



Surrender

The Gurudvaras (temples) of our Sikh Brethren do not enshrine a *Murti*, a statue, but a great book, “Granth Sahib.” The Granth enshrines the teachings and compositions of all ten Sikh Gurus. Every morning, the Sikh devotees go to pay reverence and bow before it, as though they were bowing before a great being.

Similarly, when you are before *Srimad Bhagavad Gita*, you are not before a book; you are in the presence of the great World Teacher, Lord Krishna, the Supreme Being. And we should be like Arjuna saying; “I am at Your feet; I take shelter, I surrender. Take me as Your disciple; teach me, I shall follow Your teachings.” Then alone the wisdom teachings of Lord Krishna are evoked. When we put ourselves before his Presence and say, “I surrender myself, guide me” it means we must follow these ideals, these great principles, this supreme way of life that He taught.

However, after having surrendered and invoked the blessings, Arjuna begins to argue, to contradict. It is the normal behaviour of the mind. It always wants the highest truth, but when it is confronted with the truth, it does not want to accept it; it wants to argue. You should not yield to the promptings of the lower mind; the higher factor must be your guide. Your mind will argue, but at every step you must say as Arjuna ultimately did: “I put myself under Your guidance. I will do what you say – *Karishye Vachanam Tava*” [Gita 18.73]. This should be the established state of our mind and heart within. If we are still not established in that state. If we are still doubting, vacillating or questioning, we are the losers. We must say: “I hand over the reins of my chariot to You. You carry on.” ‘My’ gives place to ‘Your’. That is the essence of dynamism based on Surrender.

We should have that type of surrender. Surrender is not incompatible with activity. It is our ego sense that we surrender, we surrender the idea “I am doing.” We surrender our self-will, the desire nature, the activities of the senses, and put ourselves into His hands, so that we act as He dictates, as He teaches. When you put yourself under the will of God and His wisdom teachings, then you are a self-controlled person. You will not allow the senses or the mind to do whatever they wish. You will do that which is in accordance with the will of God, the teachings of God and the saints. May God grant you the success in your life of dynamic surrender and surrender-guided dynamism! This is divine life.

God Bless You All !

■ *Swami Chidananda*