



The Conscious Can Triumph Over The Inert

Radiant Divinities! The conscious and the inert exist side by side in the creation of God. You constitute the conscious entity. The universe outside you constitutes the inert factor.

A conscious being like you, from the moment of birth begin to perceive things, to react to them. Then as you grow you interact with them, and later you begin to act upon them. Further on, you investigate them, analyse them. You probe and wrest the secret of everything. The conscious ever advances, ever evolves, ever improves and masters everything. The inert continues to exist as it is. The conscious is the powerful factor; the inert is powerless. Tobacco is inert thing; it does nothing. If you leave it, it will wither away by itself. We began to relate ourselves to it in a slavish way. Then it becomes to us a bondage, a menace. They can do nothing by themselves.

Therefore from pragmatic and rational point of view, it is meaningless to say that the universe is bondage, that we caught in *samsara* and suffer helplessly. *Samsara* has no power to bind as it is *jada*, inert. It is you who cling to it. Bondage arises from you, not from *Samsara*. And you have the power to perceive: "What binds me? What liberates me? What is inimical to me and what is beneficial to me?"

The way in which consciousness is applied and used throughout *Prakriti* (Nature) determines what the universe does to you or what you can do to the universe. You can *triumph* over everything around you. If there is knowledge at the basis, then everything you do, you do rightly; and the universe around you becomes a help to your evolution. If the basis is ignorance, then you create bondage. The universe is meant to be a help for your evolution and a liberating factor; it is you who convert it into a hindrance, a bondage. The degree of ignorance, the degree of folly with which we relate ourselves to the things determines the degree of harm they can do to us.

Ponder this truth again and again. Know that bondage arises from our folly of utilising our God-given facilities in a wrong manner. If we do not use our human potential and our faculties wisely, they can all become problems to us. This is the crux of human problem, of *jivatama*'s plight. Think about it day after day, all your life. In that lies your arising from unrealities to Reality, from darkness to Light. Become your own liberator now and here.

God Bless You!

■ Swami Chidananda