When human society gives up these elementary faults enumerated by <u>Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī (atyāhāra, etc.)</u>, all enmity will cease between men and animals, capitalists and communists, and so forth.

In addition, all problems of economic or political maladjustment and instability will be solved.

This pure consciousness is awakened by the proper spiritual education and practice offered scientifically by the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement.

This Krsna consciousness movement offers a spiritual community that can bring about a peaceful condition in the world.

Every intelligent man should purify his consciousness and rid himself of the above-mentioned six hindrances to devotional service by taking wholehearted shelter of this Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement.

### Srila Bhakti Rakshak Sridhara Maharaj

Laulya means weakness of the heart, or weakness of our promise, towards the object of our life.

Whatever I find, I engage myself in that.

Everything is attracting my attention.

We are busy with small petty things that are drawing our attention, and we avoid the real problems of life.

We are busy with irrelevant things:

mandasya manda-prajnasya vayo mandayusac ca vai nidraya hriyate naktam diva ca vyartha-karmabhih

Lazy people with little intelligence and a short lifespan pass their nights sleeping and their day performing useless activities. (Bhag. 1.16.9)

We find hundreds of things and if anything and everything comes to capture my attention – that is laulya.

We must save ourselves from that nature.

There is no end to engaging our senses.

All the senses are busily engaged.

There are a thousand engagements and mostly those engagements are those that do not know the real necessity of the self.

One who does not know his home, travels in a foreign land satisfying his curiosity by working endlessly.

That is to be found in the world.

Apasyatam atma-tattvam – this is important.

One who has a normal understanding accepts this, not the majority of abnormal thinkers.

It is srota-pantha, the revealed truth.

That must come from the perfect realm, from God Himself.

Here is established the indispensable necessity of srotapantha, the method of revelation.

It must come from the perfect realm, from sarvajna, the quarter of omniscience.

In those that are unconscious of their own real interest we find thousands of engagements.

They are very busy, but very busy about nothing.

|| 2.1.2 || śrotavyādīni rājendra nṛṇāṁ santi sahasraśaḥ | apaśyatām ātma-tattvaṁ gṛheṣu gṛha-medhinām ||

O King (rājendra)! There are (santi) thousands of topics that can be heard (śrotavyādīni sahasraśaḥ) by those who do not inquire about the goal of life (ātma-tattvaṁ apaśyatām nṛṇāṁ), those who are attached to the house and commit five types of violence (gṛheṣu gṛhamedhinām).

#### || 2.1.3 || nidrayā hriyate naktam vyavāyena ca vā vayaḥ | divā cārthehayā rājan kuṭumba-bharaṇena vā ||

O King (rājan)! Life is wasted at night (vayaḥ hriyate naktaṁ) in sleeping or in sex enjoyment (nidrayā vā vyavāyena). Life is wasted during the day (divā ca) by desiring material objects (artha īhayā) or supporting family members (kuṭumba-bharaṇena vā).

What do we see if we look around?

Two things – nidraya, sleep, or vyavayena, playing with women.

Night passes in these two ways.

In the daytime, they are in search of money or serving their near relatives

We tend to associate with those that we can exploit, those that supply our sense pleasure. We are surrounded by them.

|| 2.1.4 || dehāpatya-kalatrādisv <u>ātma-sainyeşv asatsv api |</u> teṣām pramatto nid<u>hanam</u> paśyann api na paśyati ||

Deeply attached (**pramattah**) to his body, children and wife (**deha apatyakalatra ādiṣu**), who are like an army giving protection (**ātma-sainyeṣu**), though they are false (**asatsu api**), he sees their destruction (**teṣāṁ nidhanaṁ paśyann api**) but does not see it (**na paśyati**).

We are fully engrossed in the interests of family life for our own sense pleasure.

We are so engaged in that sort of false duty that we do not have the leisure to see that our own death is drawing nearer to us.

Seeing, but also not seeing.

It is a plain thing.

I see that everyone is going into the jaws of death, but still I cannot see. I don't care to see.

#### This is the peculiar position we hold now.

#### The final danger is approaching and I am sleeping through that.

I don't care to take notice of that.

What can be stranger than this?

Only our particular attention is necessary for the solution.

Only a moment is enough.

So many trees and mountains and hills are living for years and years, age after age – no benefit.

It is not a question of longevity or a question of time.

What is necessary is that I turn my attention towards my own self – What am I?

Our attention should be drawn to our own real interest.