

CHAPTER XIII YEARNING FOR GOD

Be mad for God-Nature of true yearning-Sole condition of God-realisation

Be Mad for God

615. If you must be mad, be it not for the things of the world. Be mad with the love of God.

616. Some men shed streams of (ears because sons are not born to them, others eat away their hearts in sorrow because they cannot get riches. But alas! how many are there who sorrow and weep for not having seen the Lord! Very few indeed! Verily, he who seeks the Lord, who weeps for Him, attains Him.

617. He who yearns after God cannot bestow any thought on such trifles as food and drink.

618. He who feels thirsty does not discard the water of the river merely because it is muddy, nor does he begin to dig a well to find clear water. So he who feels real spiritual thirst does not discard the religion near at hand, be-it Hinduism or any other, nor does he create a new religion for himself. A really thirsty man has no time for such deliberations. .

Nature of True Yearning

619. Let your heart pant for Him as a miser longs for gold. . .

620. As the drowning man pants hard for breathe, so must one's heart yearn for the Lord, before one can find Him.

621. Do you know what kind of Love is required for gaining the Lord? Just as a dog with a bruised head runs restlessly, so must one become distressed for His sake.

622. O heart, call on your almighty Mother sincerely and you will see how She quickly comes running to you. When one calls on God with heart and soul, He cannot remain unmoved.

623. Do you know how intense our love of God should be? The love that a devoted wife possesses for her beloved husband, the attachment that a miser feels for his hoarded wealth, and the clinging desire that the worldly-minded people foster for the things of the world-when the intensity of your heart's longing for the Lord is equal to the sum of these three, then you will attain Him.

624. Jesus Christ was one day walking along the seashore when a [devotee](#) approached him and asked him, "Lord, how can one attain God?" Jesus directly walked into the sea with the enquirer and immersed him in the water. water a short time he released him, and raising him by the arm, asked him, "How did you feel?" The [devotee](#) replied, "I felt as though my last moment had come-the condition was desperate." Upon this Jesus said, "You shall see the Father when your heart pants for Him as it has panted for a breath of air just now."¹

625. I must attain God in this very life; yea, in three days I must find Him; nay, with a single utterance of His name I will draw Him to me'-with such violent Love the [devotee](#) can attract the Lord and realise Him quickly. But [devotee](#) can attract the Lord and realise Him quickly. But devotees who are lukewarm in their Love take ages to find, Him if indeed they find Him at all.

626. Why this attitude of an idler, that if realisation is not possible in this birth, it will come in the next? There should not be such sluggishness in devotion. The goal can never be reached unless a man makes his mind strong, and firmly resolves that he must realise God in this very birth, nay, this very moment. In the countryside, when cultivators go to purchase bullocks, they first touch the tails of the animals. Some of the bullocks do not make any response to this. Rather, they relax all their limbs and lie down on the ground. At once the cultivators understand them to be worthless. There are some others that jump about and behave violently the moment their tails are touched; and the peasants immediately know that these will be very useful to them. Their choice is then made from among this active type. Slothfulness is not at all desirable. Gather strength, firm faith, and say that you must realise God this very moment. Then only can you succeed.

Sole Condition of God-Realisation

627. What means should we ,adopt in order to get free from the clutches of [Maya](#)? He who yearns to be free from its clutches is shown the way by God Himself. Only ceaseless yearning is needed.

628. A [devotee](#) asked the [Master](#), "By what means can He be seen?" and the [Master](#) replied: "Can you weep for Him with intense longing? Men weep jugfuls of tears for children, wife, money, etc.; but who weeps for God? So long as a 'child is engrossed in play with its toys, the mother engages herself in cooking and other household works. But when the little one finds no more satisfaction in toys, throws them aside

and loudly cries for its mother, she can no longer remain in the kitchen. She perhaps drops down the rice pot from the hearth, and runs in hot haste to the child and takes it up in her arms."

629. He finds God quickest, whose concentration and yearning are strongest.

630. In this age of [Kali](#) three days' ardent yearning to see God is enough for a man to obtain Divine grace.

631. Uncle [moon](#) is the uncle of all children. So also God is everyone's. All have got the right to call on the Lord. Whoever calls on Him becomes blessed by realising Him. If you call on Him, you too can realise Him.

632. Verily, I tell you, he who wants Him finds Him. Go and verify it in your own life. Try for three days, try with genuine zeal, and you are sure to succeed.

633. Pray to the Divine Mother, begging Her to give you unswerving Love and adamant faith.

634. Wherein does the strength of an aspirant lie? He is a child of God, and tears are his greatest strength. As a mother fulfils the desires of a child who weeps and importunes her, so does the Lord grant to His weeping child whatever he is crying for.

635. A certain man once said to the [Master](#): "I am now fifty-five years old. I have been engaged in the search for the Lord for fourteen years, have followed the advice of my teachers, have been to all the sacred places of pilgrimage, and have seen many a holy man; but I have gained nothing." Hearing this the [Master](#) replied: "I assure you, he who yearns for Him shall find Him. Look at me and take heart."

636. The child said, "Mother dear, wake me up when I shall be hungry." The mother replied, "Darling, the hunger itself will awaken you."

637. As a child beseeches its mother for toys and [pice](#), weeping and teasing her, so 'he who weeps inwardly in-tensely longing to see Him, like an innocent child, and knowing Him to be his nearest and dearest, is rewarded at last with the vision Divine. God can no longer remain hidden from such an earnest and importunate seeker.

638. In Jatras depicting the life of [Krishna](#), the play commences with the beating of drums and the loud singing of 'O [Krishna](#), come! Come, O dear!' But the person who plays the part of [Krishna](#) pays no heed to the noise and goes on complacently chatting and smoking in the greenroom behind the stage. But as soon as the noise ceases, and the pious sage [Narada](#), overflowing with love, enters the stage with sweet and soft music and summons [Krishna](#) to appear, [Krishna](#) finds that he can no longer remain indifferent. Hurriedly he then enters the stage. As long as the spiritual aspirant calls on the Lord with mere lip-prayers-' Come, O Lord'-the Lord does not appear. When the Lord comes, the heart of the [devotee](#) melts into divine emotion, and all loud utterances cease forever. The Lord cannot tarry when his [devotee](#) calls on Him from the depth of his heart over-flowing with profound love.