



## Seeker's Efforts Are Backed By Grace

The choicest divine grace of the supreme, almighty Lord and the choicest, living benedictions of Gurudev, both combine in our lives and manifest and express themselves.

There is a need of emphasise the positive factors that abound in our life. In that way the mind becomes uplifted and elevated. We become filled with a new spirit of enthusiasm, positivity and optimism. We become imbued with a self-confidence and determination: "When all these forces are working for my highest good, why don't I join and bring my own force to it in the form of self-effort, in the form of sadhana? Let me not sit back and keep quiet. Let me actively add to this upward, Godward movement towards Liberation manifesting and working in my life".

In a family, the mother lavishes all care for the children's comfort, health, happiness, welfare and the father works endlessly to provide money for a good education, etc. When imperfect earthly parents can do so much, what to say of that Supreme Being whom we day in and day out glorify? We address Him as: "Thou art my mother, Thou are my father, Thou art my relative, Thou art my friend and well-wisher, Thou art my wealth and wisdom, Thou art my all in all". The Being who means so much to you, how much more concern He will have for your highest welfare?

It is no wonder that He is nothing but pure divine grace to sincere seeking souls, because they have chosen Him as their all in all, their be all and end all, their supreme goal. He responds in a special way to seeking souls, who want Him and Him alone.

He is to us the sum total of all care, all affection, all concern for our highest welfare. He is the remover of all that is inauspicious.

Now we are at the auspicious moment of a new beginning of the year. This commencement of a New Year would indeed be most appropriate favourable and propitious for a new beginning. May we do exactly this, may we make a new beginning and live as ideal a life as possible. One who does that will suddenly realise that all his efforts are being backed up by the tremendous power of God's grace and Guru-Kripa. So let us rejoice and set ourselves to hearty and sincere self-effort and attain the supreme blessedness.

May God Bless You All!

■ *Swami Chidananda*