Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam

Canto Two

With the Sārārtha-darśinī commentary

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Canto Two – Chapter Two

Meditating on the Purusa in the Heart

The Lord in the Heart

Section – V

Krama Mukti – The path of liberation for the attached yogi (22-32)



|| 2.2.27 ||

na yatra śoko na jarā na mṛtyur nārtir na codvega ṛte kutaścit yac cit tato 'daḥ kṛpayānidam-vidām duranta-duḥkha-prabhavānudarśanāt

In Brahma-loka (yatra) there is no lamentation, old age, death (na śoko na jarā na mṛtyur), suffering or fear (na ārtir na ca udvega), except suffering in the mind (rte kutaścit yat cittato), because of their compassion (adaḥ kṛpayā) on seeing the influence of insurmountable suffering (duranta duḥkha prabhava anudarśanāt) on the living entities ignorant of the path of Vaisnava-yoga (an-idam-vidām). This is a glorification of Satya-loka.

In that place there is no lamentation, old age, death, suffering (artiḥ) or fear (udvegaḥ), except for suffering in the mind (cittataḥ).

Why? How does that arise?

It is because of compassion arising from seeing the influence of insurmountable suffering of those in the three worlds who do not know the process of devotional yoga.

This is praise in disguise for the great compassion of the inhabitants of Satya-loka.

|| 2.2.28 ||

tato viśeṣam pratipadya nirbhayas tenātmanāpo 'nala-mūrtir atvaran jyotirmayo vāyum upetya kāle vāyv-ātmanā kham bṛhad ātma-lingam

Then (tatah) he attains (pratipadya) the layer of earth (viśesam) without fear (nirbhayah) with a body of earth (tena ātmanā), then (atvaran) the layer of water (āpah), with a body of water (implied), and then the layer of fire (anala-mūrtih) with a body of fire (jyotirmayah). In time (kāle) he attains layer of air (vāyum upetya) with an air body (vāyv-ātmanā) and then the layer of ether (kham), which is worshipped as a form of Paramātmā (bṛhad ātma-lingam).

If the yogī desires to stay until the end of Brahma's life, he attains liberation at that time with Brahmā.

If he desires liberation before that, he pierces the seven coverings of the universe and enters brahman.

That is now described.

First he attains the first layer of earth (viśeṣam), five billion yojanas thick, covering the universe measuring five billion yojanas in width.

How does he do this?

He takes a form of earth (ātmanā).

Attaining the other layers should be understood in the same way.

He is devoid of any fear of suffering to the body from burning or other dangers.

Then he attains the layer of water which is ten times thicker than the earth layer, with a water body.

Then with a form of fire (anala-mūrtiḥ), he attains the layer of fire ten times thicker than the water layer.

Atvaran means "becomes."

He attains these various forms to enjoy the sense objects of each layer.

In earth with an earth body he can enjoy the sense object of smell, and in the water layer with a water body he can enjoy the sense object of taste.

After some time, with that fiery body, he attains the layer of air ten times thicker than the fire layer, with an air body.

He then attains the layer of ether ten times thicker than the air layer.

It is a form of the great soul (brhad-ātma-lingam), since it is worshipped as a form of Paramātmā.

Or it is called the great soul because ether's essence is sound, which is the Vedas.

It proves the Vedas by being the sound of the Vedas.

|| 2.2.29 ||

ghrāņena gandham rasa<u>nena</u> vai r<u>asa</u>m r<u>upam ca drsty</u>ā śv<u>asanam</u> tv<u>acaiva</u> śr<u>otreņa copety</u>a na<u>bho-gunatva</u>m prāņena cākūtim upaiti yogī

The yogī attains (upaiti yogī) smell (ghrāņena gandham), taste (rasanena vai rasam), form (rūpam ca drstyā), touch (śvasanam tvacā eva), and sound (śrotrena ca upetya nabho-gunatvam), as well as the actions of the various action senses (prāņena ca ākūtim upaiti).

He surpasses the subtle sense objects.

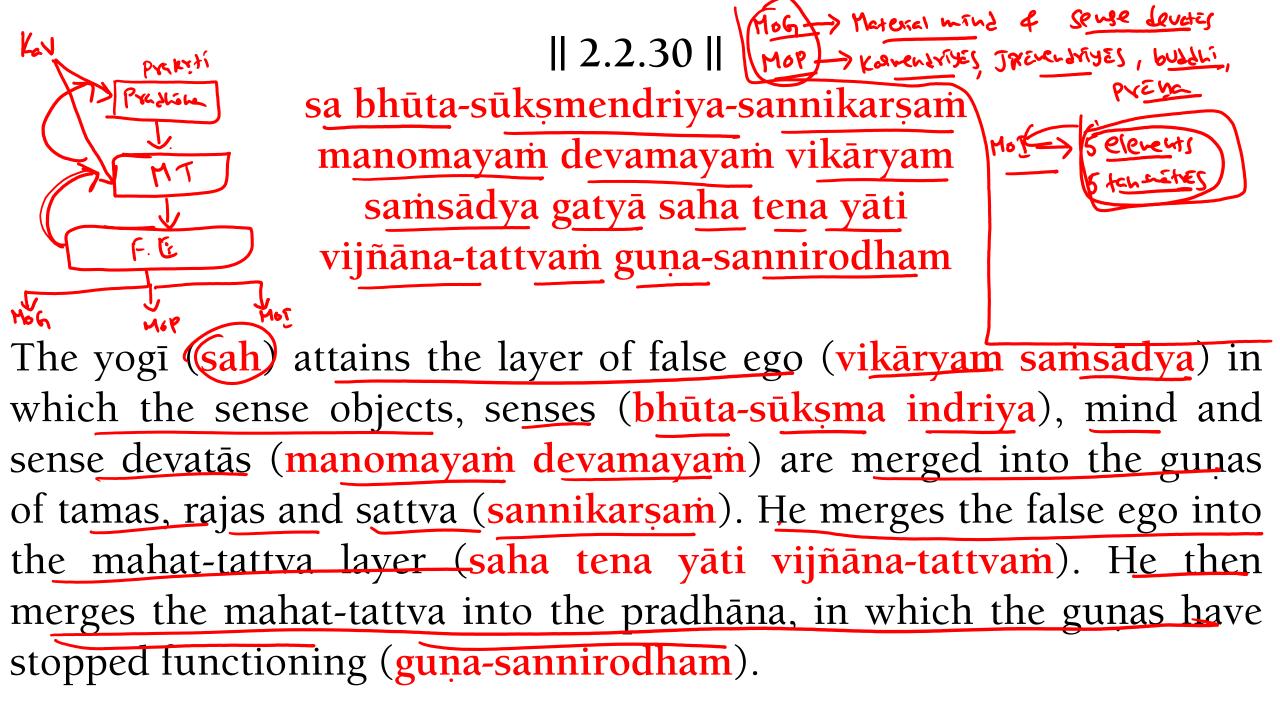
He attains fragrance, perceived by the nose, then taste, perceived by the tongue.

He attains touch (śvasanam) and then sound (nabhoguņatvam). He attains the various actions of the action senses (prāņena).

These sense objects reside in the various layers.

Smell resides in the earth layer for instance.

They are explained here, but are attained along with the various layers.



Having described surpassing the gross and subtle elements, Sukadeva describes how the yogī attains the layer of false ego and then the layer of mahat-tattva.

He attains the layer of false ego (vikāryam).

Vikāryam means having various effects.

In that false ego are merged (sannikarṣaḥ) the senses (indriya) and the sense objects (bhūta-sukṣma).

The sense objects (as well as the elements) are merged into false ego in tamas.

The senses are merged into false ego in rajas.

The mind and the devatās of the senses (manomayam devamayam) are merged in the false ego in sattva.

Then along with the false ego which remains, he goes to the layer of mahat-tattva (vijñāna-tattvam).

He merges the false ego into the mahat-tattva.

He then merges the mahat-tattva into pradhāna in which the guņas stop functioning.

Note: If pradhāna is considered a layer, then there are eight layers instead of seven.]