Laghu - Bhāgavatāmṛta

Part-1 The Sweetness of Kṛṣṇa

Chapter-5

Discussion of the Parāvasthā forms

Text-118

[January 1986]

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A statement concerning the Lord's contradictory nature (iyam eva virodha uktih) is found in the Third Canto (tṛtīye 'pi ca dṛśyate): You are without action but you perform action (karmāni anīhasya). You are without birth, but you take birth (bhavah abhavasya te). You are the form of time (kāla atmanah), but you flee in fear of enemies (atha ari-bhayāt palāyanam) and take shelter in a fort (durga aśrayah). You are self-enjoying (svātmanrateh) but accept household life with thousands of wives (yat pramada-ayuta āśramah). The intelligence of the wise men is bewildered by this (khidyati dhīh vidām iha). SB 3.4.16

• <u>Mutually contrary qualities arising from inconceivable</u> energy is expressed in another way in the Third Canto by Uddhava.

The meaning is clear.

Iha means "in your activities."

Text-119

tat tan na vāstavam cet syāt vidyām buddhi-bhramas tadā na syād evety acintyaiva śaktir līlāsu kāranam sathā yathā ca tasyecchā sā vyanakti tathā tathā

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If contradiction was not a fact (tat tan na vāstavam cet syāt), then (tadā) those wise sages (vidyām) would not have been bewildered (na buddhi-bhramah syād). Thus the inconceivable energy (acintyaiva śaktih) is the cause of the pastimes of the Lord (līlāsu kāraṇam). Whenever the Lord desires (yathā yathā catasya icchā), his inconceivable energy (sā) makes its appearance and acts (vyanaktī tathā tathā).

• If these mutual contradictions were not a fact, the sages would not be bewildered.

• It is all accomplished only by the inconceivable energy.

• The rest is clear.

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Betornies back

Text-120

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evam prāsangikam procya prakṛtārtho nirūpyate | nanu yaḥ prakṛti-svāmī yo 'ntaryāmī ca puruṣaḥ | tābhyām adhikatā nāsya kamsārer upapadyate

Having discussed an incidental topic (evam prāsangikam procya), we now return to discussing the main topic (prakṛtārtho nirūpyate). A doubt arises. "Kṛṣṇa (kamsāreh) cannot be superior (nanu na adhikatā upapadyate) to Mahāviṣṇu and Garbhodakaśāyī (tābhyām prakṛti-svāmī) yah (antaryāmī ca puruṣaḥ)."

• In discussing how Kṛṣṇa is svayam-rūpa eternally existing with all energies, it was explained that he is one but appears in many forms.

• Now, we return to the topic of Kṛṣṇa's position as svayam-rūpa.

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 Kṛṣṇa is not superior to Mahāvisnu, the master of prakṛti, or his expansion within the universe, Garbhodakaśāyī.

Text-121 jagrhe paurusam bhagavān mahad-ādibhih | sambhūtam sodaće 1 First of all (adau), the Supreme Lord accepted (jagrhe) the form of the eternal first purusa (pauruṣam rūpam) full like the moon (sodasa-kalam sambhūtam) for creating the universes (loka-sisṛkṣayā) from mahā-tattva and other elements (mahad-ādibhih)

• This is a description of Mahāviṣṇu.

• Previously (ādau) the lord of the spiritual sky (bhagavān) made his appearance as the form called the puruṣa (pauruṣam) in order to create the planets after manifesting mahat and other elements.

What kind of form is this?

• It is truly existing (sambhūtam).

 Or sambhūtam along with loka-sisṛkṣayā can mean "possessed with a desire to create."

• And further, the puruṣa has sixteen energies (ṣoḍaśa-kalam).

Text-122



yasyāmbhasi śayānasya yoga-nidrām vitanvataḥ | nābhi-hradāmbujād āsīd brahmā viśva-sṛjām patiḥ

After Garbhodakaśāyī-viṣṇu lay on the water (yasya ambhasi śayānasya) and went into trance (yoga-nidrām vitanvataḥ), Brahmā, lord of the universal creation (brahmā viśva-sṛjām patiḥ), appeared from the lotus in the water of his navel (nābhi-hrada ambujād āsīd). SB 1.3.2

This verse describes Garbhodakaśāyī.

• Brahmā arose from the lotus in the navel of the Lord of the spiritual sky in the form of Pradyumna, who was lying in the water of the Garbhodaka Ocean, engaged in sleep.

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yasyāvayava-samsthānaiḥ kalpito loka-vistaraḥ | tad vai bhagavato rūpam viśuddham sattvam ūrjitam

The expanse of planets (loka-vistaraḥ) is imagined (kalpitah) to be situated at various places on his limbs (yasya avayava-saṃsthānaiḥ). This form of the Lord (tad vai bhagavato rūpaṃ) is pure sattva, unmixed with rajas and tamas (viśuddhaṃ sattvaṃ), and is composed of eternity, knowledge and bliss (ūrjitaṃ). SB 1.3.3

• This is a description of his form.

• The expanse of planets is imagined to be similar to the location of the various limbs of his form, for making the minds of those with material intelligence steady.

• For instance it is said pātālam etasy hi pada-mūlam: Pātāla is the foot of the Lord. (SB 2.1.26)

• That form of the Lord however is without any material part (viśuddham), filled with self-manifesting energies (sattvam) and powerful (ūrjitam), completely negating material energy.

• Those who say that the Lord is free of tamas and rajas but touched with sattva are wrong.

• He is not touched by sattva, because that material sattva (which is a mixture) is completely absent in Viṣṇu.

• Anyonya-mithunāḥ sarve sarve sarvatra-gāminaḥ: the three guṇas are combined with each other and spread everywhere. (A somewhat similar text is found Mahābhārata 14.36.3)