Choose To Manifest Divinity

What a great blessing, what a great privilege this is! The great Buddha, the enlightened one, admonishes his followers: “Be a light unto yourselves and be a lamp unto the feet of others.” The light is within, shine with the light, and let your life illuminate the path of others. Let that light radiate, let it manifest in and through your life – your thoughts, words and deeds.

God did not send His own radiant ray, His own amsha (part), to spread darkness. God did not send His children to do anything except to manifest His love, His purity and peace, His kindness and compassion, His all-virtuous divinity. All that is positive, auspicious, blessed and beautiful inheres in God. And He dwells within you. He is manifest here as you. You choose whether you will withhold it or gloriously manifest it.

The oyster yields a pearl because that is what it holds within its bosom. The gold mine yields gold because that is what it holds within its bosom. What will you yield from the depths of your nature? What will be your gift to the world? It is for you to make the choice and to live your life. When you can make your life luminous, effulgent and radiant, when you can make your life all that is good, auspicious and beautiful, why should you not do so and be a blessing to all? This is your birthright, which you can claim.

To make the right choice with discrimination is the great privilege of human beings. Reflect well on this, and act in harmony with this inner fact. Choose to be what you are. Choose to be the source of blessedness. Make up your mind that every moment your choice will be to manifest the truth within you, and never anything else. In this choice lies not only your own highest good, but in it lies the good of all creatures. This is the occasion and the opportunity. Choose to manifest the grandeur that your true identity constitutes, the sublime loftiness and nobility which is your true dimension. Choose to manifest the Being, who sent you here and who indwells you as the great Light of lights shining in the innermost chambers of your heart. The right choice at each step constitutes the steps of the shining stairway that leads to the highest state of blessedness, divine perfection and Liberation. May every moment of each day be an upward ascent upon this shining stairway that leads to the Goal Supreme!

May God Bless You All!

— Swami Chidananda