Śrī Caitanya-Śikṣāmṛta

Nectarean Teachings of Lord Śrī Caitanya

by Śrīla Saccidānanda Bhaktivinoda Thākura

Part – 7

Prayojana-the Goal of Life (Bhava and Prema)

The Way to Prema: Chanting

Part – 7 Prayojana-the Goal of Life

• The devotee is careful to associate with the guru and others of the same category at the appropriate time.

|| 5.5.18 ||

gurur na sa syāt sva-jano na sa syāt pitā na sa syāj jananī na sā syāt daivam na tat syān na patiś ca sa syān na mocayed yaḥ samupeta-mṛtyum

He who cannot deliver a person in samsāra (na mocayed yaḥ samupeta-mṛtyum) is not a guru, a relative (gurur na sa syāt sva-jano na sa syāt), a father, mother (pitā na sa syāt jananī na sā syāt), devatā or husband (daivam na tat syāt na patiś ca sa syāt).

Chapter – 1 Part – 7 Prayojana-the Goal of Life

• The life of an advanced devotee is very pure.

Their taste is always pure.

| 4.22.23 ||
arthendriyārāma-sagoṣṭhy-atṛṣṇayā
tat-sammatānām aparigraheṇa ca
vivikta-rucyā paritoṣa ātmani
vinā harer guṇa-pīyūṣa-pānāt

Attachment to the Lord takes place by (implied) disgust (atṛṣṇayā) with material friendship (sa-goṣṭhy) related to persons who accumulate wealth or enjoy the senses (artha idriya-ārāma), by not accepting those goals (tat-sammatānām aparigraheṇa ca), and by a taste for solitary living (vivikta-rucyā), with satisfaction in the self (paritoṣa ātmani), as long as one cannot relish the nectar of the Lord's qualities (vinā harer guṇa-pīyūṣa-pānāt).

Chapter – 1 Part – 7 Prayojana-the Goal of Life

Mahaprabhu taught this to Raghunatha briefly.

|| CC Antya 6.233 || hāsi' mahāprabhu raghunāthere kahila "tomāra upadeṣṭā kari' svarūpere dila

Smiling, Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu told Raghunātha dāsa, "I have already appointed Svarūpa Dāmodara Gosvāmī as your instructor.

|| CC Antya 6.234 || 'sādhya'-'sādhana'-tattva śikha inhāra sthāne āmi tata nāhi jāni, inho yata jāne

"You may learn from him what your duty is and how to discharge it. I do not know as much as he.

|| CC Antya 6.235 || tathāpi āmāra ājñāya śraddhā yadi haya āmāra ei vākye tabe kariha niścaya

"Nevertheless, if you want to take instructions from Me with faith and love, you may ascertain your duties from the following words.

|| CC Antya 6.236 ||

grāmya-kathā nā śunibe, grāmya-vārtā nā kahibe

hhāla nā l-hāil

"Do not talk like people in general or hear what they say. You should not eat very palatable food, nor should you dress very nicely.

|| CC Antya 6.237 || | <u>amānī mānada hañā kṛṣṇa-nāma sadā la'be</u> vraje rādhā-kṛṣṇa-sevā mānase karibe

"Do not expect honor, but offer all respect to others. Always chant the holy name of Lord Kṛṣṇa, and within your mind render service to Rādhā and Krsna in Vrndāvana.

|| CC Antya 6.238 || ei ta' saṅkṣepe āmi kailuṅ upadeśa svarūpera ṭhāñi ihāra pāibe viśeṣa

"I have briefly given you My instructions. Now you will get all details about them from Svarūpa Dāmodara.

Part – 7 Prayojana-the Goal of Life

• In these instructions the Lord also hinted in a covered way about the mental worship of Krsna at eight times of the day (asta kala bhajna).

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• Elsewhere in this book, in the instructions the Lord gave to Svarupa Damodara, this topic will be discussed, but the devotee should be careful to be qualified for such teachings.

Part – 7 Prayojana-the Goal of Life

The mentality during vaidhi bhakti--exclusive cultivation of devotion with the aim of achieving bhava bhakti, and the mentality during bhava bhakti-- intense cultivation with the aim of achieving prema, is called nirbandhini mati or undivided attention.

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• If such concentration exits, then very quickly the devotees attain perfection. In other words, the devotees must make an effort corresponding to the goal) they wish to achieve.

|| CC Madhya 24.170 || sad-dharmasyāvabodhāya yeṣām nirbandhinī matiḥ acirād eva sarvārthah sidhyaty eṣām abhīpsitaḥ

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"Those who are eager to awaken their spiritual consciousness (saddharmasyāvabodhāya) and who thus have unflinching, undeviated intelligence (yeṣām nirbandhinī matiḥ) certainly attain (sidhyaty) the desired goal of life (eṣām abhīpsitaḥ sarvārthaḥ) very soon (acirād eva)."

From the very beginning of practice, the devotees must adopt this concentrated attention, and should beware of giving it up due to inattention.

Becare of inattention