



## The Divine Advent

There could not have been a more unimaginable set of negative factors combining together than when the Supreme Being, was born as *Bhagavan Sri Krishna*. The moment of Lord Krishna's advent was a moment filled with everything undivine, *tamasic* and *rajasic*, unspiritual and *asuri*. He was born in a prison. Both, His father and mother, were shackled to the walls, their cells were closed, cut off, barred and locked with cruel guards watching them. It was midnight in the month of *shravana*. It was pitch dark, the sky was overcast and it was raining heavily. Thus everything inauspicious – night time, the dark half of the month, the sun on its southward journey – was present.

But even in such a set of absolutely inauspicious circumstances, there was ultimately a glorious triumph for the Divine. All the *asuri* forces tried to put an end to this Advent time and again, but they were overcome. It is noteworthy that in spite of the most dire, inauspicious, dark circumstances, which seemed hopeless. *Devaki* and *Vasudev* had *parama shraddha* (absolute faith) and never lost it. They were absolutely certain that the Divine Advent would overcome all that. They had absolute trust in God. This enabled them to face all opposing circumstances and never lose faith, and strive through all the difficult circumstances and to ultimately have the blessedness of being liberated directly through the hands of the Lord.

This is an indication of how the spiritual seeker, the *sadhaka*, the devotee has to be rooted in firm faith no matter how adverse the circumstances, how dark the prospects may seem. For, ultimately, if you persist in absolute faith, trust and devotion, and carry out the divine injunctions to the letter, then triumph is yours. You overcome all obstacles, become free and attain *Bhagavad svarupa*. Lord Krishna Himself came to the prison house, took away their chains and made them free. This is the speciality of *Krishna Avatara* – extraordinary from the start to finish.

May that Supreme Lord, who was born in the adverse circumstances, in the dark night under great danger and stress, who triumphed over all and liberated His bound parents, shower Divine grace and blessings upon you all, and grant you success in our journey from darkness to Light, from unreality to Reality, from death to immortality! This is my humble prayer.

May God Bless You All!

■ *Swami Chidananda*