Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam

Canto Three

With the Sārārtha-darśinī commentary

by Śrīla Viśvanātha Cakravartī Ţhākura Canto Three – Chapter Fifteen The Kumāras Curse the Door Keepers

Description of the Kingdom of God

Section-II

Brahma narrates the story about how the two sons enter Diti's womb (12-25)

|| 3.15.25 ||

yac ca vrajanty animiṣām ṛṣabhānuvṛttyā dūre yamā hy upari naḥ spṛhaṇīya-śīlāḥ bhartur mithaḥ suyaśasaḥ kathanānurāgavaiklavya-bāṣpa-kalayā pulakī-kṛtāṅgāḥ

Those who are far above rules (dure yamā) by following the Lord of the demigods (animisām rṣabha anuvrttyā) with dedication, who are superior to us (uparī nah), and whose qualities are desirable by us (sprhanīya-śīlāh), and whose bodies develop goose bumps (pulakī) krtāngāh) and uncontrolled tears of ecstasy (vaiklavya-bāṣpa-kalayā) through attraction to discussions of the Lord (bhartuh kathanā anurāga) possessing most excellent qualities (mithaḥ suyaśasaḥ), enter Vaikuntha (yat ca vrajanty). Now those who are qualified are described.

Those who, by following the Lord, best among the devatās, are far beyond rules, or who discard the process of aṣṭāṅga-yoga, are superior to us, because their position is desired by us, but cannot be attained by us.

Another version has dure 'ham.

This means they discard the ego.

What is their character?

The proof of their character is described.

Because of experience of taste through talking with mutual affection about the Lord, they show ecstatic symptoms.

In Purāņas and other scriptures, one sometimes hears that there is some momentary appearance of demons in the spiritual world, but this should not be considered actually entrance into the spiritual world, since they lack realization of spiritual happiness.

Sometimes tigers or bears enter into the jewel-covered palace of the king endowed with various fragrances.

For amusement, the king desires that the populace see those animals.

Similarly, the Supreme Lord for fun by his will brings material objects, ferocious demons, saintly persons like Bhrgu, or persons beyond the three gunas such as the Kumāras to Vaikuntha, to show to them the inhabitants of the spiritual world, and then quickly takes them away as is suitable to his purpose.

But he brings his pure devotees to Vaikuntha through his associates on airplanes and has them reside there eternally.

He has them taste his sweet abode, sweet service and sweet pastimes.

Section-III

Kumaras Curse Jaya and Vijaya (26-36)

|| 3.15.26 ||

tad viśva-gurv-adhikṛtaṁ bhuvanaika-vandyaṁ divyaṁ vicitra-vibudhāgrya-vimāna-śociḥ āpuḥ parāṁ mudam apūrvam upetya yogamāyā-balena munayas tad atho vikuṇṭham

Through the yoga-māyā of the Lord (vikuntham māyā-balena), the Kumāras attained Vaikuntha (munayas tad atho), the transcendental place (divyam) most worshipped by the world (bhuvanaikavandyam), glowing (śociḥ) with various aircraft (vicitra-vimāna) owned by the excellent devotees (vibudhāgrya). They attained Vaikuntha (tad upetya), under control of the Lord (viśva-gurvadhikṛtam), and experienced the highest unprecedented bliss (āpuḥ parām mudam). This verse describes the Kumāras' trip to Vaikuntha.

They attained that place not by their own powers, but upon receiving the power of the Lord's śakti, by the desire of the Lord, by his yoga-māyā, so that they could experience the highest bliss by the Lord's mercy. The words parām and apūrvam indicate that they experienced greater bliss in Vaikuņțha than in realizing impersonal Brahman.

What is the nature of Vaikuntha?

It is under the control of the Lord (viśva-guru).

This means that material māyā cannot exist there.

The place glowed with the colorful airplanes possessed by the best of devotees.

The phrase "guru of the universe" also indicates that he brought them to Vaikuntha to teach them bhakti.

|| 3.15.27-28 ||

tasminn atītya munayaḥ ṣaḍ asajjamānāḥ kakṣāḥ samāna-vayasāv atha saptamāyām devāv acakṣata gṛhīta-gadau parārdhyakeyūra-kuṇḍala-kirīṭa-viṭaṅka-veṣau

matta-dvirepha-vanamālikayā nivītau vinyastayāsita-catuṣṭaya-bāhu-madhye vaktram bhruvā kuṭilayā sphuṭa-nirgamābhyām raktekṣaṇena ca manāg rabhasam dadhānau

In Vaikuntha (tasminn), after passing through six gates (atītya ṣaḍ), the sages (munayaḥ) with no attachment (asajjamānāḥ) saw at the seventh gate (acakṣata atha saptamāyām kaksāḥ) two shining beings of the same age (samāna-vayasāv devāv) adorned with most valuable (parārdhya) armbands, earrings crowns, and attractive clothing (keyūra-kundala-kirīṭa-viṭaṅka-veṣau). The gate keepers with four blue arms (asita-catuṣṭaya-bāhu) were holding clubs (gṛhīta-gadau) and were decorated (viŋyastya) with garlands (vanāmālikayā) surrounded by maddened bees (matta-dvirepha nivītau). Their faces were slightly agitated with anger (vaktram manāg rabhasam), expressed by (dadhānau) frowning brows (bhruvā kuṭilayā), heavily breathing nostrils (sphuṭa-nirgamābhyām) and red eyes (raktekṣaṇena).

In Vaikuntha (tasmin), passing through six walls with gates, the sages, without attachment, since they had realized Brahman from birth, saw the two doormen.

They did not have any attraction by material intelligence to the gates, walls or to the aspects of form, fragrance or beauty they experienced there.

At the seventh wall, they saw two guards Jaya and Vijaya holding clubs.

Their faces were slightly disturbed with anger (manāg rabhasam).

The symptoms are described.

T<u>heir nostrils were breathing heavily</u> (sphutanirgamābhyām).

|| 3.15.29 ||

dvāry etayor niviviśur miṣator apṛṣṭvā pūrvā yathā puraṭa-vajra-kapāṭikā yāḥ sarvatra te 'viṣamayā munayaḥ sva-dṛṣṭyā ye sañcaranty avihatā vigatābhiśaṅkāḥ

The sages (te munayaḥ), who, without fear (vigata abhiśaṅkāḥ), unobstructed by anyone (avihatā), would wander everywhere (ye sañcaranty sarvatra) with undisturbed intelligence (aviṣamayā), out of their free will (sva-dṛṣṭyā) entered the seventh door (dvāry niviviśuh), made of gold and diamonds (yāh puraṭa-vajra) like the previous doors (yathā pūrvā kapāṭikā), without asking the door keepers (etayor miṣator apṛṣṭvā). This verse explains the reason for their anger.

Without asking the two gate keepers who were watching (misatoh), disrespecting them, they entered the seventh door whose bolts were made of diamonds, and whose panels were made of gold, as were the previous doors.

They did not ask because of their nature.

Without anyone able to stop them going anywhere (avihatāḥ), they used to wander everywhere.

|| 3.15.30 ||

tān vīkṣya vāta-raśanāmś caturaḥ kumārān vṛddhān daśārdha-vayaso viditātma-tattvān vetreṇa cāskhalayatām atad-arhaṇāms tau tejo vihasya bhagavat-pratikūla-śīlau

Seeing the four young naked boys (tān vīkṣya vāta-raśanāmś caturaḥ kumārān) who were as old as Brahmā (vṛddhān) but appearing to be five years old (daśārdha-vayaso), who had realized Brahman (vidita ātma-tattvān), the gate keepers (tau), using their staffs (vetreṇa), forbade them from entering (askhalayatām), though they acted against the nature of the Lord (bhagavat-pratikūla-śīlau) and should not have done so (atad-arhaṇāms), ignoring their great power (tejo vihasya). Generally they had no clothing, but actually they had small bells as decorations.

Though they were as old as Brahmā, they appeared to be five years old boys.

Seeing those brahma-jñānīs, the gate keepers prevented them from entering by placing their sticks horizontally in front and saying "Do not enter the palace of the Lord." The Kumāras did not deserve to be stopped.

Ignoring their greatness, the gate keepers thought that the boys were proud because of their brahma-jñāna.

<u>The gate keepers thus showed natures unfavorable to the</u> Lord, who is affectionate to brāhmaņas. Even the Lord's servants should not obstruct his friendliness to brāhmaņas, because they follow the qualities of the Lord's mind.

Being virtuous, the Kumāras should not have been punished.