



# Ramana Bhaskara



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- ❖ A devotee asked: 'My concentration and devotion towards God are very less'. Earning devotion is also not so easy. Lot of hard work is involved in earning money. Earning devotion is much more difficult. It is not possible without past merit. Your words have to be soft, the mind has to be pure and the body has to involve in Satkarma (good deeds). By doing all these, you will secure devotion. There is no wealth greater than devotion. Wealth, education and honour are all Maya. It is due to devotion that you are able to spend your days happily. It is due to devotion that you are able to secure Jnana.
- ❖ Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel led a very simple life. He said: 'God has to be adored not through words but through work'.
- ❖ Currently the world is habituated to a lavish life style and has forgotten the simple life style. This is not good for devotion. Though you are capable enough to lead a lavish life style, doing so is not good.
- ❖ Though Gandhiji remained in politics for his entire life, He never gave up devotion and chanting Lord Rama's name. He was well aware that all these politics are Maya. The greatness of Gandhiji was that He never got frustrated. Even if anyone who differed from his ideology came to Him, he talked to them very casually without any frustration.
- ❖ Concentrate your mind upon the work and not on its results. If not, you will be left with burden.
- ❖ God utilizes a particular body for a particular purpose. This should not be forgotten. As the household work is done devotedly, even the society related work has to be done devotedly. Perform the work related to your religion. You need not change your religion.

- ❖ Some people may like your words and some people may not. Don't develop anger and hatred. When you are doing your work, don't get frightened even when criticized by others.
- ❖ Worship is not restricted to visiting the temple and adoring God but if you are able to view the indwelling God in the Hearts of all, it is also considered as worship.
- ❖ As a hungry person craves for food, even a devotee craves for God.
- ❖ Having more money is a problem and having less money is also a problem. If you have more money, you are always concerned which land to purchase and how to multiply that money etc., Money creates several litigations. The entire family gets disturbed. Then how can they concentrate upon God? On the other hand, if you don't have money, it becomes very difficult to earn your livelihood. Therefore the devotees usually come from an ordinary family. It doesn't imply that there are no devotees from rich families. I am talking in general.
- ❖ One who treads the path of righteousness, one who leads their life for the sake of justice, they are referred to as Sadhus. Have the company of Sadhus.
- ❖ You may see people owning 100 crores of money. Again you may also see people becoming insolvent. Money is all Maya. Protect your money and assets. But considering them to be true, if you give up devotion, how can you secure God?
- ❖ As long as God related Knowledge is not secured, this world seems to be true. Once Jnana is secured, this creation is no more visible. This entire creation gets dissolved in God.

- ❖ Some people visit a temple very casually as they go to a cinema. Internally they don't have the urge to seek God. Those who lack depths of Heart display pomp and show in order to cover that deficit.
- ❖ Without devotion, one cannot secure the Immortal state. One cannot become victorious. Every person has to make their own effort in order to secure spiritual progress. A rich man is always held in a high esteem but one who is devoid of likes-dislikes, one who doesn't contemplate upon sensory objects but contemplates upon the Supreme Brahman in all the periods of time and in all the states of mind, only such people can be referred to as victorious. The rest of them are failures.
- ❖ Likes and dislikes have been attached to us since several births. They will not leave us so soon. The mind gets extroverted due to these likes and dislikes. Whatever is endearing to God, ensure that you will also like the same. It will increase your devotion. Creation, sustenance and dissolution are happening within the ambit of Supreme Consciousness. Unless you get merged in that Supreme Consciousness, rebirths become inevitable.
- ❖ God will do all the required good that is needed. But don't wait for it. Waiting will increase the burden. It is God who drives you according to your destiny. Trust God's Love and not the human love. Don't do whatever your intellect says. Lead your life according to the scriptures. Though God exists within the Heart, He is not being revealed due to your defective thinking and wavering mind.
- ❖ Stop thinking about others. Carefully observe the tendencies and habits that create hindrance for God realization and try to overcome them.

 You may have wealth valuing several crores of money or you may own thousands of acres of land. Preserve them. But remember that when your body itself doesn't accompany after death, will these riches accompany you? No, they won't. Earn devotion towards God. It will accompany you after death. You undergo several kinds of medical treatment for the sake of physical body that accompanies you only till the burial ground. Additionally, you also depend upon astrology to know when the disease will get cured. It is good to keep the physical body healthy. But after the body's death, you are accompanied by the Jiva (mind). You don't make any attempt to reform that Jiva. You don't have any goal. You don't lead an appropriate way of life. Then how can you secure liberation? Before going to sleep, you check whether all the doors of house have been properly closed or not. Why? You are afraid that the thieves may enter the house. Doing so is good. Similarly have you learnt to close the doors of the mind to prevent the entry of bad thoughts that lead towards the downfall of mind? Closing the doors of mind is a sadhana (spiritual practice). You take a lot of care regarding the body that accompanies till the burial ground but remain careless regarding the Jiva that accompanies after death!

 Have the Company of Holy people, increase your urge to seek God and get rid of the weaknesses that form hindrance in securing God realization. Only then the indwelling God within the Heart is revealed.

 Except Narayana, who else can protect you from the troubles and anxieties of the world? If you whole-heartedly contemplate upon Lord Sri Hari, the world related sorrow gets reduced.

- ❁ Some people take up Sanyasa out of anger. They cannot secure liberation. However some people accept Sanyasa for the sake of Jnana. Such people secure liberation.
- ❁ Worship the formless God or the God with form, do His Japa, perform the deeds that are dear to Him and take refuge in His feet until the all pervading Truth that exists in all the periods of time and in all the places comes into your experience.
- ❁ Contemplating upon God in some form or the other, having faith in His existence, having the devotedness to live for His sake increases your concentration.
- ❁ On visiting a relative's house, you don't forget the purpose of your visit. The other things may be forgotten. Similarly don't forget the purpose of your arrival onto this earth. You forget this due to lack of discrimination. When a thief enters a house for the sake of burglary, his entire concentration lies on gold in the house. He neither feels that his sleep is being disturbed nor gets the feeling of doing hard work. Sri Ramakrishna said: 'As a thief's mind is totally concentrated on gold in the house, if your mind also is entirely concentrated upon God, then God reveals Himself'.
- ❁ When the body, world and scripture related tendencies get annihilated without any trace, you become purified and secure the eligibility to attain God.
- ❁ You must die in order to take birth and take birth in order to die. This is a vicious circle. It is all applicable to mind. Self is bodiless. Self has neither birth nor death. Merit and sin are all pertaining to body mindedness. For the bodiless one, there is neither merit nor sin.

- ❁ All the poor people feel that their entire sorrow would be lost once they become rich. Riches do not reduce the sorrow but increase it. The entire Maya lies here. Man feels that he will become happy if he gets whatever he is lacking. But does the happiness really exist there? No. Except within the Truth, happiness exists nowhere else externally. The entire sorrow exists in body mindedness. As long as the body mindedness exists, sorrow becomes inevitable though you may take birth innumerable times.
- ❁ Your thinking faculty is habituated to extroversion. How shall it matter if others have hatred for you? You must observe if you have any hatred for others and try to get rid of it. You are able to see the hatred in others but not the hatred in yourself. It is because thinking faculty is habituated to extroversion and not introversion. This habit has been prevailing since several births. It is a dangerous habit. As long as the thinking faculty is habituated to extroversion, you cannot get reformed. It is because you see the flaws in others and not your own flaws. One who diverts such extroverting faculty and bestows with introversion is referred to as Acharya. This is not possible without Guru's Grace. Even a single flaw in thinking faculty will hinder Self Realization.
- ❁ Even if I ask you all to increase your devotion, it is of no use. Only when you get the inner inspiration to do so, such devotion will be sustained. It will not come on my saying so.
- ❁ If you have devotion towards God, He will guide you in every aspect. When God comes into your experience, He will ensure that there is no more duality and the Self alone exists. Where ever you see, it is you only who exists.

- ❁ Anger and carelessness are forbidden in order to secure Truth Realization.
- ❁ Gandhiji said: 'Lightening a pyre on the sea shore may reduce your coolness but will it warm up the water in sea? No. Similarly even if you talk rubbish out of ignorance, God doesn't get angered through such words. He maintains His equipoise'.
- ❁ If you grasp the nature of God and understand who He is, you will understand that He is all pervasive and there is nothing else except God. Then whatever comes, you accept it as His blessing. Only after knowing Him, you understand Him to be the Infinite, the Ultimate Truth and the Supreme Self.
- ❁ Gandhiji is considered as a great man. However even He was a Jiva. It is because though Gandhiji planned to travel the next day, He got killed within an hour. But God is not like that. There is nothing unknown to Him. Gandhiji lived for the sake of others, performed good deeds and hence became a Mahatma. Those who live for other's sake are immortal. But those who don't even think about others are equivalent to a corpse, though very much alive.
- ❁ Always be positive in life. Don't be negative. It is irrelevant whether your behavior towards me is right or not. I have to see whether my behavior towards you has been right or not. I will get liberated as per my behavior and not as per your behavior. Observe whether your behavior towards others is right or not. It will make you the recipient of God's Grace. He will then bestow you with liberation. It is only referred to as the Nirvana state. Unless such state is secured you will get as many births as there are waves in an ocean.

- ❁ You are within the control of Maya (Delusion). Hence you are driven by Maya. Maya cannot drive God because it is within His control. Your faculty cannot grasp this. This is understood only when God is known.
- ❁ It doesn't matter even if you travel slowly. But observe carefully whether you are on the right path or not. Don't falter in your steps. Move forward with all faith. Being faithful, makes you rich, else you are left with dust.
- ❁ Whatever may be the work, don't do it artificially. Do it naturally and normally. Work in such a manner that you have not left even a trace of your arrival onto this earth ie work silently.
- ❁ Money alone is not wealth. Peace, Bliss and Health are also equivalent to wealth. There is no wealth greater than liberation. Don't get frightened. Initially the spiritual practices may seem to be bitter. As you continue doing them, they get converted into nectar over a period of time.
- ❁ You may not be able to secure God if your thinking faculty is defective. However if you continue making effort, if not in this birth, God will be secured in the forthcoming birth. You must first start making effort. God will bestow His Grace based on your effort.
- ❁ Without having faith in God's power and God's Grace, you cannot develop devotion towards Him.
- ❁ The Lord said in the Gita: 'If you find it difficult in doing meditation or in doing Japa, don't give up the spiritual practices altogether. Do the small activities that are dear to Me. I will bestow my Grace on that pretext'.