



Prepare For The Advent Of Paramatma

The entire Ashram is engaged in a face-lifting in order to receive an important secular dignitary (the President of India). How much more, a hundredfold, a thousandfold, should be a similar housecleaning and preparation within the personality of the Spiritual seeker in order to prepare for the advent of the *Paramatma*, the Supreme Being into one's own heart?

The preparation implies becoming a replica or the likeness of the Supreme Being whom we wish to receive, experience, enter into, and become established in. The human individual soul should rise to the ultimate height it is capable of. It says: "O Lord, I shall try to make myself spiritual in every respect to the limit of my capacity." That is what *Srimad Bhagavad Gita* admonishes: eradicate *asuri* qualities, and cultivate, develop and manifest divine qualities. Try to be as much like God as it is possible for you to be.

But if we do not try to do our best, then we fail. We do not answer the requirements. The saints have left footprints on the sands of time. Try to emulate. Try to be as non-violent as *Mahatma Gandhi*, as abstemious as *Vinobha Bahve*, as brave as *Mira*. We must grow in self-sacrifice and self-denial like *Ravana* who cut off his head and sacrificed it to the Lord Siva. Try to become as patient as *Bhuddha*, as compassionate as *Christ*. Try to emulate *Ramakrishna Paramahansa Dev*, *Chaitanya Mahaprabhu*, *Prahlad*, *Dhruva*, *Markandeya*, *Bhagiratha*, *Ramana Maharishi*, *St. Francis of Assisi*. At least you can become the best of what you are capable of becoming. Be a *tyagi*, *virakta*, *yogi*, *bhakta*, *jnani*, *viveki*, *vicharasheela*, a *samyami*, a self-controlled being.

We expect in God Peace, where there is perfect silence. We expect in God harmony, where all things are balanced. Try to harmonise with others, with life around you, with conditions. Vedanta wants to reduce yourself to a cipher, become nothing. Holding on yourself you lose everything. He who clings to life will enter into spiritual death. Losing yourself you gain the whole universe. He who gives up his life will attain everlasting life. "Blessed are the meek, the humble in spirit, for they shall inherit the Kingdom of Heaven." A poet has said: "He who has renounced desire, who wants nothing, is an emperor of emperors." God bless you to know how richly endowed you are, to rejoice in these endowments, and to put them to the very highest and best use!

God Bless You All!

■ *Swami Chidananda*