

Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam

Canto Two

With the
Sārārtha-darśinī commentary

by

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Canto Two – Chapter Seven

Brahma-nārada-saṁvādaḥ

Scheduled Incarnations
with Specific Functions

Theme – II

It is impossible to understand
Visnu without receiving His
mercy (40-46)

॥ 2.7.43-45 ॥

vedāham aṅga paramasya hi yoga-māyām
yūyam bhavaś ca bhagavān atha daitya-varyaḥ |
patnī manoh sa ca manuś ca tad-ātmajāś ca
prācīnabarhir ṛbhur aṅga uta dhruvaś ca ||

ikṣvākur aila-mucukunda-vidaha-gādhi-
raghv-ambarīṣa-sagarā gaya-nāhuṣādyāḥ |
māndhātr-alarka-śatadhanv-anu-rantidevā
devavrato balir amūrttarayo dilīpaḥ ||

saubhary-utaṅka -śibi-devala-pippalāda-
sārasvatoddhava -parāśara-bhūriśenāḥ |
ye 'nye vibhīṣaṇa-hanūmad-upendradatta-
pārthārṣṭiṣeṇa-vidura-śrutadeva-varyāḥ ||

O Nārada! I you, Śiva, Prahlāda, Śatarūpā, Svāyambhuva, his sons, Prācīnabarhi, Ṛbhu, Aṅga, Dhruva, Ikṣvaku, Aila, Mucukunda, Janaka, Gādhi, Raghu, Ambarīṣa, Sagara, Gaya, Nāhuṣa, Mandhātā, Alarka, Śatadhanvā, Anu, Rantidevā, Bhīṣma, Bali, Amūrttaraya, Dilīpa, Saubhari, Utaṅka, Śibi, Devala, Pippalāda, Dadhīci, Uddhava, Parāśara, Bhūriśeṇa, Vibhīṣaṇa, Hanumān, Śuka, Arjuna, Ārṣṭiṣeṇa, Vidura, and Śrutadeva know the power of the Lord (veda paramasya yoga-māyām).

“Who has attained identity without me and mine? Where can we see the symptoms of the Lord’s mercy?”

Because the Lord has shown mercy to me, I know

I speak with the agreement of the knowledgeable devotees.

I know according to my realization.

I do not know the end of his glories.

That was revealed by me previously.

Daitya-varyāḥ is Prahlāda.

Patnī is Śatarūpā.

Manu is Svāyambhuva.

His children are Priyavrata, Uttānapāda, Devahūtī and others.

Prācīnabarhiṣah drops the visargas for metrical reasons.

Sometimes Rantidevā and Devavrata are reversed.

The loss of ā in Śatadhanvā is poetic license.

Devavrata is Bhīṣma. **Upendradatta** is Śuka.

te vai vidanty atitaranti ca deva-māyām
strī-śūdra-hūṇa-śabarā api pāpa-jīvāḥ |
yady adbhuta-krama-parāyaṇa-śīla-śikṣās
tiryag-jaṇā api kim u śruta-dhāraṇā ye ||

Women, śūdras, Hūṇas, Śabarās (strī-śūdra-hūṇa-śabarā) and other sinfully born persons also (pāpa-jīvāḥ api) certainly cross over the material world (te vai atitaranti deva-māyām) and know the Lord (vidanty) if they (learn) (yady śikṣāḥ) about the qualities of the devotees of the Lord (adbhuta-krama-parāyaṇa-śīla). If even animals can understand (tiryag-jaṇā api), how much more quickly can humans, who ~~hear~~ from the mouth of guru, understand the Lord (kim u śruta-dhāraṇā ye)?

Not only those great persons but even lower persons have realized his powers.

If they learn about the qualities of those devotees who have surrendered to the Supreme Lord, who takes great steps; if they learn about devotees who do not discriminate between high and low, they also know the powers of the Lord, even if they are swans, elephants, parrots or cranes (tiryag-janā).

What then to speak of how quickly humans, who hear the name and form of the Lord from the mouth of a guru, can know the Lord?