



## Persevere Till The Last Breath

It is a rare blessedness, a great good, to enter into the spiritual life. A second blessedness and a still a greater good, is to take it seriously and engage in active spiritual *sadhana*. But the greatest good, the crowning blessedness, is to persevere in the spiritual life, to be ever progressive and ceaseless in one's spiritual life. One makes up one's mind: "Come what may until the very last breath, I shall not swerve from the path of *sadhana*. I shall persevere. I shall dedicate myself to the divine life; I shall ever be intent upon attaining the Goal. I shall never slacken my efforts, much less cease my endeavour. Come what may, I shall be a *jijnansu*, a *sadhaka*, till the very last breath. I am determined that the spiritual life will be my life, the spiritual goal will be my goal. God will be the central fact in my life. I shall live my life for God and His attainment."

This 'do or die' approach and attitude to life would indeed be the crowning glory of one's spiritual life. It is the supreme blessedness. And success comes to such a *sadhaka* – success is sure, fulfilment awaits. The cosmic being gives itself to one who is prepared to live or die for that. To one who has left everything and asks for That, That gives Itself to him fully and totally. This is the truth.

Rejoice greatly that this opportunity beckons you. Rejoice greatly that the dispensation of the divine is That. To each seeking soul belongs that for which its life is offered and lived until the last. This is the life; this is the time. Let each day be lived with the awareness of this supreme blessedness, of this golden opportunity. Then we shall have nothing to regret. Rather, we shall have all reasons to rejoice. More than in any other field of human endeavour, such daring and dedication, such defying of death itself, is called for in the life spiritual. It is the crowning glory, and it is assured for those who dare.

May the grace of God and Gurudev make you of that stuff! Coming into contact with the philosopher's stone, iron become pure gold. Not without meaning, has the Cosmic Being brought you into living contact with the sublime, life-transforming, spiritual wisdom teachings of blessed and beloved Holy Master Gurudev Swami Sivanandaji. Having thus come into contact, be heroes in this strife. Dare to live the spiritual life unto the last and crown yourself with the supreme blessedness of success, victory and a life of triumph!

God Bless You All!

■ *Swami Chidananda*