Canto Eleven - Chapter six

The Yadu Dynasty Retires to Prabhāsa

Brahmā Visits Dvārakā

Section – I

Demigods approach the Lord @ Dvārakā [1-6]

Section-I Demigods approach the Lord @ Dvārakā [1-6]

|| 11.6.1 || śrī-śuka uvāca atha brahmātma-jaiḥ devaiḥ prajeśair āvṛto 'bhyagāt bhavaś ca bhūta-bhavyeśo yayau bhūta-gaṇair vṛtaḥ

Śukadeva Gosvāmī said: Lord Brahmā then (atha brahmā) set off for Dvārakā (abhyagāt), accompanied (āvṛtah) by his own sons (ātma-jaiḥ) as well as by the devatās (devaiḥ) and the great Prajāpatis (prajeśaih). Lord Śiva, the bestower of auspiciousness to all living beings (bhavaś ca bhūta-bhavya īśah), also went (yayau), surrounded by many ghostly creatures (bhūta-gaṇair vṛtaḥ). In the Sixth Chapter the Lord is praised by Brahmā and others.

Understanding that the Lord desired to disappear with his dynasty, Uddhava, dear to the Lord, made a request to Kṛṣṇa.

The sons of Brahmā were the Kumāras and others.

Bhūta-bhavyeśaḥ means the bestower of auspiciousness to all beings. They went to Dvārakā. This is understood in verse 4.

Section-I Demigods approach the Lord @ Dvārakā [1-6]

|| 11.6.2-4 ||

indro marudbhir bhagavān ādityā vasavo 'śvinau ŗbhavo 'ṅgiraso rudrā viśve sādhyāś ca devatāḥ

gandharvāpsaraso nāgāķ siddha-cāraņa-guhyakāķ ŗṣayaķ pitaraś caiva sa-vidyādhara-kinnarāķ

dvārakām upasañjagmuḥ sarve kṛṣṇa-didṛkṣavaḥ vapuṣā yena bhagavān nara-loka-manoramaḥ yaśo vitene lokeṣu sarva-loka-malāpaham

Section-I Demigods approach the Lord @ Dvārakā [1-6]

The powerful Indra (bhagavān indrah), along with the Maruts, Ādityas, Vasus, Aśvinīs (marudbhir ādityā vasavo aśvinau), Rbhus, Angirās, Rudras, Viśvedevas (rbhavo angiraso rudrā viśve), Sādhyas, Gandharvas, Apsarās, Nāgas (sādhyāś ca devatāh gandharva apsaraso nāgāh), Siddhas, Cāraņas, Guhyakas (siddha-cāraņa-guhyakāh), the great sages and forefathers (rsayah pitaraś caiva) and the Vidyādharas and Kinnaras (sa-vidyādhara-kinnarāh), arrived at the city of Dvārakā (dvārakām upasañjagmuh), hoping to see Lord Krsna (sarve krsna-didrksavah). By his form (vapusā), Krsna, the Supreme Lord (bhagavān), enchanted all human beings (naraloka-manoramah), spread his own fame throughout the worlds (yaśo vitene lokeșu), and destroyed all contamination within the universe (sarva-loka-malāpaham).

They desired to see Kṛṣṇa by whose body he attracted all men.

This indicates that his body is non-different from himself, unlike the jīva.

It is said

deha-dehi-vibhāgaś ca neśvare vidyate kvacit:

there is no difference in the Lord between his body and himself. (Kūrma Purānā)[6]

Section-I Demigods approach the Lord @ Dvārakā [1-6]

|| 11.6.5 || tasyām vibhrājamānāyām samṛddhāyām maharddhibhiḥ vyacakṣatāvitṛptākṣāḥ kṛṣṇam adbhuta-darśanam

In that resplendent city of Dvārakā (tasyām vibhrājamānāyām), rich with all superior wealth (samrddhāyām maharddhibhiḥ), the devatās beheld with unsatiated eyes (vyacakṣata avitrpta akṣāḥ) the wonderful form of Kṛṣṇa (kṛṣṇam adbhuta-darśanam).

In Dvārakā (tasyām) they saw Kṛṣṇa.

Section-I Demigods approach the Lord @ Dvārakā [1- 6]

|| 11.6.6 || svargodyānopagair mālyaiś chādayanto yudūttamam gīrbhiś citra-padārthābhis tuṣṭuvur jagad-īśvaram

The devatās covered (chādayanto) the Supreme Lord of the universe (jagad-īśvaram) with flower garlands (mālyaih) brought from the gardens of heaven (svarga udyāna upagaih). Then they praised him (tuṣṭuvuh), the best of the Yadu dynasty (yudūttamam), with statements (gīrbhih) containing charming words and ideas (citra-pada arthābhih).

The garlands were obtained (upagaiḥ) from the gardens of Svarga. They praised Kṛṣṇa with meaningful words in attractive verses.

Section-2

Demigods Prayers to the Lord's Lotus Feet

[SB 11.6.7-19]

Section-2 DG's Prayers to the Lord's LF [7-19] || 11.6.7 || śrī-devā ūcuḥ natāḥ sma te nātha padāravindaṁ buddhīndriya-prāṇa-mano-vacobhiḥ yac cintyate 'ntar hṛdi bhāva-yuktair mumukṣubhiḥ karma-mayoru-pāśāt

The devatās said: O Lord (nātha)! Persons striving for liberation (mumukṣubhiḥ) from the severe bondage of karma (karma-maya-uru-pāśāt) meditate (cintyate) with great devotion (bhāva-yuktaih) upon your lotus feet (yat) within their hearts (antar hṛdi). Dedicating our intelligence, senses, vital air (buddhīndriya-prāṇa), mind and power of speech to you (mano-vacobhiḥ), we bow down at your lotus feet (natāḥ sma te padāravindam). We offer respects to your lotus feet with our hearts, the seat of intelligence, with our senses such as the eyes, feet and arms, with the body possessing prāṇa.

One offers respects using the different limbs:

dorbhyām padābhyām jānubhyām urasā śirasā drsā |

manasā vacasā ceti praņāmo'stānga īritaķ ||

Offering respects with eight limbs means using the arms, feet, knees, chest, head, eyes, mind and words. Quoted in Hari-bhakti-vilāsa 8.162

Persons desiring liberation meditate upon those lotus feet, but do not see them.

We however have seen those feet and thus offer respects. What great fortune we have

|| 11.6.8 ||

tvam māyayā tri-guņayātmani durvibhāvyam vyaktam srjasy avasi lumpasi tad-guņa-sthaḥ naitair bhavān ajita karmabhir ajyate vai yat sve sukhe 'vyavahite 'bhirato 'navadyaḥ

O unconquerable Lord (ajita)! You create, maintain and destroy (tvam srjasy avasi lumpasi) the inconceivable universe (durvibhāvyam vyaktam) by māyā made of the three gunas (tri-gunayātmani māyayā), all within your own self (implied). You are situated in the gunas of māyā (bhavān tad-guņa-sthah) but are not contaminated by your actions (na etair karmabhir ajyate) since (yat) you, who cannot be criticized ('navadyah), are engaged (abhiratah) in unobstructed bliss (sve avyavahite sukhe).

We, who are also controllers, praise you because you are the supreme, inconceivable controller.

You create, maintain and destroy the universe (vyaktam)

You are situated within the gunas of the universe as the controller of māyā.

Though you carry out creation and destruction you are not contaminated by those actions because you are engaged in your unobstructed happiness. Since the jīva is covered by ignorance in his happiness, he suffers because of no bliss.

Thus he is contaminated by his actions. You cannot be criticized (anavadyaḥ) but the jīva can.

|| 11.6.9 ||

śuddhir nṛṇām na tu tatheḍya durāśayānām vidyā-śrutādhyayana-dāna-tapaḥ-kriyābhiḥ sattvātmanām ṛṣabha te yaśasi pravṛddhasac-chraddhayā śravaṇa-sambhṛtayā yathā syāt

O worshipable Lord (īḍya)! Those whose consciousness is polluted by pride (durāśayānāṁ nṛṇāṁ) cannot purify themselves (na tu tathā śuddhih) by knowledge, study of the Vedas (vidyā-śruta-adhyayana), charity, austerity or ritual activities (dāna-tapaḥ-kriyābhiḥ). O best among the avatāra with pure bodies (ṛṣabha)! Pure souls (sattvātmanām) who have developed a profuse, excellent faith (pravṛddha-sat-śraddhayā) in your glories (te yaśasi), nourished by hearing scripture (śravaṇa-sambhṛtayā), become completely purified (yathā syāt). Just as everyone should worship your lotus feet, they should also hear and remember your glories.

O worshippable Lord! Purification does not take place by knowledge and other processes because their hearts are generally contaminated by pride in those processes.

O best among the avatāras with śuddha-sattva bodies!

Purification will take place by abundant, superior faith in hearing remembering and glorifying your fame, which is nourished by hearing scripture.

|| 11.6.10 || syān nas tavāṅghrir aśubhāśaya-dhūmaketuḥ kṣemāya yo munibhir ārdra-hṛdohyamānaḥ yaḥ sātvataiḥ sama-vibhūtaya ātmavadbhir vyūhe 'rcitaḥ savanaśaḥ svar-atikramāya

May the lotus feet of your lordship (tavānghrir) whom sages contemplate (yah munibhir uhyamānaḥ) with hearts melted by prema (ārdra-hṛdā) to attain the highest bliss (kṣemāya), and whom devotees (yaḥ sātvataiḥ), accepting you as their master (ātmavadbhir), worship in four forms (vyūhe arcitaḥ) three times a day (savanaśaḥ) for attaining prema (sama-vibhūtaya) and for giving up desire for Svarga (svar-atikramāya), burn up our desire for enjoyment (nah aśubhāśaya-dhūmaketuḥ syāt)! We have seen those lotus feet which should be contemplated and worshipped.

We aspire for those lotus feet. May those feet burn up our desires for material enjoyment!

You are contemplated by the sages in their hearts melted with prema. Your devotees, for whom you exist as the Lord (ātmā), worship you for liberation such as sārṣṭi (samavibhūtaye) or for prema (vibhūtaye) possessed by the devotees who see equally (sama) heaven, liberation and hell.

We worship you for giving up desire for Svarga

Prahlāda has said:

yadi dāsyasi me kāmān varāms tvam varadarsabha

kāmānām hṛdy asamroham bhavatas tu vṛṇe varam

O my Lord, best of the givers of benediction, if you at all want to bestow a desirable benediction upon me, then I pray from you that within the core of my heart there be no material desires. SB 7.10.7

|| 11.6.11 ||

yas cintyate prayata-pāņibhir adhvarāgnau trayyā nirukta-vidhineśa havir gṛhītvā adhyātma-yoga uta yogibhir ātma-māyām jijñāsubhiḥ parama-bhāgavataiḥ parīṣṭaḥ

Sacrificers, taking oblations in their cupped hands (**prayatapāņibhir**), mediate upon you (**yah cintyate**) in the sacrificial fires (**adhvarāgnau**) using rules defined in the three Vedas (**trayyā niruktavidhinā**). Similarly, the yogīs (**yogibhir**), absorbed in ātmā (**adhyātma-yoga**), meditate upon you, desiring knowledge of how to cross māyā (**ātma-māyām jijnāsubhi**ḥ). The most elevated devotees (**parama-bhāgavatai**ḥ) worship you with no material desires (**parīṣṭaḥ**). You are worshipped not only by devotees but by performers of karma and jñāna.

Taking oblations with cupped hands, the sacrificers contemplate you in the sacrificial fires.

They meditate that Indra and others are your vibhūtis, representing your arms and other limbs.

And the yogīs who are inquisitive about crossing māyā, meditate on you.

The highest devotees however worship you without any desires (parīṣṭaḥ).

May your lotus feet burn up all of our material desires!

|| 11.6.12 ||

paryuṣṭayā tava vibho vana-mālayeyam samspārdhinī bhagavatī pratipatnī-vac chrīḥ yaḥ su-praņītam amuyārhaṇam ādadan no bhūyāt sadāṅghrir aśubhāśaya-dhūmaketuḥ

O almighty Lord (vibho)! You accept worship (amuyā arhaņam ādadan) with the withered flower garland (iyam paryuṣṭayā vanamālayā) that we have prepared with devotion (yaḥ nah su-praņītam), with which Lakṣmī (yaḥ bhagavatī śrīḥ) must compete (samspārdhinī) like a jealous co-wife (pratipatnī-vat). May your lotus feet always (sadā aṅghrih) act as a blazing fire to consume the inauspicious desires within our hearts (aśubhāśaya-dhūmaketuḥ bhūyāt)! You consider the withered garlands offered by your dedicated devotees to be superior to most attractive Laksmī.

This is your affection for your devotee. Lakṣmī competes like a co-wife with the withered garland.

She thinks, "The withered garland resides on the Lord's chest where I reside." Not interested in Laksmī, you think,

"I cannot give up the withered garland since it has been offered by my unalloyed devotee."

You accept the offering attentively prepared with devotion.

That the garland competes with Lakṣmī is an appearance only, since no one can actually compete with Lakṣmī.

|| 11.6.13 ||

ketus tri-vikrama-yutas tri-patat-patāko yas te bhayābhaya-karo 'sura-deva-camvoḥ svargāya sādhuṣu khaleṣv itarāya bhūman padaḥ punātu bhagavan bhajatām aghaṁ naḥ

O powerful Lord (bhūman bhagavan)! May that foot (yah te padaḥ) which is like a victory flag (ketuh), endowed with great power during your appearance as Vāmana (tri-vikrama-yutah), with banners falling upon the three worlds like the Gaṅgā River (tri-patat-patāko), bestowing fear (bhaya-karo) in the demon troops (asura-camvoḥ) to drive them to hell (khaleṣv itarāya), and bestowing fearlessness (abhaya-karo) to the devatā armies (deva-camvoḥ) for taking them to Svarga (sādhuṣu svargāya), purify us (bhajatām punātu) of our sins (aghaṁ naḥ)!

You lotus feet have been realized by all people. May your foot, like a raised victory flag, purify us.

Endowed with great powers when you appeared as Vāmana avatāra (trivikrama-yutaḥ), the flag is endowed with three banners, or with its banner falls like the Gangā over the three worlds.

It creates fear in the demon army for sending them to hell and fearlessness in the devatā army for sending them to Svarga. May this foot purify us worshippers of sin! Another version has aghāt.

The possessive case in bhajatām is poetic license.

Śruti says

caraņam pavitram vitatam purāņam yena pūtas tarati dușkṛtāni:

we become pufified and can cross samsāra by that pure, ancient foot which extended itself. (Mahā-nārāyaṇa upaniṣad)

|| 11.6.14 ||

nasy ota-gāva iva yasya vaśe bhavanti brahmādayas tanu-bhṛto mithur ardyamānāḥ kālasya te prakṛti-pūruṣayoḥ parasya śaṁ nas tanotu caraṇaḥ puruṣottamasya

Like oxen bound through the nose (nasy ota-gāva iva), embodied beings like Brahmā (brahmādayas tanu-bhṛto) who are suffering in competition with each other (mithur ardyamānāḥ), are controlled by you (yasya vaśe bhavanti), the controller (te kālasya), superior to prakṛti and the jīva (prakṛti-pūruṣayoḥ parasya). May the lotus feet of the Supreme Lord (puruṣottamasya caraṇaḥ) bestow fortune upon us (śaṁ nah tanotu)! "You are worshipped by the people. Why do you devatās worship me?"

Brahmā and others are under the control of the Lord, like oxen bound up by their noses.

They mutually suffer through competition by qualities like envy.

This shows that they are powerless since their controller (kālasya) is not like that. You have no controller. You are superior to prakṛti and the jīva.

|| 11.6.15 ||

asyāsi hetur udaya-sthiti-samyamānām avyakta-jīva-mahatām api kālam āhuḥ so 'yaṁ tri-ņābhir akhilāpacaye pravṛttaḥ kālo gabhīra-raya uttama-pūruṣas tvam

You are the cause (hetuh asi) of the creation, maintenance and destruction (udaya-sthiti-samyamānām) of this universe (asya). They say (āhuḥ) that you are the controller of prakṛti, jīva and the elements such as mahat-tattva (avyakta-jīva-mahatām api kālam). You are the year made of three parts (sah ayam tri-ṇābhir kālah), moving imperceptibly (gabhīra-raya pravṛttaḥ), causing destruction of all things (akhilāpacaye). You are the Supreme Lord (uttama-pūruṣas tvam).

This verse explains the Supreme Lord mentioned in the previous verse.

You are the cause of creation, maintenance and destruction of the universe.

They say that you are the controller (kālam) of the cause called prakṛti (avyakta), which is the covering; the cause of the jīva who is covered by prakṛti; the cause of the elements such as mahat-tattva, which are coverings made of the products of prakṛti. You are also the year having three naves of four months, with imperceptible movement (rayaḥ).

You are supreme because you are superior to the effects, the cause and the jīva.

Gītā says:

yasmāt kṣaram atīto 'ham akṣarād api cottamaḥ | ato 'smi loke vede ca prathitaḥ puruṣottamaḥ ||

Because I am superior to the jīvas, to the Brahman and to the puruṣa known as Paramātmā, and even to the other forms of Bhagavān, I am celebrated in the Vedas and the smṛtis, as the Supreme Person. BG 15.18

|| 11.6.16 ||

tvattah pumān samadhigamya yayāsya vīryam dhatte mahāntam iva garbham amogha-vīryah so 'yam tayānugata ātmana āņḍa-kośam haimam sasarja bahir āvaraṇair upetam

The original puruṣa-avatāra, Mahā-Viṣṇu (pumān), obtains (samadhigamya) his powers (asya vīryaṁ) from you (tvattaḥ) and establishes mahat-tattva (dhatte mahāntam), the womb of the universe (garbham iva), through māyā (yayā). Then the mahat-tattva (sah ayaṁ), obedient to māyā (tayānugata), produces from itself (ātmana sasarja) the golden shell of the universe (haimaṁ āṇḍa-kośaṁ) with its coverings (bahir āvaraṇair upetam). The Lord is superior to the jīva.

He is also superior to Mahāviṣṇu who glances over prakṛti. Mahāviṣṇu obtains his power from you.

By māyā he supports mahat-tattva (vīryam), which is like the womb of the universe.

Mahat-tattva, obedient to māyā, creates the universe from itself.

Section-2 DG's Prayers to the Lord's LF [7-19]

|| 11.6.17 ||

tat tasthūṣaś ca jagataś ca bhavān adhīśo yan māyayottha-guṇa-vikriyayopanītān arthāñ juṣann api hṛṣīka-pate na lipto ye 'nye svataḥ parihṛtād api bibhyati sma

O Lord of the senses (hṛṣīka-pate)! You are the ultimate controller (bhavān adhīśah) of all moving and nonmoving living entities (tasthūṣaś ca jagataś ca) since (yad) you are unaffected (na liptah) even though you contact the sense objects (arthāñ juṣann api) through the action of the senses, which are transformations of the guṇas arising from māyā (māyayā uttha-guṇa-vikriyayā). On the other hand, other living entities, even yogīs (ye 'nye), are frightened of the sense objects (bibhyati sma) that they have renounced by their choice (svataḥ parihṛtād api). Thus you alone are the Supreme Lord.

Therefore, you are the controller of the non-moving and moving beings.

O controller of the senses! You, the creator, control the universe, since you contact sense objects attained by actions of the senses arising from māyā, by means of the jīva, and are not contaminated.

Others, such as yogīs, however, are afraid of contacting the senses objects, which they have given up by their own decision.

They become bound just by desires.

Section-2 DG's Prayers to the Lord's LF [7-19]

|| 11.6.18 ||

smāyāvaloka-lava-darśita-bhāva-hāribhrū-maṇḍala-prahita-saurata-mantra-śauṇḍaiḥ patnyas tu ṣoḍaśa-sahasram anaṅga-bāṇair yasyendriyaṁ vimathituṁ karaṇair na vibhvyaḥ

Sixteen thousand wives (patnyas tu ṣoḍaśa-sahasram) are unable (na vibhvyaḥ) to disturb (vimathituṁ) your mind and senses (yasya indriyaṁ) by their lust (karaṇair), which is like the arrows of Cupid (anaṅga-bāṇair), by their bold messages of love (saurata-mantra-śauṇḍaiḥ) sent by their eyebrows (bhrū-maṇḍala-prahita) made attractive with their intentions (bhāva-hāri), shown by their smiling glances (smāyāvaloka-lava-darśita). You are also not disturbed by spiritual objects.

Your sixteen thousand wives could not agitate you with portions of lust, similar to arrows of Cupid, bold messages of love sent by their eyebrows, attractive with their intentions shown by their smiling glances.

Because they are functions of the Lord's spiritual energy, his wives are not material representatives of lust, but are representatives of spiritual love.

The Lord was not agitated by them since he wanted to show that he is not under the control of his energies. However, Ujjvala-nīlamaņi states that among the queens, some are filled with prema.

This is shown when Kṛṣṇa falls under the control of his queen and steals the pārijātā tree from Svarga.

Thus you are controlled by prema but not by lust, whether vulgar or extraordinary. Or the verse can mean that Kṛṣṇa is not disturbed by the queens to the extent that he is disturbed by the gopīs.

The meaning in any case is that Kṛṣṇa is controlled by the queens to the extent that they have prema.

Section-2 DG's Prayers to the Lord's LF [7-19]

|| 11.6.19 ||

vibhvyas tavāmṛta-kathoda-vahās tri-lokyāḥ pādāvane-ja-saritaḥ śamalāni hantum ānuśravaṁ śrutibhir aṅghri-jam aṅga-saṅgais tīrtha-dvayaṁ śuci-ṣadas ta upaspṛśanti

The nectar-bearing rivers of discussions about you (tava-amrta-kathāuda-vahāh), and also the holy rivers (saritah) generated from the bathing of your lotus feet (pāda-avane-ja), are able to destroy (hantum vibhvyah) all contamination within the three worlds (trilokyāh śamalāni). Those who are striving for purification (śucisadah) associate with (upasprsanti) the two kinds of holy places (tīrtha-dvayam); the holy narrations of your glories by hearing them with their ears (anuśravam śrutibhir) and they associate with the holy rivers flowing from your lotus feet (anghri-jam) by physically bathing in them (anga-sangaih).

Since you are not contaminated, the nectar of your topics and your foot water liberate persons bound by samsāra.

Topics about you which are nectar and pure rivers arising as your foot water such as the Gangā can destroy the contamination of ignorance. How?

They hear Purāṇas uttered by guru (ānuśravam), which contain nectar of your pastimes, by the ears and bathe in the holy waters with their limbs.

Persons striving for purity (śuci-ṣadaḥ) serve these two tīrthas.

> || 11.6.20 || śrī-bādarāyaņir uvāca ity abhiṣṭūya vibudhaiḥ seśaḥ śata-dhṛtir harim abhyabhāṣata govindaṁ praṇamyāmbaram āśritaḥ

Śukadeva Gosvāmī said: After Brahmā (śata-dhṛtih), along with Lord Śiva and the other devatās (vibudhaiḥ sa īśaḥ), thus offered prayers (ity abhiṣṭūya) to Govinda (govindam), Brahmā situated himself in the sky (ambaram āśritaḥ) and addressed the Lord as follows (harim abhyabhāṣata).

> || 11.6.21 || śrī-brahmovāca bhūmer bhārāvatārāya purā vijñāpitaḥ prabho tvam asmābhir aśeṣātman tat tathaivopapāditam

Brahmā said: O Lord (prabho)! Previously (purā) we requested you (asmābhir tvam vijñāpitaḥ) to remove the burden of the earth (bhūmer bhārāvatārāya). O unlimited Lord (aśeṣātman)! That request has certainly been fulfilled (tat tathā eva upapāditam).

"But you requested Kṣīrodakaśāryī Viṣṇu, not me." You are unlimited!

You are the source of all the avatāras!

That Viṣṇu form is also part of your svarūpa.

> || 11.6.22 || dharmaś ca sthāpitaḥ satsu satya-sandheṣu vai tvayā kīrtiś ca dikṣu vikṣiptā sarva-loka-malāpahā

You have reestablished (tvayā sthāpitaḥ) the principles of religion (dharmaś ca) among pious men (satsu) who are always firmly bound to the truth (satya-sandheṣu). Everywhere you have also distributed (dikṣu vikṣiptā) your glories (kīrtiś ca) which destroy the sins of all worlds (sarva-loka-malāpahā).

Purport : Viksiptā means distributed.

> || 11.6.23 || avatīrya yador vaṁśe bibhrad rūpam anuttamam karmāņy uddāma-vṛttāni hitāya jagato 'kṛthāḥ

Descending into the dynasty of King Yadu (avatīrya yador vamśe), you have manifested (bibhrad) your unsurpassed form (anuttamam rūpam), and for the benefit of the entire universe (jagato hitāya) you have executed (akṛthāḥ) magnanimous deeds (uddāma-vṛttāni karmāṇy).

|| 11.6.24 || yāni te caritānīśa manuṣyāḥ sādhavaḥ kalau śṛṇvantaḥ kīrtayantaś ca tariṣyanty añjasā tamaḥ

O Lord (īśa)! Those pious and saintly persons (manuṣyāḥ sādhavaḥ) who in the age of Kali (kalau) hear about and glorify (śṛṇvantaḥ kīrtayantaś ca) your pastimes (te caritāni) will easily cross over (tariṣyanty añjasā) the darkness of the age (tamaḥ).

> || 11.6.25 || yadu-vaṁśe 'vatīrṇasya bhavataḥ puruṣottama śarac-chataṁ vyatīyāya pañca-viṁśādhikaṁ prabho

O Supreme Lord (**puruṣottama**)! O master (**prabho**)! Descending in the Yadu dynasty (**yadu-vaṁśe 'vatīrṇasya**), you have passed (**bhavataḥ vyatīyāya**) one hundred and twenty-five years (**śarac-chataṁ pañca-viṁśādhikaṁ**).

∥ 11.6.26-27 |||

nādhunā te 'khilādhāra deva-kāryāvaśeṣitam kulam ca vipra-śāpena naṣṭa-prāyam abhūd idam tataḥ sva-dhāma paramam viśasva yadi manyase sa-lokāl loka-pālān naḥ pāhi vaikuṇṭha-kiṅkarān

Support of all things (akhilādhāra)! There is nothing remaining (na avaśeṣitam) at this time (adhunā) for you (te) to do on behalf of the devatās (deva-kāryā). You have almost withdrawn your dynasty (kulam ca naṣṭa-prāyam abhūd idam) by the curse of the brāhmaņas (vipra-śāpena). If you so desire (yadi manyase), kindly return now to your supreme abode (tataḥ sva-dhāma paramam viśasva). At the same time, we humbly beg that you always protect us (naḥ pāhi) and the inhabitants of the planets (sa-lokāl loka-pālān) since we are your servants (vaikunṭha-kinkarān).

Now nothing remains to be done for the devatās.

Your family has almost disappeared.

Naṣṭa here means "became invisible." Enter into Dvārakā, a form which is beyond material senses in your form as Kṛṣṇa, and enter into Vaikuṇṭha in your form as Nārāyaṇa, since you have made your appearance on earth along with all your amśas.

> || 11.6.28 || śrī-bhagavān uvāca avadhāritam etan me yad āttha vibudheśvara kṛtaṁ vaḥ kāryam akhilaṁ bhūmer bhāro 'vatāritaḥ

The Supreme Lord said: O lord of the devatās, Brahmā (vibudheśvara)! I understand (me avadhāritam) your prayers and request (etad yad āttha). Having removed the burden of the earth (bhūmer bhāro avatāritaḥ), I have executed everything (akhilam kṛtam) that was required on your behalf (vaḥ kāryam).

> || 11.6.29 || tad idam yādava-kulam vīrya-śaurya-śriyoddhatam lokam jighṛkṣad ruddham me velayeva mahārṇavaḥ

The Yādava dynasty (tad idam yādava-kulam) which has increased in power, courage, and wealth (vīrya-śaurya-śriyā uddhatam), threatening to spread over the whole world (lokam jighṛkṣad), has been confined to Dvārakā by me (ruddham me), just as ocean is confined by the shore (velayeva mahārṇavaḥ). The Yadus cannot be defeated (uddhatam) in wealth, strength and enthusiasm in fighting.

They desire to spread over the world since they are unlimited in numbers, but I have confined them to Dvārakā by my inconceivable energy.

Otherwise the whole of the earth planet is insufficient for them.

> || 11.6.30 || yady asamhṛtya dṛptānām yadūnām vipulam kulam gantāsmy anena loko 'yam udvelena vinaṅkṣyati

If I were to leave this world (yady ayam gantāsmy) without withdrawing (asamhṛtya) the overly proud members of the Yadu dynasty (vipulam dṛptānām yadūnām kulam), the whole world (lokah) would be destroyed (vinankṣyati) by the deluge of their unlimited expansion (anena udvelena). The Yadus have strong pride as my servants (dṛptānām). They are compared to the ocean which overruns the shore (udvelena).

Though the earth planet does not consider my associates the Yadus, who follow dharma, to be a burden on the earth, I, the master of the earth, should remove this weight from the earth, just as the husband removes the ornaments of his wife who is heavy with ornaments.

Though a person can easily bear the weight of something strongly desired, he cannot easily bear the weight if it is too heavy.

If a greedy merchant suddenly obtains a pile of gold, he will find it difficult to bear the weight.

Earth could not even bear the weight of Kṛṣṇa:

sva-nigamam apahāya mat-pratijñām rtam adhikartum avapluto rathasthaḥ | dhṛta-ratha-caraṇo 'bhyayāc caladgur harir iva hantum ibhaṁ gatottarīyaḥ

Giving up his own promise not to fight, and making my vow to make him fight come true, Kṛṣṇa, situated on the chariot, quickly got down and holding the wheel of a chariot, ran towards me, like a lion coming to kill an elephant, while the earth shook and his top cloth fell to the ground. SB 1.9.36

> || 11.6.31 || idānīm nāśa ārabdhaḥ kulasya dvija-śāpa-jaḥ yāsyāmi bhavanam brahmann etad-ante tavānagha

Now due to the brāhmaņa's curse (**dvija-śāpa-ja**ḥ), the disappearance of my family (**kulasya nāśa**) has already begun (**idānīṁ ārabdha**ḥ). O sinless Brahmā (**anagha brahmann**), when my family disappears (**etad-ante**) I will pay a visit to your abode (**yāsyāmi bhavanaṁ**).

Nāśaḥ means "entering into invisible Dvārakā." After they enter Dvārakā, I will go to your abode in the form of the son of Vikuṇṭha.

It actually means the planet called Vaikuṇṭha above Brahmaloka.[7] This is the explanation of Jīva Gosvāmī.

Section 4

Yadavas departure to Prabhasa [32-41] Section-4 Yadavas departure to Prabhasa[32-41]

|| 11.6.32 || śrī-śuka uvāca ity ukto loka-nāthena svayam-bhūḥ praṇipatya tam saha deva-gaṇair devaḥ sva-dhāma samapadyata

Śukadeva Gosvāmī said: Thus addressed (ity ukto) by the Lord of the universe (loka-nāthena), the self-born Brahmā (svayam-bhūḥ) offered respects at the lotus feet of the Lord (praṇipatya tam). Surrounded by all the devatās (saha deva-gaṇair), Brahmā (devaḥ) then returned to his abode (sva-dhāma samapadyata). Section-4 Yadavas departure to Prabhasa[32-41]

|| 11.6.33 || atha tasyāṁ mahotpātān dvāravatyāṁ samutthitān vilokya bhagavān āha yadu-vṛddhān samāgatān

Thereafter (atha), observing that (vilokya) tremendous disturbances (mahotpātān) were taking place in the city of Dvārakā (tasyām dvāravatyām samutthitān), the Lord spoke (bhagavān āha) to the assembled senior members of the Yadu dynasty (yadu-vṛddhān samāgatān).

Disturbances took place by the desire of the Lord. It is said:

ity angopadiśanty eke vismṛtya prāg udāhṛtam muni-vāsa-nivāse kim ghațetāriṣṭa-darśanam

Some men proposed that the troubles were due to Akrūra's absence, but they had forgotten the glories of the Supreme Lord, which they themselves had so often described. Indeed, how can calamities occur in a place where Lord, the residence of all the sages, resides? SB 10.57.31

Section-4 Yadavas departure to Prabhasa[32-41]

|| 11.6.34 || śrī-bhagavān uvāca ete vai su-mahotpātā vyuttiṣṭhantīha sarvataḥ śāpaś ca naḥ kulasyāsīd brāhmaņebhyo duratyayaḥ

The Supreme Lord said: Our dynasty (naḥ kulasya) has been cursed by the brāhmaņas (brāhmaņebhyo śāpah āsīd). Such a curse (ete vai) is impossible to counteract (duratyayaḥ), and thus great disturbances (su-mahotpātā) are appearing everywhere (vyuttiṣṭhanti iha sarvataḥ).

Section-4 Yadavas departure to Prabhasa[32-41]

|| 11.6.35 || na vastavyam ihāsmābhir jijīviṣubhir āryakāḥ prabhāsaṁ su-mahat-puṇyaṁ yāsyāmo 'dyaiva mā ciram

My dear respected elders (āryakāḥ)! We must not remain any longer (āsmābhih na vastavyam) in this place (iha) if we wish to keep our lives intact (jijīviṣubhir). Let us go today (yāsyāmo adyaiva) to the most pure place Prabhāsa (prabhāsaṁ su-mahat-puṇyaṁ). We should not delay (mā ciram). Let Dvārakā remain with all my eternal associates!

The devatās had previously entered the Yadus unseen by others.

By my power of yoga I will extract them from the Yadus and take them to Prabhāsa.

I will make them fight there by my māyā and send them to Svarga, and I, in my form as the son of Vikuṇṭha and as other forms as well (who were merged within me), will go to Vaikuṇṭha above Brahmaloka and other spiritual abodes.

In my complete form, I, with my associates, will remain eternally in Dvārakā. This is what the Lord was thinking.

Section-4 Yadavas departure to Prabhasa[32-41]

|| 11.6.36 || yatra snātvā dakṣa-śāpād gṛhīto yakṣmaṇodu-rāț vimuktaḥ kilbiṣāt sadyo bheje bhūyaḥ kalodayam

Once, the moon (udu-rāț) was afflicted with consumption (yakṣmaṇā gṛhītah) because of the curse of Dakṣa (dakṣa-śāpād), but just by taking bath at Prabhāsa (yatra snātvā), the moon was immediately freed from his suffering (sadyo kilbiṣāt vimuktaḥ) and again resumed (bheje bhūyaḥ) the waxing of his phases (kalā udayam). Just by bathing at Prabhāsa, the moon, afflicted with consumption, became freed of suffering and was able to increase its phases.

Section-4 Yadavas departure to Prabhasa [32-41]

∥ 11.6.37-38 |||

vayam ca tasminn āplutya tarpayitvā pitrīn surān bhojayitvosijo viprān nānā-guņavatāndhasā

teşu dānāni pātreşu śraddhayoptvā mahānti vai vŗjināni tarişyāmo dānair naubhir ivārņavam

By bathing at Prabhāsa (tasminn āplutya), by offering tarpanas to the Pitrs and devatās (tarpayitvā pitrn surān), by feeding the worshipable brāhmaņas (bhojayitvā usijah viprān) with various delicious foodstuffs (nānā-guņavatā andhasā) and by bestowing gifts upon them (teşu dānāni) as the most suitable candidates for charity (pātreșu), like sowing seeds (śraddhayā uptvā mahānti vai), we will certainly cross over (vayam ca tarişyāmo) these terrible dangers (vrjināni) through such acts of charity (dānair), just as one can cross over a great ocean in a suitable boat (naubhir ivārnavam).

- We will feed the attractive (uśijaḥ) brāhmaņas with food (andhasā).
- Just as on sowing seeds in a fertile field one obtains many fruits, so by giving charity to qualified candidates, we will obtain great results.

Section-4 Yadavas departure to Prabhasa[32-41]

|| 11.6.39 || śrī-śuka uvāca evam bhagavatādiṣṭā yādavāḥ kuru-nandana gantum kṛta-dhiyas tīrtham syandanān samayūyujan

Śukadeva Gosvāmī said: O favorite son of the Kurus (kurunandana)! Thus advised by the Lord (evam bhagavatādiṣṭā), the Yādavas (yādavāḥ) made up their minds (kṛta-dhiyah) to go to that holy place, Prabhāsa (tīrtham gantum), and thus yoked their horses to their chariots (syandanān samayūyujan). Section-4 Yadavas departure to Prabhasa[32-41]

∥ 11.6.40-41 |||

tan nirīkṣyoddhavo rājan śrutvā bhagavatoditam dṛṣṭvāriṣṭāni ghorāṇi nityaṁ kṛṣṇam anuvrataḥ

vivikta upasangamya jagatām īśvareśvaram praņamya śirisā pādau prāñjalis tam abhāṣata

O King (rājan)! Uddhava (uddhavah), the constant follower of Lord Kṛṣṇa (nityaṁ kṛṣṇam anuvrataḥ), upon seeing the imminent departure of the Yādavas (tad nirīkṣya), hearing from them of the Lord's instructions (śrutvā bhagavatoditam), and taking note of the fearful omens (dṛṣṭvā ariṣṭāni ghorāṇi), approached the Lord in a private place (vivikta upasaṅgamya). He bowed down with his head at the lotus feet (praṇamya śirisā pādau) of the supreme controller of the universe (jagatām īśvareśvaram) and with folded hands (prāñjalih) addressed him as follows (tam abhāṣata).

Section -5 Uddhava approaches Lord Krsna[42- 50]

|| 11.6.42 || śrī-uddhava uvāca deva-deveśa yogeśa puņya-śravaņa-kīrtana saṁhṛtyaitat kulaṁ nūnaṁ lokaṁ santyakṣyate bhavān vipra-śāpaṁ samartho 'pi pratyahan na yad īśvaraḥ

Uddhava said: O Lord of the *devatās* (deva-deva)! O Lord of *yoga-māyā* (yogeśa)! You create purity simply by our hearing and chanting your glories (puņya-śravaṇa-kīrtana)! My Lord (īśa)! It appears that you will now withdraw your dynasty (samhṛtya etat kulam nūnam), and you will give up this world (lokam santyakṣyate bhavān). Although you are fully capable of counteracting the *brāhmaṇas*' curse against you (vipra-śāpam pratyahan samartho api), you do not do so (na yad īśvaraḥ).

O Lord of the *devatās*! You have accomplished what Brahmā and others requested. But you did not come only for that purpose.

You also came to give joy to your devotees by revealing your inconceivable, variegated form, qualities, and pastimes filled with *rasa*. Thus he says "O Lord of *yogamāyā*!" It is said:

> yan martya-līlaupayikam sva-yogamāyā-balam darśayatā gṛhītam vismāpanam svasya ca saubhagarddheḥ param padam bhūṣaṇa-bhūṣaṇāṅgam

Kṛṣṇa possesses that form suitable for human pastimes to show the full capacity of his *yoga-māyā*.

That form astonishes even the Lord of Vaikuntha.

It is the pinnacle of auspicious qualities and enhances the beauty of his ornaments. SB 3.2.12

You also come to deliver the people of future generations: O Lord whose glories by being sung or heard purify everyone!

Having accomplished everything you desired to do, you will now give up this world.

This is what I guess.

This is expressed by the word *nunām*, showing conjecture.

But you have instructed us to bathe at Prabhāsa to nullify the curse of the *brāhmaņas*.

Is bathing there more powerful than seeing you? How can the curse of the *brāhmaņa* have effect if you simply think "The curse should not come to pass!"

This shows that you desire to disappear, because though you are capable of nullifying the curse, you do not do so. Section -5 Uddhava approaches Lord Krsna[42-50]

|| 11.6.43 || nāhaṁ tavāṅghri-kamalaṁ kṣaṇārdham api keśava tyaktuṁ samutsahe nātha sva-dhāma naya mām api

O Keśava (keśava)! O master (nātha)! I cannot tolerate (nāham samutsahe) giving up your lotus feet (tavāṅghri-kamala tyaktuṁ) even for a fraction of a moment (kṣaṇārdham api). Take me along with you (naya mām api) to your own abode (sva-dhāma).

"But I am the Lord. I do as I please. What do you say?" Uddhava replies.

Section -5 Uddhava approaches Lord Krsna [42- 50]

|| 11.6.44 || tava vikrīditam kṛṣṇa nṛnām parama-maṅgalam karṇa-pīyūṣam āsādya tyajanty anya-spṛhām janāḥ

O Kṛṣṇa (kṛṣṇa)! Having tasted your pastimes (tava vikrīḍitaṁ āsādya) which are most auspicious for mankind (nṛnāṁ parama-maṅgalam) and are an intoxicating beverage for the ears (karṇa-pīyūṣam), people give up their desires for other things (tyajanty anya-spṛhāṁ janāḥ). They give up desires for sons, wife, and finally liberation, but they cannot give up your pastimes.

How can I give up you?

Section -5 Uddhava approaches Lord Krsna [42-50]

|| 11.6.45 || śayyāsanāṭana-sthānasnāna-krīḍāśanādiṣu kathaṁ tvāṁ priyam ātmānaṁ vayaṁ bhaktās tyajema hi

We are your devotees (vayam bhaktāh). How can we reject you (katham tvām tyajema hi), our dear self (priyam ātmānam), since we serve you while you lie down, sit, walk, stand (śayyā-āsana-aṭana-sthāna), bathe, enjoy recreation, or eat (snāna-krīḍā-aśana-ādiṣu)?

How can we, your devotees, who constantly serve you by massaging your feet and other actions while you lie down or sit, give you up? Section -5 Uddhava approaches Lord Krsna [42- 50] || 11.6.46 || tvayopabhukta-srag-gandhavāso-'laṅkāra-carcitāḥ ucchiṣṭa-bhojino dāsās tava māyāṁ jayema hi

Simply by decorating ourselves (carcitāḥ) with the garlands, fragrant oils (srag-gandha), clothes and ornaments (vāso-'laṅkāra) that you have already enjoyed (tvayā upabhukta), and by eating the remnants of your meals (ucchiṣṭa-bhojino), we, your servants (dāsās), will indeed conquer your illusory energy (tava māyāṁ jayema hi).

I pray in this way since I cannot give you up. I do not pray because of fear of *māyā*.

If *māyā* attacks us, we will conquer *māyā* by becoming strong with these weapons of your remnants, not by *jñāna* or other process.

Section -5 Uddhava approaches Lord Krsna [42- 50] || 11.6.47 || vāta-vasanā ya ṛṣayaḥ śramaṇā ūrdhra-manthinaḥ brahmākhyaṁ dhāma te yānti śāntāḥ sannyāsīno 'malāḥ

Naked sages (vāta-vasanā ya ṛṣayaḥ) who seriously endeavor in spiritual practice (śramaṇā), who have raised their semen upward (ūrdhra-manthinaḥ), who are peaceful (śāntāḥ) and sinless members of the renounced order (sannyāsīno amalāḥ), attain the spiritual abode called Brahman (brahmākhyaṁ dhāma te yānti). Naked sages attain your abode called Brahman by *jñāna* and *vairāgya*. Kṛṣṇa said to Arjuna:

tat-param paramam brahma sarvam vibhajate jagat |

mamaiva tat ghanam tejo jñātum arhasi bhārata ||

This supreme Brahman illuminats the whole universe. O Arjuna! Understand that it is my condensed light. *Hari-vaṁśa*

Such sages go to that light. Let them go there. But we do not want to go there.

We remain intoxicated with drinking the nectar of the sweet smile on your moon-like face.

Section -5 Uddhava approaches Lord Krsna[42- 50] || 11.6.48-49 |||

vayam tv iha mahā-yogin bhramantaḥ karma-vartmasu tvad-vārtayā tariṣyāmas tāvakair dustaram tamaḥ smarantaḥ kīrtayantas te kṛtāni gaditāni ca gaty-utsmitekṣaṇa-kṣveli yan nṛ-loka-viḍambanam

O great yogī (mahā-yogin)! We, on the other hand (vayam tu), though wandering in this world (bhramantah iha) on the path of (karma-vartmasu), will overcome (tarişyāmah) karma insurmountable ignorance (dustaram tamah) along with your devotees (tāvakair), by talking about you (tvad-vārtayā), while remembering and glorifying (smarantah kirtayantas) your deeds, words (te krtāni gaditāni ca), movements, smiling glances and amorous joking (gaty-utsmita-īkṣaṇa-kṣveli) which appear to be human (yan nr-loka-vidambanam).

Your great devotees do not seek to cross over *māyā* as a result of their *bhakti*.

But we are not like those great devotees. How can we be so confident?

Out of humility Uddhava shows that he also desires to cross over *māyā*. *Tu* indicates a different subject.

Though we are servants in *dāsya-rasa*, taking assistance of *sakhya-rasa*, we do not desire to practice *jñāna*, even though you order us.

We will cross *māyā* with your devotees, who have similar nature as us. We will not cross with the naked sages.

What is the method? Crossing the darkness of *māyā* is easy by the light from your Sudarśana-cakra in the form of remembering and glorifying your pastimes.

Kşeli means joking with his *gopī* lovers.

Section -5 Uddhava approaches Lord Krsna [42- 50]

|| 11.6.50 || śrī-śuka uvāca evaṁ vijñāpito rājan bhagavān devakī-sutaḥ ekāntinaṁ priyaṁ bhṛtyam uddhavaṁ samabhāṣata

Śukadeva Gosvāmī said: O King Parīkṣit (rājan)! Thus addressed (evam vijnāpito), the Supreme Lord, the son of Devakī (bhagavān devakī-sutaḥ), spoke (samabhāṣata) to his dear, unalloyed servant (ekāntinam priyam bhṛtyam) Uddhava (uddhavam).

Kṛṣṇa spoke to Uddhava, because he could not hide his intentions from Uddhava.