



Grow in Godliness

Blessed immortal Atman! Spiritual life is an earnest endeavour to transcend changeful and passing sense-appearances, and to rise up and become established in the Reality.

As thread pervades all cloth, as earth pervades all clay pots, as gold pervades all golden ornaments, even so That invisible support, centre and source is ever-present in the midst of passing appearances. That Reality is present even as oil is present in oil seeds, as butter is present in milk, as silence is present in the midst of sound, which is only superimposed over it. A painting is possible only because there is a canvas behind it. A movie can be seen only because there is screen present

“*Eko Devah Sarvabhuteshu Gudhah* – God, who is on only, is hidden in all beings.” [SVE. Up. 6-11] It is hidden because It is by nature a Principle beyond and devoid of name and form, whereas the human mind and intellect are conditioned only to think on the basis of names and forms. But behind and beyond the names and forms there is the nameless and formless Satchidananda Brahman who is of the nature of luminous Consciousness, endowed with the quality of pure bliss.

It is hidden because It is subtle. And to attain this ever-present Reality, you must develop subtle vision. Subtle vision is acquired only by purification of your heart and mind. One attains the supreme peace and joy of God only by knowing God. But to approach and to enter into God, to have the vision of God, one has to acquire the same state of subtle consciousness as that of God.

The more you become godly in nature, the more you become aware of God's Presence in His universe. God-experience comes when you grow in godliness. Spiritual life means growing in godliness. *Sadhana* is a process of purifying and transforming your normal human nature into godly divine nature. And to ensure that your outer life of day to day living should support your inner *sadhana*, you have to make your life a divine life by bringing into it ingredients and qualities that belong to God. You have to inwardly grow into the very form of a divine being. This is the secret of success of *sadhana*. It is no more or no less than a process of total transformation into Divinity.

God Bless you!

■ *Swami Chidananda*