Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam

Canto Three

With the Sārārtha-darśinī commentary

by Śrīla Viśvanātha Cakravartī Ṭhākura

Canto Three – Chapter Fifteen

The Kumāras Curse the Door Keepers

Description of the Kingdom of God

Section-IV

Lord arrives and gives Darshan to the 4 Kumaras (37-45)

|| 3.15.41 ||

vidyut-ksipan-makara-kuṇḍala-maṇḍanārhagaṇḍa-sthalonnasa-mukhaṁ maṇimat-kirīṭaṃ dor-daṇḍa-ṣaṇḍa-vivare haratā parārdhyahāreṇa kandhara-gatena ca kaustubhena

His cheeks (gaṇḍa-sthala) were decorated with makara earrings (makara-kuṇḍala-maṇḍana arha) whose reflection outshone lightning (vidyut-kṣipan). He had a high nose (unnasa-mukham), a jeweled crown (maṇimat-kirīṭam), and between his four arms (dor-daṇḍa-ṣaṇḍa-vivare) on his chest (kandhara-gatena) was nestled an attractive, valuable necklace with the Kaustubha (haratā parārdhya- hāreṇa ca kaustubhena).

He had cheeks worthy of ornamentation by earrings shaped like makaras, throwing off light radiating from his effulgence.

His face has a raised nose.

Between (vivare) his group of arms was a valuable (parārdha) necklace hanging on his chest (kandhara), which attracted the sages.

It hid between his strong arms for fear of being stolen by them.

Or between his shoulders, on a gold chain hanging down to his chest was the necklace with the Kaustubha jewel.

These phrases are also grammatically connected with verse 39.

|| 3.15.42 ||

atropasṛṣṭam iti cotsmitam indirāyāḥ svānām dhiyā viracitam bahu-sauṣṭhavāḍhyam mahyam bhavasya bhavatām ca bhajantam aṅgam nemur nirīkṣya na vitṛpta-dṛśo mudā kaiḥ

The exquisite beauty of Narayana (bahu-sausthava āḍhyam), being many times magnified by the intelligence of his devotees (syānām dhiyā viracitam), was so attractive that it defeated (atra upasṛṣṭam) the pride of Lakshmi (utsmitam indirāyāḥ). His limbs are worthy of being worshipped by Siva and all of us (nahyam bhavasya bhavatām ca bhajantam angam). Seeing that form (nirīkṣya) the sages, Whose eyes could not be satisfied (na vitṛpta-dṛṣā) bowed their heads in joy (nemur mudā kaih).

What more can be said?

The pride of Lakṣmī in her beauty has been eclipsed by the beauty of the Lord.

The Lord is a matter for conjecture in the minds (viracitam) of his own devotees.

This is the meaning given by Śrīdhara Svāmī.

According to Jīva Gosvāmī the first line means "Lakṣmī additionally (upa) exhibited (sṛṣṭam) pṛide (utsmitam) on having Viṣṇu, endowed with such beauty, as her husband."

Or the meaning can be "He has been made secondary with form, qualities and sweetness worshipped by Brahmā and others, since I possess even more excellent qualities."

Because of this (iti) and her prema (ca), saying "I am so fortunate!" Lakṣmī smiles at him attractively (utsmitam).

Her love is like this.

Because of splendor arising from bliss, his limbs are resplendent with proper cloth and ornaments.

He is not like Śiva who disfigures his beauty with ashes.

The word worship (bhajantam) is often used to mean "having clean limbs."

For instance in various manuals it is said "worship your feet" instead of "clean your feet."

Next, how he is served by thousands of servants is described.

By the intelligence of those who serve his body (svānām), who must judge how to arrange various eternal ornaments and clothing on his body, his beauty is created.

The beauty of his limbs is described.

The Lord has limbs which are worshiped by highly respected (mahyam) fragrance and flowers brought by Śiva and us, who worship him by meditation.

They do not directly worship him in Vaikuntha.

Maha can mean worship.

They saw that form of the Lord.

Seeing it, their eyes could not be satisfied.

They bowed their heads (kaih) in respect.

|| 3.15.43 ||

tasyāravinda-nayanasya padāravindakiñjalka-miśra-tulasī-makaranda-vāyuḥ antar-gatah sva-vivarena cakāra teṣām saṅkṣobham akṣara-juṣām api citta-tanvoḥ

The wind carrying the aroma of tulasī (tulasī-makaranda-vāyuḥ) which had touched the filaments of the Lord's toe nails on his lotus feet (tasya aravinda-nayanasya padaravinda kiñjalka (niśra) entered their minds through the nostrils (antar-gatah sva-vivareṇa) and began to agitate their minds and bodies (saṅksobham cakāra (eṣām) (itta-tanvoh), even though they were fixed in Brahman (akṣara-juṣām api).

When the sweetness of the Lord's body produced in them a level of astonishment much higher than the bliss of Brahman, it penetrated within them.

What can be said?

The wind touching something related to a limb of the Lord made them fall from their position of Brahman, and produced great agitation in them.

The wind carrying the aroma of tulasī combined with the red and white of the Lord's toe nails, like filaments on the lotus of his feet, entered the sages' minds to take control of the place.

"But without permission is it not improper to enter their minds, just as it would be improper for the Kumāras and others to enter into someone else's inner chambers?"

But the nostrils are the natural (sva) holes for the air.

The air entered their nostrils.

Whose permission does the air need?

What happened when the air entered?

Their mind and bodies became agitated.

First the mind became very strongly agitated by the changes arising from bliss.

Then the body became agitated with tears, hairs standing on end, and perspiration.

A person desiring to enter another's country first kills the leader, plunders the place and disturbs the place.

Then he conquers it with his troops.

If they were so fixed in the bliss of Brahman, why should the bliss of realizing Bhagavān make them identify with the Lord?

Even though they had been practicing contact with the Brahman, the bliss of Bhagavān was more powerful because of its sweetness.