Laghu - Bhāgavatāmŗta

Part-1 The Sweetness of Kṛṣṇa

Chapter-5 Discussion of the Parāvasthā forms

noktam parāśarenātra sthitau tau pārṣadāv iti | kintūbhayos tayor āsīj janma-trayam itīritam

In the Viṣṇu Purāṇa (atra), Parāśara does not mention (na uktam parāśarena) that Jaya and Vijaya were associates of the Lord from Vaikuntha (sthitau tau pārṣadāv iti), but (kintu) simply took three births to attain the Lord (ubhayoh tayor janma-trayam āsīt iti īritam)

atah sarveşu kalpesu na tau pārṣada-jau matau | anyathā na tayoh pātaḥ prati-kalpaṁ samañjasaḥ

Thus (atah), one should not think (na matau) that in all kalpas (sarveşu kalpeşu) the associates of the Lord fall from Vaikuntha and become Hiranyakaśipu (tau pārsadajau). If they were always associates (anyathā), it would not be proper (na samañjasaḥ) to have them fall (tayoḥ pātaḥ) in every kalpa (prati-kalpam).

• In the Third Canto it is explained that Jaya and Vijaya fell from Vaikuntha by the curse of the Kumāras, and being killed by the hand of Kṛṣṇa, they returned to Vaikuntha, with the termination of the curse, after three births.

• How then can the explanation of Parāśara be used to explain the topmost position of Kṛṣṇa?

• This verse explains.

• <u>In the Visnu Purāņa (atra) Parāśara says that the two took</u> three births without mentioning that they were previously associates of the Lord in Vaikuņțha.

• T<u>hus he does not consider that in every kalpa</u> (day of Brahmā) Jaya and Vijaya become demons in the material world.

• It would not be proper to say that being eternal associates of the Lord, they fall in every kalpa from Vaikuntha.

- The meaning is this.
- If one accepts that the kalpāvatāras appear in every kalpa and figth with Jaya and Vijaya who fall from Vaikuntha to perform fighting pastimes with the Lord, this would contradict the Lord's statements of affection for his devotee, and statements concerning never returning from Vaikuntha.

- Thus in every kalpa the Lord performs fighting pastimes with real demons.
- Their falling into the material world from Vaikuntha by the Lord's will alone is an occasional occurrence.



bhagavān anugāv āha yātam mā bhaiṣṭam astu śam brahma-tejaḥ samartho 'pi hantum necche matam tu me

The Lord spoke to his two associates (bhagavān anugāv āha). "Go to the material world (yātaṁ). Do not be afraid (mā bhaiṣṭam). You will have good fortune (astu śam). But also, do not go that world (mā yātaṁ). Though I can nullify the curse of the brāhmana (brahma-tejaḥ hantum samartho 'pi), I do not desire (tu na icche) to do go against my own rules (me mataṁ)." SB 3.16.29

• But it should also be explained that the Lord acted only according to their desire of wanting to see the prowess of their Lord which was sung by the bards.

• The Lord's will is dependent on the desire of his devotee.

asyāpi deva vapuso mad-anugrahasya svecchā-mayasya na tu bhūta-mayasya ko 'pi neśe mahi tv avasitum manasāntareņa sāksāt tavaiva kim utātma-sukhānubhūteķ

My dear Lord (deva), neither I nor anyone else can estimate (kah api na tv avasitum īśe) the potency (mahi) of this transcendental body of Yours (asyāpi vapusah), which has shown such mercy to me (mad-anugrahasya) and which appears just to fulfill the desires of Your pure devotees (sva icchā-mayasya). Although my mind (manasā antareņa) is completely withdrawn from material affairs (na tu bhūtamayasya), I cannot understand Your personal form (na ise sāksāt tavaiva). How, then, could I possibly understand the happiness You experience within Yourself (kim uta ātma-sukha anubhūteh)? SB 10.14.2

bhūmir uvāca namas te deva-deveśa śaṅkha-cakra-gadā-dhara bhaktecchopātta-rūpāya paramātman namo 'stu te

Goddess Bhūmi said: Obeisances unto You (namas te), O Lord of the chief demigods (deva-deveśa), O holder of the conchshell, disc and club (śaṅkha-cakra-gadādhara). O Supreme Soul within the heart (paramātman), You assume Your various forms (upāttarūpāya) to fulfill Your devotees' desires (bhakta icchā). Obeisances unto You (namo 'stu te). SB 10.59.25

• But is this contrary to the statement that the devotee does not return to the material world?

• No, because returning to the material word by one's sinful actions is a fault, but coming to the material world by the Lord's will is not a fault.

• If that were the case then even the Lord appearing this world would be a matter of criticism.

• But could one not say that the statement of "no return" applies only to the spiritual world and not to the Vaikuntha present on Satya-loka."

• This argument is defeated by the statement in the Tenth Canto saying that a person does not fall even after attaining the Vaikuntha on Satya-loka.

ajānantaķ prati-vidhim tūṣṇīm āsan sureśvarāķ ta<u>to vaikuņṭham agamad bhāsvaram tamasa</u>ķ param yatra nārāyaṇaḥ sākṣān nyāsinām paramo gatiķ śāntānām nyasta-daṇḍānām yato nāvartate gataķ

The great demigods (sureśvarāh) could only remain silent (tūṣnīm āsan), not knowing how to counteract the benediction (ajānantah prati-vidhim). Then (tatah) Lord Śiva reached (agamad) the luminous realm of Vaikuntha (on Satva-loka) (bhāsvaram vaikuņțham), beyond all darkness (tamasah param), where the Supreme Lord Nārāvana is manifest (yatra nārāyaṇaḥ sākṣāt). That realm is the destination (paramo gatih) of renunciants (nyāsinām) who have attained peace (śāntānām) and given up all violence against other creatures (nyastadandānām). Going there, one never returns (yato nāvartate gatah). SB 10.88.25-26

parāśarena yad gadyam maitreyāyottarīkṛtam | ślokīkṛtya tad evedam saṅkṣepeṇa vilikhyate

What was explained by Parāśara (parāśareņa yad uttarīkrtam) to Maitreya (maitreyāya) in prose (gadyam) is now explained (tad eva idam vilikhyate) in verse (ślokīkrtya) briefly (sańkṣepeņa).

Verses now explain the prose of Parāśara's answer. The meaning is clear.

n<u>rsimha-r</u>upam h<u>arinā yad</u> āviṣkṛtam adbhutam | hiraṇyakaśipor a<u>smin</u> viṣṇu-buddhir na niścitā

Hir<u>aņyakaśipu</u> (hir<u>a</u>ņyakaśipor) c<u>ould not determi</u>ne (na <u>niścitā</u>) that the Lord (h<u>arinā</u>) appearing (<u>āvişkrta</u>m) as <u>the amazing Nrsimha</u> (<u>yad asmin</u> adbhutam nrsimha-rūpam) was actually Visnu (viṣṇubuddhih).

kintv eṣa puṇya-sampannaḥ ko 'pīti kṛta-niścayaḥ | raja-udriktatā-nunnamatis tad-bhāva-yogataḥ

H<u>e</u> thought (kintu kṛta-niścayah) Nṛsimha (esa) was some ordinary person (nunna-matih) who had attained that form (tad-bhāva-yogatah) by previous pious acts (kah api puṇya-sampannah), because his (Hiraṇyakaśipu's) mentality was affected by the mode of passion (raja-udriktatā). Text-55 <u>tato 'vāpta-vināśaika-</u> hetukām akhilottamām | avāpa bhoga-sampattim rāvaņatve sudurlabhām

He then attained (tato avāpa) a rare (sudurlabhām) wealth of enjoyment (bhoga-sampattim) as Rāvaņa (rāvaņatve), greater than all others (akhilottamām), only because of being killed by Nrsimha (avāpta-vināśa ekahetukām).

Only because of being killed by Nṛsimha (tataḥ avāptavināśaika-hetukām) he attained (avāpa) a very rare wealth of enjoyment as Rāvaņa.

viṣṇutvāniścayān nāti dveṣān nāveśa-santatiḥ | tāṁ vinā ca bhavet dveṣo narakāyaiva veṇavat

Because he did not think of Nṛsimha as Viṣṇu (viṣṇutva aniścayāt), he did not have extreme hatred of him (na ati dveṣān). Thus he was not absorbed in the Lord (na āveśa-santatiḥ). Without that absorption in the Lord (tām vinā), the hater of the Lord (dveṣo) goes to hell (narakāyaiva bhavet) like Veṇa (veṇavat).

• Without being absorbed in the Lord (tām vinā), one who is filled with hate like king Veņa goes to hell.

 It is said katamo 'pi na venah syāt pañcānām puruṣam prati: atheists like King Vena, however, being unable to think of Kṛṣṇa's form in any of these five ways, cannot attain salvation. (SB 7.1.32)

• Others like Kamśa who meditated constantly on the Lord in hatred however attained a different goal.

kintv asya sampat-samprāptis tat-kareņa mṛteḥ param evam āhaiva-śabdena tat-sādguņyam anusmaran

His attainment of wealth (kintu asya sampatsamprāptih) was thus only because of being killed by the hand of Nṛsimha (tat-karena mṛteḥ param). Parāśara uses the word eva to indicate (evam āha eva śabdena) that one should rather remember and appreciate the Lord with his six qualities (tat-sādguņyam anusmaran).

• Tat-karena means "by the hand of Nrsimha."

• Eva comes in the phrase niratiśayām eva akhilam from verse 5.43: only because being killed by Nṛsimha he attained wealth in his next life.

Text-58 <u>āveśābhāvato doṣā</u> n<u>āśāc chuddham apaśyataḥ</u> | prakaṭa 'pi para-brahmarūpe tatrāsya no layaḥ

Because he was not absorbed in the Lord (avesa abhavato) his sins were not destroyed (dosā nāśāt). And thus he could not see the pure Lord (śuddham apaśyatah). He could not attain the embrace (na layah) of the supreme Lord Nrsimha (para-brahma-rūpe), even though the Lord appeared before him (tatra asya prakațah api).

Hiraņyakaśipu (asya) did not attain the embrace (layaḥ) of Nṛsimhadeva (para-brahma-rūpe).

rāvaņatve mahākāmaparādhīnīkṛtātmanaḥ | tadvan manuṣya-dhīr asya śrī-rāme 'bhūn mṛtāv api

Even when born as Rāvaņa (r<u>āvanatve</u>), he was controlled (parādhīnī kata ātmanaḥ) by great lust for Sītā (<u>mahākāma</u>). Th<u>us he thought of Rāma as a human being</u> (śrī-rāme manusya-dhīh) in the same way as Hiranyakaśipu (tadvat), even when he was killed by him (asya mṛtāv abhūt api).

• This verse shows that during the appearance of Rāma the demon attained the same result.

• Tadvan means in a similar way that Hiranyakaśipu thought Nṛsimha was a living entity with pious acts.

• Thus Rāvaņa (asya) thought of Rāma as a human being, even when killed by the hand of Rāma (mṛtāv api).

ato 'sau ce<u>dirājatve</u> punar āpottamām śriyam

Thus (atah), when he was born again as Śiśupāla (asau punar cedirājatve), he attained great wealth (āpah uttamām śriyam).

tatra k<u>rsne</u> sa<u>mastānām</u> eva nāmnām ramāpateh | kāraņāni pravṛttes tu nimittāny abhavams tadā

In that birth as Śiśupāla (tatra tadā abhavams), the cause (kāraņāni) of his uttering (pravrtteh) all names (samastānām eva nāmnām) of Viṣṇu (ramāpateḥ) was actually Kṛṣṇa (kṛṣṇe).

- Now it is explained that Śiśupāla attained liberation when being killed by Kṛṣṇa because of the constant appearance of the śakti of attractiveness – which causes liberation – in Kṛṣṇa.
- This verse speaks of the attractiveness which arises because of the power of the name and the form of Kṛṣṇa.

• The cause of Śiśupāla's uttering all the names of Viṣṇu (ramāpateḥ), such as "lotus-eyed one," was Kṛṣṇa

tena niścitya tam viṣṇum svasya dvir-maraṇam yataḥ | atidvesān mahāveśāt tāni nāmāni sarvaśaḥ | jajalpa satatam śaśvan nindā-santarjanādiṣu

By calling those names (tena), he discerned that Viṣṇu was his enemy (taṁ viṣṇuṁ svasya niścitya), who had killed him twice before (dvir-maraṇaṁ yataḥ). He constantly uttered (jajalpa satataṁ śaśvat) all the names of Visnu (tāni nāmāni sarvaśaḥ) with great hatred (atidveṣāt) and concentration (mahāveśāt) and with an attitude of criticism and scolding (nindā-santarjanādiṣu).

• Because he determined that Viṣṇu who had killed him twice before was present, through uttering those names (tena), he then constantly uttered those names with hatred and concentration and with an attitude of criticism and scolding.