



Vichara - Enquiry

Beloved children of the Lord! Life is transitory. Death is silently staring at you like a venomous serpent with expanded hood ever ready to strike. Various dire diseases cause much havoc to the body. He alone is saved who makes haste to utilise this precious life in striving to obtain *summum bonum* of life through enquiry, discrimination and renunciation. Are you not tired of saying 'my son, my daughter, my wife..?' human love is hollow. It is passion only. It is carnal love. It is love that is pure selfishness. To a great extent, it is merely a show. Beloved friend, you can find real lasting love only in God, only in saints. God alone knows how to love and His love knows no change, no lessening.

Tell me beloved friend, how long do you wish to be a slave to these fleeting things of this world? When will you break the bondage of your attachment to them? When will you renounce all desire, craving and passion, and meditate on the Lord and do virtuous deeds in life? Think and reflect daily: "Is there really any happiness in this world?" Analyse the nature of the experience you derive from them. See how imperfect they are, how mixed up they are with a lot of exertion and restlessness, desire and craving, and disappointment! Why does man still stroll about here and there like a street dog in search of bones, in search of little petty pleasures from the perishable objects of this earth plane? Break your bond of attachment to these things and search within. Look within and introspect and realise the supreme Adobe of peace and immortality.

One should become disgusted with the world through right understanding, discrimination and enquiry, by realising how all things of names and forms are full of defects, and are passing, changeful and perishable. One should understand the magnitude of human suffering, the absolute worthlessness of all these pleasures, and the wonderful glory of the supreme Attainment. Turn your back on the maddening crowds of worldly-minded persons. Anchor your faith in the Lord and live the life of pure thought, high ideals and supreme wisdom. Adopt universal love, truth and purity as the guiding stars of your life. The vagaries of the mind should be controlled. The heart should be cultured towards the ultimate ideal of universal Light and love. Refuse to swerve from the path, do not look back. And in due course you will surely attain Realisation.

God Bless You All!

■ *Swami Chidananda*