

Burning oneself by bathing in the trickling urine of an ass - why such graphic language?

Who in their right mind will want to bathe in such a thing?

But we get so carried by externals & think what we are doing is spiritual life!

We wish to cleanse our heart, our body so would we use donkey's urine? We will just get dirtier and dirtier.

No one will come close to us what to speak of Radha and Krishna.

Bathing in the urine of an ass

Ass

An ass : it's a stupid animal. Only another such stupid animal will associate.

Trickling

Trickling means the urine is continuously pouring drop, drop, drop : Such a disgusting scene!

Burning oneself

soul is burning in a fire of deceit and hypocrisy, a very unpalatable and uncomfortable situation, detrimental for spiritual life.

We want a cooling refreshing bath but this burns us!

Srila Raghunatha das goswami is using such graphic language because who in their right mind will want to bathe in such a thing?

Solution of how to become free from a deceitful mentality and hypocritical attitude

We should bathe in, "the ocean of love emanating from the lotus feet of Śrī Śrī Gāndharvikā-Giridhārī," prema āmbhodhau



By prayers to Śrīmatī Radharani

From Rūpa Gosvāmī Stava-mālā and other sources



Pray to Kṛṣṇa in a systematic process of surrendering



Pray, meditate on Lord and chant His holy names



All this should be done with humility

In Kṛṣṇa Book, Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam, and Caitanya-caritāmṛta, Prabhupāda has given us so many beautiful pastimes, so many nice prayers and poems. We also have so many nice vaishnava songs by our acharyas.

Read the prayers given by Srila Rupa Goswami (in SBVT'S commentary) again and again.

Offer similar traditional prayers or compose our own prayers

These help us meditate on Krishna and Srimati Radharani

These books, these prayers should be our constant source of practice.

A sadhaka is one who is constantly practicing.

Prayers and meditation

Surrendering with great
hope for service

Why should Radharani give us service?

Srila Raghunatha das Goswami says:

I am a rascal and an offender.

But he prays to Radharani,
"You have a butter-soft heart which melts constantly by the warmth of
your compassion."

Whether qualified or not qualified, one can actually make a claim for
mercy.

Asking for mercy is the mood or the process of chanting the holy names of the
Lord

Anticipation of mercy

"I beg you with sweet words
while rolling on the banks of
the Yamunā!"

"This unhappy soul is not fit
to be neglected by you."

Have faith that Radharani and Krishna are very merciful

Somehow or other if they see how much I want their mercy,
sooner or later they will give it to me.

"Although I am unfit, an offender with a crooked
mind."

Mood of begging: Humility (No sense of entitlement)

This mood is the only way one will be able to constantly chant the holy name or practice devotional service in a systematic and consistent fashion

How to acquire humility?

Practicing the symptoms of humility (soft speech, offering respects to others, no sense of entitlement etc)

Associating with those devotees who are themselves genuinely humble

Humility

Constant engagement

Freedom from deceit

Engage your mind in constantly thinking about Krishna

SBVT says, "The mind must be engaged in thoughts which are essential for advancement in devotional service, such as, "How can I perfect my service?"

Thinking about Kṛṣṇa, thinking about spreading Kṛṣṇa consciousness, remembering the Lord's pastimes, and chanting the holy name loudly are all such essential activities.

As you don't think about essential activities, you will start thinking about non-essential activities

That is what Kṛṣṇa consciousness means—to always practice thinking about Kṛṣṇa.

In conclusion Śrīla Bhaktivinoda Ṭhākura says of this verse that the heart must be purified by humility in order to drive deceit out, and the heart must be saturated with humility in order to keep deceit from coming back in.