Laghu - Bhāgavatāmṛta

Part-1 The Sweetness of Kṛṣṇa

Chapter-5

Discussion of the Parāvasthā forms

tathāpi śuṣka-vādaika-niṣṭhānām hetu-vādinām | tuṣṇīmbhāvāya vacanam purāṇāder vilikhyate ||

The statements of the Purāṇas (tathāpi purāṇāder vacanam) will be presented (vilikhyate) to silence (tuṣṇīmbhāvāya) the logicians (śuṣka-vāda ekaniṣṭhānām) and other opponents (hetu-vādinām).

Though it is obvious that Kṛṣṇa is eternal, still many clear statements from the scriptures will be given to defeat the opponents.

tathā hi, śrī-bhāgavate brahma-stutau – tvayy eva nitya-sukha-bodha-tanāv anante māyāt udyad api yat sad ivāvabhāti ||395||

Thus (tathā hi) Brahmā says (brahma-stutau) in the Bhāgavatam (śrī-bhāgavate):

This universe (yat) appears independent (sad iva avabhāti) though it is manifested by the potency of illusion (māyāt udyad api) emanating from You (tvayy eva), whose unlimited (anante) transcendental forms are full of eternal happiness and knowledge (nitya-sukha-bodha-tanāv). SB 10.14.22

• Sad iva means "appearing to be independent."

sattvam svātantryam uddistam tac ca kṛṣṇe na cāpare asvātantryāt tad anyeṣām asattvam viddhi bhārata

Sattvam means independent (sattvam svātantryam uddiṣṭam), and that refers to Kṛṣṇa (tac ca kṛṣṇe) and no one else (na ca apare). Know (viddhi) that all others (tad anyeṣām) are called asattvam (asattvam) because they are dependent (asvātantryāt), O Bhārata (bhārata). Mahābhārata

śrī-brahmānde ca –

a<u>nādeyam aheyam ca</u> rūp<u>am b</u>haga<u>vato</u> hareḥ | āvirbhāva-tirobhāvāv asyokte graha-mocane ||396||

Brahmānda Purāna says:

The form of the Lord (rūpam bhagavato hareh) is not accepted or given up by him (anādeyam aheyam ca). The appearance of accepting and giving up a body (grahamocane) is called (ukte) the Lord's āvirbhāva and tirobhāva (asya āvirbhāva-tirobhāva).

• Bhāgavatam may say (Kṛṣṇa) is eternal but how do you explain jagṛhe pauruṣām rūpam: Kṛṣṇa accepted the form of a human (SB 1.3.1) and harir api tatyaja ākṛtim tryadhīśaḥ: the Lord gave up his form. (SB 3.4.28)

• The present verse and the verse that follows give the answer.

śrī-brhad-vaisnave –

nityāvatāro bhagavān nitya-mūrtir jagat-patiḥ | nitya-rūpo nitya-gandho nityaiśvarya-sukhānubhūḥ ||

Viṣṇu Purāṇa says:

The forms (mūrtih) of bhagavān (bhagavān jagat-patiḥ) and his avatāra (avatārah) are eternal (nityā). He has an eternal form (nitya-rūpah), eternal fragrance (nitya-gandhah), eternal power (nitya aiśvarya) and eternal bliss (sukhānubhūh).

pādme śrī-vyās<u>āmbarīsa-samvāde</u> śrī-kṛṣṇam prati śrī-vyāsavacanam—

tvām aham drastum icchāmi cakṣurbhyām madhusūdana | yat tat satyam param brahma jagad-yonim jagat-patim | vadanti veda-śirasaś cakṣuṣam nātha me 'stu tat ||398||

Vyāsa speaks to Kṛṣṇa in the Padma Purāṇa:

O Madhusūdana (madhusūdana)! I desire to see you (tvām aham draṣṭum icchāmi) with my two eyes (cakṣurbhyām). O Lord (nātha)! May he (tat) whom Upaniṣads describe (yat vadanti veda-śirasah) as the eternal existence (satyam), highest brahman (param brahma), the source of the universe (jagad-yonim), and the lord of the universe (jagat-patim), be visible to my eyes (me cakṣuṣam astu). Padma Purāna 4.73.12-3

śrī-kṛṣṇa-vākyam —

paśya tvam darśayiṣyāmi svarūpam veda-gopitam | tato 'paśyam aham bhūpa bālam kālāmbuda-prabham | gopa-kanyāvrtam gopam hasantam gopa-bālakaiḥ | kadamba-mūla āsīnam pīta-vāsasam acyutam ||399||

Kṛṣṇa speaks in Padma Purāṇa:

"Look (paśya)! I will show you (tvam darśayiṣyāmi) the form (syarūpam) hidden in the Vedas (veda-gopitam)." Q king (bhūpa), then I saw (tato apaśyam aham) a young cowherd hoy (bālam gopam) colored like a black cloud (kālāmbuda-prabham), wearing yellow cloth (pīta-vāsasam), surrounded by young gopīs (gopa-kanya āvrtam), laughing with young cowherd boys (hasantam gopa-bālakaiḥ). He was sitting under a kadamba tree (kadamba-mula asīnam). Padma Purāṇa 4.73.17-19

Text-400-401 tatraivāgre—

tato mām āha bhagavān vṛndāvana-caraḥ svayam |
yad idam me tvayā dṛṣtam rūpam divyam sanātanam |
niṣkalam niṣkriyam śāntam sac-cid-ānanda-vigraham |
pūrṇam padma-palāśākṣam nātaḥ parataram mama ||400||
idam eva vadany ete vedāḥ kāraṇa-kāraṇam |
satyam vyāpi parānandam cid-ghanam śāśvatam śivam ||401||

Also from Padma Purāna:

Then (tatah) svayam bhagavān (svayam bhagavān) Kṛṣṇa, who wanders in Vṛṇdāvana (vṛṇdāvana-caraḥ), spoke to me (mām āha). "My form (idam me rūpam) with lotus eyes (padma-palāśākṣam) which you have seen (yad tvayā dṛṣṭam) is spiritual, eternal (divyam sanātanam), imperishable (niṣkalam), not subject to material transformation (niṣkriyam), tranquil (śāntam), and full of eternity, knowledge and bliss (sac-cid-ānanda-vigraham). It is most complete (pūrṇam). There is nothing superior to this form of mine (nātaḥ parataram mama)." The Vedās say (vedaḥ vadāny) that his form (idam eva) is the cause of all causes (kāraṇa-kāraṇam), independent (satyam), all-pervading (vyāpi), all blissfull (parānandam), all knowledgeable (cid-ghanam), eternal (śāśvatam) and all auspicious (śivam). Padma Purāṇa 4.73.23-25

• Because Kṛṣṇa is svayam bhagavān he is the most complete, and his clothing, associates and pastimes are also most complete.

śrī-vāsudevopaniṣadi –

mad-rūpam advayam brahma madhyādy-anta-vivarjitam | sva-prabham sac-cid-ānandam bhaktyā jānāti cāvyayam ||402|| iti

In the Vāsudeva Upaniṣad it is said:

Through bhakti one can know (bhaktyā jānāti) my unequalled form (mad-rūpam advayam), the source of all (brahma), which is without beginning, middle or end (madhyādy-anta-vivarjitam), self-illumined (sva-prabham), full of eternity, knowledge and bliss (sac-cid-ānandam), and indestructible (ca avyayam). Vāsudeva Upanisad 3.5

• Because there is no difference between Krsna and his form, this statement can be made.

• By these statements the idea that Kṛṣṇa accepts and gives up bodies is rejected.