

Śrī Bṛhad-bhāgavatāmṛta

by Śrīla Sanātana Gosvāmī

- ① Vairāgye
- ② Jñāna
- ③ bhajane.
- ④ Vaikunthe.

Part 4

Vaikuntha- The Spiritual Kingdom

TEXT 87

kāmaṁ dīrgha-tamaṁ me 'dya
cirāt tvam samapūrayaḥ
svasya me 'pi sukhaṁ puṣṇann
atraiva nivasa sthiraḥ

Today you have
finally fulfilled my
long standing desire.
↓
P.S. stay here forever
& take me & yourself
happy

Today (adya) you have at last fulfilled (cirāt tvam samapūrayaḥ) the
desire (kāmaṁ) I have harbored for so long (me dīrgha-tamaṁ).
Please, nourish (puṣṇann) your happiness and Mine (svasya me 'pi
sukhaṁ) by staying here forever (atraiva nivasa sthiraḥ).

Here the Lord says in all humility, “What good have I ever done for you? But you have done the greatest good for Me by coming here.”

The Lord hopes that Gopa-kumāra will forget the discontentment that has impelled him to wander from one place to another and will instead choose to remain in Vaikuṅṭha.

TEXT 88

śrī-gopa-kumāra uvāca
etac-chrī-bhagavad-vākya-
mahā-pīyūṣa-pānataḥ
matto 'haṁ nāśakaṁ stotum
kartum jñātum ca kiñcana

*to Maddened by drinking
the words of the Lord
by as I was unable
to think (?) do anything*

Śrī Gopa-kumāra said: Maddened (mattah) by drinking (pānataḥ) the beverage (mahā-pīyūṣa) of the Supreme Lord's words (etac-chrī-bhagavad-vākya), so intoxicating, I was unable to offer Him praise (ahaṁ nāśakaṁ stotum), or to understand or do anything (kartum jñātum ca kiñcana).

TEXT 89

agre sthitā tasya tu veṇu-vādakā
gopārbha-veśāḥ katicin mayā samāḥ
āśvāsyā viśvāsyā ca veṇu-vādane
prāvartayan snigdha-tarā vikṛṣya mām

Suddenly flute
Playing & swayed before
appeared before me &
effectively pulled me &
towards them & urged me to
play flute

Just in front of us appeared (tasya tu agre sthitā) a number of flute players (katicin veṇu-vādakā) dressed as cowherds (gopa arbha-veśāḥ) like me (mayā samāḥ). They very affectionately (snigdha-tarā) encouraged me (mām āśvāsyā), gained my trust (viśvāsyā ca), pulled me into their midst (vikṛṣya mām), and urged me (prāvartayan) to play my flute (veṇu-vādane).

TEXT 90

etām sva-vaṁśīm bahudhā ninādayan
govardhanādri-prabhavām mahā-priyām
śrī-mādhavaṁ taṁ samatoṣayaṁ mahā-
vaidagdhya-sindhūṁ sa-gaṇaṁ kṛpā-nidhim

I played the
flute in various ways
& satisfied Malloka
along with His associates

In various styles (bahudhā) I played (ninādayan) this very dear flute
of mine (etām mahā-priyām sva-vaṁśīm), born on Govardhana Hill
(govardhana adri-prabhavām), and in this way I satisfied
(samatoṣayaṁ) the ocean of all skillful arts (taṁ mahā-vaidagdhya-
sindhūṁ), the reservoir of all mercy (kṛpā-nidhim), Śrī Mādhava
(śrī-mādhavaṁ), along with His associates (sa-gaṇaṁ).

Gopa-kumāra refers to “this” flute because he is holding it in his hand even while instructing his student in Bhauma Vṛndāvana.

This implies that his flute, born a bamboo on Govardhana Hill, is imperishable.

Because the flute came from Govardhana, Gopa-kumāra’s home, it is very dear to him.

His playing pleased the Supreme Lord, and as indicated by the name Śrī Mādhava (“the husband of the goddess of fortune”), when the Lord was pleased mother Lakṣmī was also pleased.



Though Lord Nārāyaṇa is full in knowledge of all fine arts, including flute playing, He is also the reservoir of all mercy, so rather than proudly refuse to be entertained just because He is God, He kindly showed satisfaction with Gopa-kumāra’s performance.

