# Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 6.3.30-31

# February 22, 1971, Gorakhpur

#### 710222SB-GORAKHPUR [68:32 Minutes]

Audio

#### Prabhupāda:

tat kṣamyatām sa bhagavān puruṣaḥ purāṇo nārāyaṇaḥ sva-puruṣair yad asat kṛtam naḥ svānām aho na viduṣām racitāñjalīnām kṣāntir garīyasi namaḥ puruṣāya bhūmne [SB 6.3.30]

[[Then Yamarāja, considering himself and his servants to be offenders, spoke as follows, begging pardon from the Lord.] O my Lord, my servants have surely committed a great offense by arresting a Vaiṣṇava such as Ajāmila. O Nārāyaṇa, O supreme and oldest person, please forgive us. Because of our ignorance, we failed to recognize Ajāmila as a servant of Your Lordship, and thus we have certainly committed a great offense. Therefore with folded hands we beg Your pardon. My Lord, since You are supremely merciful and are always full of good qualities, please pardon us. We offer our respectful obeisances unto You.]

Now Yamarāja is begging pardon from the Supreme Personality of Godhead because his men attempted to arrest a devotee—just see. He says, "I pray to the Supreme Personality of Godhead that He may cleanse my men because they have committed a great offense by attempting to arrest a devotee."

bhagavantam kṣamāpayati, tad iti

...naḥ sva-puruṣair asmadīyatvena sthitaiḥ svīyair eva puruṣair yadyasmād asad anyāyyaṁ kṛtaṁ tat tasmāt svayam eva kṣamyatāṁ...

[Bhāvārtha-dīpikā 6.3.30]

tat kṣamyatām sa bhagavān puruṣaḥ purāṇo nārāyaṇaḥ sva-puruṣair yad asat kṛtam naḥ

Asat-kṛtaṁ, sat-kṛtaṁ means: "To offer respects," and asat-kṛtaṁ means: "To offer disrespects." To offer disrespects to devotees. As you know Vaiṣṇava aparādha, that's a great offense. And he says, "naḥ". Naḥ means: "Including myself." He is taking responsibility himself also. "So I did not advise, instruct my men before. That they should not go to a devotees—ah that was my offense." Just see how a Vaiṣṇava is humble and meek. Yamarāja, the superintendent of death, a still he's so humble and meek.

tat kṣamyatām sa bhagavān puruṣaḥ purāṇo nārāyaṇaḥ sva-puruṣair yad asat kṛtam naḥ svānām aho na viduṣām racitāñjalīnām kṣāntir garīyasi namaḥ puruṣāya bhūmne [SB 6.3.30]

naḥ sva-puruṣair asmadīyatvena sthitaiḥ svīyair eva puruṣair yadyasmād sad anyāyyam kṛtam tat tasmāt svayam eva kṣamyatām sahatām svānām svīyānām bhaktānām no 'smākam na viduṣām ajñānām aho garīyasi tasmin kṣāntir yuktaiva maha iti pāṭhe svīyānām māhātmyam aviduṣām naḥ kṣamām karotv ity arthaḥ [Bhāvārtha-dīpikā 6.3.30]

"So, so we did not know, neither my men did not know. Without knowing a devotee we tried to arrest," because that was not their mistake. This is the significance of this verse. They knew it very well because in the record of Yamarāja the all the criminal or sinful activities committed by Ajamila was

recorded. But by chance he chanted the name of Nārāyaṇa therefore he was indemnified immediately for all his offenses—but that was not known to the assistants of Yamarāja.

tasmāt sankīrtanam viṣṇor jagan-mangalam amhasām mahatām api kauravya viddhy aikāntika-niṣkṛtam [SB 6.3.31]

[Śukadeva Gosvāmī continued: My dear King, the chanting of the holy name of the Lord is able to uproot even the reactions of the greatest sins. Therefore the chanting of the saṅkīrtana movement is the most auspicious activity in the entire universe. Please try to understand this so that others will take it seriously.]

Now he concludes, Śukadeva Gosvāmī is concluding, kauravya. This is term addressing Mahārāja Pariksit as the descendent of the Kurus, kauravya. Tasmāt sankīrtanam viṣṇor, last night somebody was speaking that, "Any name chanting will do." No. Sankīrtanam viṣṇor. It is going on that any name, any demigod's name and there is a big propaganda on this point. Some. "So far great personalities, they think like that, that any name will do." But the śastra does not say that: hari-nāma. Śastra says the holy name of Hari, the Supreme Personality of Godhead. Here also it is said: tasmāt sankīrtanam viṣṇor, not any other demigod's name—not this. But they by force, because they are impersonalists, they manufacture such theories without any reference to the authoritative śastra. Viṣṇu-nāma, there are ten thousands of names of Viṣṇu. If you chant Viṣṇu's name, viṣṇusahasra name, thousand names of, there is a book, perhaps everyone of you know? Viṣṇusahasra-nāma.

So here also it is said, "Out of thousands and thousands of name of Viṣṇu you can chant any one of them." Not any other names. Not that if I chant Kali's

name. There is a regular Kali kīrtana party in Calcutta, perhaps you know. So these are all imitation, concocted. I have seen there is a party called Kali Kīrtana Party. So that is a useless waste of time. Such saṅkīrtana will not do. Here it is particularly mentioned: tasmāt saṅkīrtanam viṣṇor. Because by chanting Viṣṇu's name, Viṣṇu and Kṛṣṇa the same, viṣṇu-tattva, viṣṇu-tattva. In the category of Viṣṇu all these names: Kṛṣṇa, Rāma, Madhusūdana, Nārāyaṇa, so many thousands of names. They count. Chanting the Viṣṇu's name there will be profit, there will be benefit because jagan-maṅgalam, jagan-maṅgalam aṁhasām—or all kinds of people, aṁhasām—or sinful men. It is the most auspicious chanting Viṣṇu's names. Just like we chant the mantra:

apavitraḥ pavitro vā
sarvāvasthām gato 'pi vā
yaḥ smaret puṇḍarīkākṣam
sa bāhyābhyantaraḥ-śuciḥ
[Garuḍa Purāṇa]

śrī viṣṇu, śrī viṣṇu, śrī viṣṇu

[Either pure or impure, or having passed through all conditions of material life, if one can remember the lotus-eyed Kṛṣṇa, he becomes externally and internally clean.]

That is the recommendation of all śāstras. If one. According to Vedic principles if anyone says something which is wrong he immediately rectifies himself, "śrī viṣṇu, śrī viṣṇu, śrī viṣṇu: Oh I have done this wrong." Not any other method. And not.. nobody is recommended to say, "śrī sīdala, śrī sīdala, [?] śrī viṣṇu." No. Śrī Viṣṇu.

tad viṣṇoḥ paramam padam sadā paśyanti sūrayaḥ [Rg Veda 1.22.20] [The lotus feet of Lord Viṣṇu are the supreme objective of all the demigods. These lotus feet of the Lord are as enlightening as the sun in the sky.]

This mantra, Viṣṇu is the parama pada. So here it is also saying the same thing, in the Vedic literature you won't find any contradiction. Sometimes we argue, "Somebody has said like this, some mahātmā says like this." That is not very valued argument. Valued argument is when you quote from the Vedic literature, that is valuable. Veda-pramāṇa, śruti-pramāṇa. The śruti-pramāṇa is accepted amongst the authorities. Just like Caitanya Mahāprabhu, all the ācāryas, they write comments on any authoritative book immediately giving quotations from Vedas to support his comments. Otherwise a personal comment has no meaning. If I comment on some Vedic literature on my personal point of view that is useless, it has no meaning but it is going on, "Oh such and such person." Unless one comes through the paramparā system his personality has no value: evam paramparā-prāptam imam rājarṣayo viduḥ, Bhagavad-gītā [Bg 4.2].

[This supreme science was thus received through the chain of disciplic succession, and the saintly kings understood it in that way. But in course of time the succession was broken, and therefore the science as it is appears to be lost.]

"Unless one comes in the disciplic succession, chain of disciplic succession, so such persons. I mean to say: opinions or comments has no value."

tasmāt saṅkīrtanaṁ viṣṇor jagan-maṅgalam aṁhasām mahatām api kauravya [SB 6.3.31]

[Śukadeva Gosvāmī continued: My dear King, the chanting of the holy name of the Lord is able to uproot even the reactions of the greatest sins. Therefore the chanting of the saṅkīrtana movement is the most auspicious

activity in the entire universe. Please try to understand this so that others will take it seriously.]

Mahatām api: Not only ordinary sinful, even the greatest sinful, mahatām api kauravya. Viddhy aikāntika-niṣkṛtam, aikāntika-niṣkṛtam: fully. If anyone once chants this Lord Viṣṇu's name, Kṛṣṇa's name, Lord Rāma's name:

Hare Kṛṣṇa Hare Kṛṣṇa Kṛṣṇa Kṛṣṇa Hare Hare Hare Rāma Hare Rāma Rāma Hare Hare

Immediately aikāntika-niṣkṛtam, completely he becomes free from all sinful resultant actions. Immediately. But the difficulty is that after being released from such sinful resultant actions he again commits sins, because he is habituated, he's habituated. Therefore the habit has to be changed. The same example, just like the elephant takes bath very nicely in the sand and as soon as he comes over the land he takes some dust and throws over it. This mentality has to be changed but by construct even in the beginning one who is offender by chanting and committing again the same sin—because due to our practice. Kṛṣṇa says: api cet su-durācāro bhajate mām ananya-bhāk [Bg 9.30].

[Even if one commits the most abominable actions, if he is engaged in devotional service, he is to be considered saintly because he is properly situated.]

"If he has got full faith in the chanting of His holy name even if he commits repeatedly sinful actions—on account of his past habits."

Not intentionally, it should not be intentionally done. If one thinks that, "I am chanting Hare Kṛṣṇa mantra let me go on also committing sins, it will be counteracted." That is greatest crime. Unintentionally due to past habits if one falls down from the sin that is excused and that becomes rectified by chanting. We have to chant therefore a fixed numerical division. So many times, minimum sixteen rounds. It will take not more than two hours. So we can find

out, out of twenty-four hours, fifteen minutes, fifteen minutes, while walking on the street, while going somewhere, in the bus, in the train and at home, whenever there is. Even by lying down, you can chant, there is no niyamitaḥ smaraṇe na kālaḥ [Cc Antya 20.16]. There is no such restriction that you have to chant this early in the morning or after taking bath or so many. That is good but even that facilities are not available a still we can chant until they become, it is so nice. [tape problem] up to us [?] but chanting sixteen rounds and you are avoiding the offenses. Ten kinds of offenses and take, receive the holy name through the proper channels. Authorized, in this way one can elevate from the material platform to the spiritual platform. Spiritual platform means to become free from material contamination, that is spiritual platform. Tri-guṇātita, material platform means the three guṇas: sattva, rajas tama. And when one meets transcendental to these guṇas —qualities:

sa guṇān samatītyaitān brahma-bhūyāya kalpate sa guṇān samatītyaitān brahma-bhūyāya kalpate [Bg 14.26]

[One who engages in full devotional service, who does not fall down in any circumstance, at once transcends the modes of material nature and thus comes to the level of Brahman.]

One can transcend these three, three qualities. How?

mām ca yo 'vyabhicāreṇa bhakti-yogena sevate [Bg 14.26]

One who is engaged in the devotional service without any [indistinct]. In the beginning one has to...

## [tape problem]

...a little attached, then the parents haven't got to, of course then that, "Go to school and this and that," he automatically does. And that sort of mentality, in the beginning everything is like that. Formally when boys and girls were married at an early age, the girls were about twelve years utmost. So the elderly members of the family used to teach the girls how to satisfy her husband but when the husband and wife become attached there was no need of such instruction. Similarly in the beginning one has to adopt the means and the prescribed rules and regulations of the śāstras for devotional service. But when he gets attachment, it is called āsakti, āsakti. Āsakti means attachment. There is stage, if you practice then there will be āsakti. Then āsakti is not also final, āsakti then next stage is bhāvaḥ and the next stage is premā. Ādau śraddhā tataḥ sādhu-sango [Cc Madhya 23.14].

[In the beginning there must be faith. Then one becomes interested in associating with pure devotees. Thereafter one is initiated by the spiritual master and executes the regulative principles under his orders. Thus one is freed from all unwanted habits and becomes firmly fixed in devotional service. Thereafter, one develops taste and attachment. This is the way of sādhana-bhakti, the execution of devotional service according to the regulative principles. Gradually emotions intensify, and finally there is an awakening of love. This is the gradual development of love of Godhead for the devotee interested in Kṛṣṇa consciousness.]

If one has got a little faith in devotional service then, as you are all coming here, this is little respect or faith in the devotional service  $\bar{a}dau$  śraddhā. That is the basic principle. Without śraddhā you can not make any progress but strictly speaking that śraddhā also unflinching. As it is stated in the Caitanya-caritāmṛta: 'śraddhā'-śabde—viśvāsa kahe sudṛḍha niścaya [Cc Madhya 22.62]. That is śraddhā.

[Śraddhā is confident, firm faith that by rendering transcendental loving

service to Kṛṣṇa one automatically performs all subsidiary activities. Such faith is favorable to the discharge of devotional service.]

Just like Kṛṣṇa says:

sarva-dharmān parityajya mām ekamśaraṇam vraja [Bg 18.66]

[Abandon all varieties of religion and just surrender unto Me. I shall deliver you from all sinful reaction. Do not fear.]

Now śraddhā or respect for the statement means one who is firmly convinced. What is that? That: kṛṣṇe bhakti kaile sarva-karma kṛta haya. If I surrender unto Krsna, under the at the lotus feet of Krsna then all perfection of my activities will come. This firm conviction is the basic principle of śraddhā. If you have got a education Krsna says that, "You surrender unto Me," and if I hesitate. I do not know whether Kṛṣṇa will be actually able to protect give me protection, that is not complete śraddhā. Śraddhā means: "Full faith." Yes. Kṛṣṇa the Supreme Personality of Godhead is assuring: aham tvām sarva-pāpebhyo mokṣayiṣyāmi, then why not surrender unto Him? On this conviction if one surrenders unto Kṛṣṇa that is the basic principle of śraddhā. That śraddhā you have to increase by your devotional service. That is the beginning if you have flickering faith then that is also lacking in *śraddhā*. So *ādau śraddhā*, so first of all you must have this śraddhā. Then because one has got śraddhā, naturally his business will be to associate with devotees. "Where devotees are sleeping? How the devotees are working? How they are developing Kṛṣṇa consciousness?" Though associates, so therefore we give chance, opening centers, we give chance for association. "Please come, sit down here and just try to learn something about devotional service, take prasādam. In this way our activities are to give chance to the ordinary people for good association. If anyone has got śraddhā he will take advantage of the association. It is not a money making business that we keep one Deity, Rādhā-Kṛṣṇa, that is our business, how? Because we worship

but however opportunity is offered to the people in general that they may come, they may offer obeisances, bow down before Kṛṣṇa. These every item is giving, helping him in Kṛṣṇa consciousness. Is it true? If anyone comes simply bows down he becomes advanced. That we have discussed in the previous.

jihvā na vakti bhagavad-guṇa-nāmadheyam cetaś ca na smarati tac-caraṇāravindam kṛṣṇāya no namati [SB 6.3.29]

[My dear servants, please bring to me only those sinful persons who do not use their tongues to chant the holy name and qualities of Kṛṣṇa, whose hearts do not remember the lotus feet of Kṛṣṇa even once, and whose heads do not bow down even once before Lord Kṛṣṇa. Send me those who do not perform their duties toward Viṣṇu, which are the only duties in human life. Please bring me all such fools and rascals.]

[aside:] Don't do that.

Kṛṣṇāya no namati: Because the atheist class of men, they do not got to temples neither offer, neither bows down. So to give a chance because hundreds of devotees are bowing down, so one has to do it. That is their kṛṣṇa-bhakti phase, even if he does not like but out of previous [indistinct] would like to go, "Alright, take the arms and bow down." And as soon as he bows down he makes one step advancement, immediately. If he plays any instrument he advances, if he hears the prayer he advances. So these are the chances given to the ordinary neophytes. And as he comes, as he appreciates, sādhu-saṅgaḥ, ādau śraddhā tataḥ sādhu-saṅgo. The opportunity of sādhu-saṅga is given and by sādhu-saṅga, when he is rectified almost. He offers himself, "Swamiji kindly initiate me." I get so many letters, so many requests, that is natural. If one has actually done sādhu-saṅga he will be inclinded to be a bona fide disciple, he is guided by a bona fide spiritual master. That is called bhajana-kriyā.

# ādau śraddhā tataḥ sādhusaṅgo 'tha bhajana-kriyā [Cc Madhya 23.14]

[In the beginning there must be faith. Then one becomes interested in associating with pure devotees. Thereafter one is initiated by the spiritual master and executes the regulative principles under his orders. Thus one is freed from all unwanted habits and becomes firmly fixed in devotional service. Thereafter, one develops taste and attachment. This is the way of sādhana-bhakti, the execution of devotional service according to the regulative principles. Gradually emotions intensify, and finally there is an awakening of love. This is the gradual development of love of Godhead for the devotee interested in Kṛṣṇa consciousness.]

And if he actually follows the rules and regulations of *bhajana* then *anartha-nivṛttiḥ syāt*. Then *anartha*, unnecessary nonsense habits, sinful habits, will disappear. Just like these boys and girls they are habituated in so many unapproved habits but they have disappeared. Take for example they were meat-eating, they have given up meat-eating. They have given up, they were. Because in their social affairs meat-eating and drinking is a common thing, in Europe and America but this *bhajana-kriyā* helped them to give up everything. They are not even smoking, what to speak of drinking, they do not smoke even cigarettes, don't take tea, don't take coffee. This is called *anartha-nivṛttiḥ*. *Nivṛttiḥ* means: "Vanishing, completely vanishing." *Anartha, anartha:* "That is not required." Nobody is dying without smoking, nobody is dying without drinking tea, nobody is dying without illicit sex but by bad association one learns all this nonsense. So similarly by good association and *bhajana-kriyā* they can give it up. That chance we are giving. *Anartha nivṛttiḥ syāt*.

So after anartha-nivṛttiḥ, niṣṭhā: "Yes, I must take to devotional service," niṣṭhā. Then ruciḥ: then there is taste, there is taste. Wherever there is some talk of Kṛṣṇa immediately he goes there because he has got a taste. Then āsakti, āsakti

means: "Attachment." When  $\bar{a}sakti$  platform is there he can not give up— $\bar{a}sakti$ . Just like one becomes attached to drinking wine, he can not give up similarly the same  $\bar{a}sakti$  is transferred to Kṛṣṇa consciousness and he can not give up. You can pay him lahks of rupees, "That give up this." Some of our students they have been actually offered by their fathers that, "You give up this Kṛṣṇa consciousness, I'll give you ten thousand dollars," and like that. "You do some business," but they, "No." They are living with us although they have no very good facility for eating, sleeping but still because there is attachment they are with us. That is called  $\bar{a}sakti$ . After this  $\bar{a}sakti$  there is  $bh\bar{a}vah$ —always thinking of Kṛṣṇa, and the next stage is prema: how to love Kṛṣṇa, become mad after Kṛṣṇa. Just like Caitanya Mahāprabhu showed the example:

yugāyitam nimeṣeṇa cakṣuṣā prāvṛṣāyitam śūnyāyitam jagat sarvam govinda-viraheṇa me [Cc Antya 20.39]

[My Lord Govinda, because of separation from You, I consider even a moment a great millennium. Tears flow from My eyes like torrents of rain, and I see the entire world as void.]

When there is prema these things comes to be manifest, yugāyitam nimeṣeṇa: "One moment will appear just like hundreds of years." Yugāyitam nimeṣeṇa cakṣuṣā prāvṛṣāyitam: "Crying, the tears coming incessantly like torrents of rain." Cakṣuṣā prāvṛṣāyitam śūnyāyitam jagat sarvam, "And without Govinda, without Kṛṣṇa, the whole world is vacant." That is prema. Just like Gosvāmīs were, Gosvāmīs, they also told this: he rādhe! vraja-devike! ca lalite! he nanda-sūno! kutaḥ [Ṣaḍ-gosvāmy-aṣṭaka, 8].

[I offer my respectful obeisances unto the six Gosvāmīs, namely Śrī Rūpa Gosvāmī, Śrī Sanātana Gosvāmī, Śrī Raghunātha Bhaṭṭa Gosvāmī, Śrī Raghunātha dāsa Gosvāmī, Śrī Jīva Gosvāmī, and Śrī Gopāla Bhaṭṭa Gosvāmī, who were chanting very loudly everywhere in Vṛndāvana, shouting, "Queen of Vṛndāvana, Rādhārāṇī! O Lalita! O son of Nanda Mahārāja! Where are you all now? Are you just on the hill of Govardhana, or are you under the trees on the bank of the Yamunā? Where are you?" These were their moods in executing Kṛṣṇa consciousness.]

They were living in Vṛndāvana, they were simply searching after, he rādhe!: Śrī Rādhārāṇī, he nanda-suta!: "O the son of Śrī Nanda Mahārāja," that means Kṛṣṇa. He rādhe! he nanda-sūno! he vraja-devike! ca lalite! Vraja-devī the gopīs, they are vraja-devīs. Lalite: the principle of the gopīs, that's Rādhārāṇī. He rādhe! vraja-devike! ca lalite! he nanda-sūno! kutaḥ, "Why You are?" Govardhana-kalpa-pādapa-tale kālindī-vanye kutaḥ: "Are You near the Govardhan Hill or in the forest on the bank of the Yamunā River? Where You are?" This searching, this searching is called vipralamba, love in separation, that is wanted. Feeling separation intensely and searching after, "Where is Kṛṣṇa? Where is Kṛṣṇa?"

Ghoṣantāv iti sarvato vraja-pure khedair mahā-vihvalau: The Gosvāmīs, they were searching after Kṛṣṇa and Kṛṣṇa's associates all over Vṛndāvana—vraja-pure. Ghoṣantāv iti sarvato vraja-pure, khedair: simply lamenting, "Where You are? Where You are?" This is prema. Not that, "Oh I seen yesterday, last night, Kṛṣṇa. He was dressing my cloth." This is sahajiyā, this is sahajiyā. This is actual vairāgya, when one becomes mad after Kṛṣṇa, "Where is Kṛṣṇa? Where is Kṛṣṇa? Where is Kṛṣṇa?" That is prema and that is the highest perfection of life. So this highest perfection of life can be achieved beginning with:

tasmāt saṅkīrtanaṁ viṣṇor jagan-maṅgalam aṁhasām [SB 6.3.31]

[Śukadeva Gosvāmī continued: My dear King, the chanting of the holy

name of the Lord is able to uproot even the reactions of the greatest sins. Therefore the chanting of the sankīrtana movement is the most auspicious activity in the entire universe. Please try to understand this so that others will take it seriously.]

Simply by chanting the holy name of the Lord. *Tasmāt sankīrtanam viṣṇor*: of Lord Viṣṇu, Kṛṣṇa, Rāma. Then:

mahatām api kauravya viddhy aikāntika-niṣkṛtam

Even one is very grievously offender, sinful, he is also relieved and as soon as he's relieved the other things will follow. So long one is not relieved from sinful activities one can not take to devotional service. That is also stated in the Śrīmad-Bhagavad-gītā [7.28]: yeṣām anta-gatam pāpam. "One who is completely free from all sinful reaction."

[Persons who have acted piously in previous lives and in this life, whose sinful actions are completely eradicated and who are freed from the duality of delusion, engage themselves in My service with determination.]

The sinful reaction can be immediately freed by chanting but one who sticks to, "No more commit any sinful offense." He is immediately purified. It's yeṣām anta-gatam pāpam. In this way, when one is completely freed from sinful actions, this janānām puṇya-karmaṇām, and as soon as he is freed from sinful reactions his next activities will be simply pious activities. Devotional service is simply pious, puṇya-śravaṇa-kīrtanaḥ [SB 1.2.17].

[Śrī Kṛṣṇa, the Personality of Godhead, who is the Paramātmā [Supersoul] in everyone's heart and the benefactor of the truthful devotee, cleanses desire for material enjoyment from the heart of the devotee who has developed the urge to hear His messages, which are in themselves virtuous when properly heard and chanted.]

Puṇya means: "Pious." Even one does not understand if he simply hears and chants, that is puṇya, pious activities. Therefore the devotee is always situated on the pious activity platform:

śṛṇvatām sva-kathāḥ kṛṣṇaḥ puṇya-śravaṇa-kīrtanaḥ

The same thing in Bhagavad-gītā:

yeṣām tv anta-gatam pāpam janānām puṇya-karmaṇām te dvandva-moha-nirmuktā bhajante mām dṛḍha-vratāḥ [Bg 7.28]

[Persons who have acted piously in previous lives and in this life, whose sinful actions are completely eradicated and who are freed from the duality of delusion, engage themselves in My service with determination.]

As soon as you are situated on this platform then there is no question of duality. Whether I shall do it or do not. He is fixed up. *Te* dvandva-moha-nirmuktā bhajante mām dṛḍha-vratāḥ: and anyone who is engaged with faith and steadiness in devotional service, he is mahātmā.

mahātmānas tu mām pārtha daivīm prakṛtim āśritāḥ bhajanty ananya-manaso [Bg 9.13]

[O son of Pṛthā, those who are not deluded, the great souls, are under the protection of the divine nature. They are fully engaged in devotional service because they know Me as the Supreme Personality of Godhead, original and inexhaustible.]

That is the symptom of  $mah\bar{a}tm\bar{a}$ , not that a manufactured  $mah\bar{a}tm\bar{a}$ , doing all wrong things and becomes  $mah\bar{a}tm\bar{a}$ —no. He is a  $dur\bar{a}tm\bar{a}$ . Anyone who is not devotee of Kṛṣṇa is a  $dur\bar{a}tm\bar{a}$ , he is not  $mah\bar{a}tm\bar{a}$ . That is not said in the  $ś\bar{a}stras$ . You can not manufacture  $mah\bar{a}tm\bar{a}$  by your concoctions, here is  $mah\bar{a}tm\bar{a}$ : sa  $mah\bar{a}tm\bar{a}$  sudurlabhaḥ. He is fully surrendered unto Kṛṣṇa. Sa  $mah\bar{a}tm\bar{a}$  sudurlabhaḥ [Bg 7.19], that is  $mah\bar{a}tm\bar{a}$ .

[After many births and deaths, he who is actually in knowledge surrenders unto Me, knowing Me to be the cause of all causes and all that is. Such a great soul is very rare.]

Devotee: Is bhakti [indistinct] mahābhāva [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** *Mahābhāva* is just like... it is not possible by any ordinary. *Mahābhāva* stage is possible by the *gopīs*, the personal associates, eternal. And that is Kṛṣṇa's potency, pleasure potency. They are *mahābhāgavatas*, *mahābhāva* is [indistinct] or with Kṛṣṇa. Just like Caitanya Mahāprabhu has *mahābhāva*. *Mahābhāva* is not possible for ordinary devotees.

Devotee: [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** No. That is imitation, even they show some symptoms of *mahābhāva*. Just like some falling down, this is imitation, chanting, chanting, fall down. Who will note this? You see? What is? So this is not possible for ordinary devotee, *mahābhāva* is different.

Indian Guest: [indistinct]

Prabhupāda: Hm? Because Kṛṣṇa is God.

Indian Guest: Yes. [indistinct] Kṛṣṇa is nirākāra.

Prabhupāda: Yes.

Indian Guest: So there have been so many teachers like Ramakrishna

### [indistinct]

Prabhupāda: Well Ramakrishna is not a teacher.

Indian Guest: [indistinct] God.

Prabhupāda: Ah. These are manufactured. It is not bona fide.

Indian Guest: [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** We cannot say I... at least we do not agree, you can not say whole world. So there is a list of incarnations, there are symptoms of incarnation. Incarnation does not mean anyone can claim that he is incarnation. There must be symptoms of incarnation. Every incarnation. Just like Lord Caitanya is accepted as incarnation in the *śāstras* and His symptoms are there:

kṛṣṇa-varṇam tviṣākṛṣṇam sāṅgopāṅgāstra-pārṣadam yajñaiḥ saṅkīrtana-prāyair yajanti hi sumedhasaḥ [SB 11.5.32]

[In the Age of Kali, intelligent persons perform congregational chanting to worship the incarnation of Godhead who constantly sings the names of Kṛṣṇa. Although His complexion is not blackish, He is Kṛṣṇa Himself. He is accompanied by His associates, servants, weapons and confidential companions.]

Similarly any incarnation you take, you have to consult *sastra*, characteristics of that incarnation.

Indian Guest: [indistinct] śāstras.

Prabhupāda: Well if there is not mentioned in the śāstras how you can accept

incarnation?

Indian Guest: Well [indistinct]

Prabhupāda: No.

Indian Guest: [indistinct] natural that we are having [indistinct]

Prabhupāda: No. Even in the future.

**Indian Guest:** [indistinct]

Prabhupāda: Even in future tense just like Lord Buddha, that is mentioned. Although Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam was written five thousand years ago. So Lord Buddha's name is there. Lord Buddha appeared three thousand five hundred or six hundred years, so bhaviṣṇati. That means śastra is indicating in future Lord Buddha will come. Just like Kalki will come, that is also mentioned. In future at such and such time. Under such and such circumstances, "His father's name is that, his native place is that," everything is mentioned, that is śastras. Even if one is going to be incarnation in the future, that is also mentioned in the śastra. Not that because śastra was written at a certain time and the incarnation was not there. No, in the śastra the future incarnations are there also.

Indian Guest: But Swamiji [indistinct]

Prabhupāda: But Ramana, what he is?

Indian Guest: [indistinct]

Prabhupāda: That is [y]our misconception, what you know of Vedas?

Indian Guest: [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** That maybe, this is a fools paradise, that is the word, that is another thing, but our authorities. Just like Kṛṣṇa says: evam

paramparā-prāptam [Bg 4.2], "Unless one is coming down from the paramparā system. They are not authorities." They are not authorities.

[This supreme science was thus received through the chain of disciplic succession, and the saintly kings understood it in that way. But in course of time the succession was broken, and therefore the science as it is appears to be lost.]

Indian Guest 2: [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** But, but we do not say anyone who becomes in ecstasy in *hari-kīrtana*, he worships some demigod.

Indian Guest: You believe that Lord Christ was a incarnation of?

Prabhupāda: Yes.

Indian Guest: [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** Śaktyāveśa-avatāra, yes. Mahābhāgavata also. He never said that, "I am God."

Indian Guest: How do you know that I am [he] son of God?

**Prabhupāda:** Son of God is different. Son of God, everyone is son of God, everyone is son of God.

Indian Guest: Son and the father are the same.

**Prabhupāda:** Yes, actually son and father is the same, that, there is no discrepency. This misconception, without reference of the  $\delta \bar{a} stras$  and authorities, has deteriorated India's position.

Indian Guest: [indistinct] great [indistinct]

Prabhupāda: He may be, a person may be very great devotee, great man, that is

another thing. But to accept one as incarnation, that is different.

Indian Guest: [indistinct]

Prabhupāda: Yes. He may be very great man, that is alright.

Indian Guest: [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** Yad yad vibhūtimat sattva. Anyone a sense of exceptional qualities, mama tejo'mśa-sambhavam [Bg 10.41], Kṛṣṇa says, "They are born of my tejaḥ, amsa."

[Know that all beautiful, glorious, and mighty creations spring from but a spark of My splendor.]

But that does not mean he is incarnation. There were many persons, Hitler was also a very big man but that does not mean he becomes an incarnation. Napoleon Bonaparte, he also was a very big man. So in this world you will find big and bigger, bigger. One is bigger than another then up to go to Brahmā. Who can become like Brahmā? He has created this whole universe and he lives, you know? He lives: sahasra-yuga-paryantam, ahar yad brahmaṇo viduḥ [Bg 8.17], you can not calculate even his one day's life.

[By human calculation, a thousand ages taken together is the duration of Brahmā's one day. And such also is the duration of his night.]

But he's not, he never says that, "I am incarnation and God." So powerful. In comparison to Brahmā what are these insignificant—insignificant creatures? He is creator of this universe and his one day's life you can not calculate, that is stated in the *Bhagavad-gītā*: sahasra-yuga-paryantam. Forty-three lahks of years makes one yuga and multiply it by thousand, sahasra yuga ahar yad, that is Brahmā's twelve hours period. But he has never claims that he is incarnation of God. And what to speak of these insignificant—insignificant persons. So God or God's incarnation not so cheap thing? You should know what is God. That's from *Bhagavad-gītā* straight line [?], this Brahmā, why twelve hours you can not

calculate? And how many in three days? Twelve hours you can calculate but twelve hours, again twelve hours night. Then, sahasra-yuga-paryantam, again in this one month, and this in one year, such one thousand years, a one hundred years to be. So you can not calculate. Such a big personality, the first-born creature within this universe, he also never claims that, "I am incarnation of God."

Indian Guest: [indistinct] Ramakrishna, he never would have claimed [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** Yes, yes. He, he claimed, he claimed. He claimed he said that, "I am the same Rāma and Kṛṣṇa and Vivekananda accepted it."

Indian Guest: [indistinct]

Prabhupāda: That way, that means he claimed, he claimed.

Indian Guest: [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** If he did not claim then how Vivekananda knew that he is incarnation?

Indian Guest: [indistinct]

Prabhupāda: Well, at the last moment you can also say. Does it mean, does it, does it prove that you are incarnation? We shall have to see, what are your symptoms of incarnation. That is stated in this. Just like characteristics, if you want to test one, any chemical, say test this salt. The salt and the sugar, it is looking the same, sometimes we mistake. By tasting we can know that this is salt and this is sugar. So what is the test? Simply by declaring somehow, "I am the same Kṛṣṇa," also I become incarnation? What is the test? Just like test regarding Caitanya Mahāprabhu, Lord Buddhadeva, Kalki, there are tests. Lord Kṛṣṇa, there is test, Lord Rāmacandra, there is test. What is the test of this Ramakrishna becoming incarnation?

Just like we are singing the song:

rādhā-mādhava kuñja-bihārī gopī-jana-vallabha giri-vara-dhārī [Gītāvalī]

[Kṛṣṇa is the lover of Rādhā. He displays many amorous pastimes in the groves of Vṛndāvana. He is the lover of the cowherd maidens of Vraja, the lifter of the great hill named Govardhana, the beloved son of Mother Yaśodā, the delighter of the inhabitants of Vraja, and He wanders in the forests along the banks of the river Yamunā.]

Immediately, giri-vara-dhārī, lifting the hill, Govardhana Hill. It is impossible for any common man. A seven years old boy, he is lifting big hill.

Indian Guest: [indistinct] Ramakrishna [indistinct]

Prabhupāda: Eh?

Indian Guest: [indistinct] Govardhana [indistinct] Mount Everest [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** So you go on, you stop drinking that's very... all these boys have kicked up all these things without having being described as incarnation. Simply by my instruction, "You give up all this nonsense, they have sobered up." Does that mean I am incarnation because I have helped them in giving up drinking?

Indian Guest: [laughs]

**Prabhupāda:** They have kicked out, in one word, then I am better than Ramakrishna. Thousands of boys have given up. What Girish Ghose was? He was a  $ga\tilde{n}j\bar{a}$  smoker, I know. These are not the symptoms of incarnation. That helping one Girish Ghose from drinking. Now stopping these.

Indian Guest: [laughter]

**Prabhupāda:** An incarnation is not so cheap. We should consult śāstras, that will be difficult. Kṛṣṇa says in the Bhagavad-gītā:

yaḥśāstra-vidhim utsṛjya vartate kāma-kārataḥ na sa siddhim avāpnoti [Bg 16.23]

[But he who discards scriptural injunctions and acts according to his own whims attains neither perfection, nor happiness, nor the supreme destination.]

"You'll never get perfection." Na sukham: "Neither happiness." And what to speak of going to the transcendental world? Na parām gatim. We have to consult śāstras then understand who is incarnation, who is not incarnation and who is guru. This nonsense propagation that one, everyone can have his opinion and that is their religion. Now the result is the Naxalites, they have created like steal-men [?]. That is also another way of realizing. So our, our point of view that we are preaching this Kṛṣṇa Consciousness Movement on the basis of śastra, not whimsically. Therefore I particularly named Kṛṣṇa Consciousness.

So we are helping people just on the basis of Kṛṣṇa's instructions. Who can be greater instructor than Kṛṣṇa and who can be greater God than Kṛṣṇa? Supposing we accept Ramakrishna is incarnation, he says that, "I am the same Rāma-Kṛṣṇa," or Vivekananda preached that, "Here is God, Kṛṣṇa, the same Kṛṣṇa and Rāma." Now he is taking shelter of Kṛṣṇa and Rāma. Not by his activities he is proving he's incarnation. He is taking shelter, "I am the same Kṛṣṇa and same Rāma." Is it not? What is that?

Indian Guest: [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** Eh? No. No. If he says that, "I am the same Rāma and Kṛṣṇa," that means he is taking shelter of Kṛṣṇa and Rāma. Is it not?

Indian Guest: [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** No. No. That's all [indistinct]. With reference to Kṛṣṇa. Because Kṛṣṇa is accepted as God.

**Indian Guest:** [indistinct] Rāma and Kṛṣṇa and then again he came as Ramakrishna.

**Prabhupāda:** That's alright, he is, he is taking reference with Kṛṣṇa. Because Kṛṣṇa is accepted as Lord he is taking advantage of Kṛṣṇa's position, that's all. Is it not?

Indian Guest: I mean to say [indistinct] she has respect for all the family members but she has got a special love for her husband. But the same thing for a devotee of Lord Kṛṣṇa.

Prabhupāda: Anyway...

Indian Guest: [indistinct] everybody has a moment [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** Not that. Suppose this lady says that, "I am the wife of such and such gentleman." So I am interested with such and such gentleman, or any other, anyone else. The interest is to be real husband not that I will accept somebody as her husband who is not real. So as soon as I say I am the same Rāma and Kṛṣṇa then I am taking shelter of Rāma and Kṛṣṇa.

Indian Guest: [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** And his name is therefore given. His real name was Gadhadhara Chatterjee. His name was Gadhadhara Chatterjee, he was a priest and he was priest accepted as Rāma and Kṛṣṇa by Vivekananda, and priest. Now I, suppose he is incarnation of Rāma and Kṛṣṇa, take it for granted. Now he is the

incarnation of Kṛṣṇa and Rāma so when Kṛṣṇa is there, Rāma is there, why you accept incarnation? Why not real Rāma and Kṛṣṇa?

Indian Guest: Well there are so many [indistinct] details [indistinct] and so on [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** That, that. That is another thing but when we are speaking of Kṛṣṇa, of course there is no.. There is no difference between, that we have to make a through study. Just like about Buddha, it is said that: sammohāya sura-dviṣām [SB 1.3.24].

[Then, in the beginning of Kali-yuga, the Lord will appear as Lord Buddha, the son of Añjanā, in the province of Gayā, just for the purpose of deluding those who are envious of the faithful theists.]

Just to bewilder the atheist class of men, that is stated there. Lord Buddha appeared just to bewilder the *sura-dviṣām*, the *sura dviṣām* means: "Those who are envious of the devotees," or the atheist class of men. Now what was that bewilderment? The atheist class of man, they do not believe in God. Lord Buddha never said that there is God. He said that, "Yes, there is no God, there is no soul," *ahimsā paramo dharmaḥ* [Sātvata-tantra 9.40]. "You just become non-violent and hear what I say." Now He is incarnation of God, He never says that, "I am incarnation," because He did not say about God so there is no question of He is saying that, "I am incarnation of God." But the *śastra* says that he is incarnation of God. So He says, to the atheist class. "You hear me, I say that you become non-violent, don't kill animals." So God is saying in a different way but they are taking, "There is no God, let us follow Lord Buddha." That is called *sammohāya*, this very word is used.

So it is no use arguing but if you consult and take reference from the *śastras*, then everything will be clear. But if you say that, "There is no need of reference to the *śastras*," then there can not. There cannot be any end of argument.

Indian Guest: [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** Yes. So we are speaking on the authority of *Bhagavad-gītā* especially. Therefore our societies name is Kṛṣṇa Consciousness. But when you say something which has reference to the śāstras, we have to stick to the reference of the śāstras, otherwise there is no end of argument. Kṛṣṇa says: yathaidhāmsi samiddho 'gnir. [Bg 4.37]

[As the blazing fire turns firewood to ashes, O Arjuna, so does the fire of knowledge burn to ashes all reactions to material activities.]

We are referring to *Bhagavad-gītā*, that you can not go out of the reference of the *śāstras* to create something, that is not possible. That will not admit and nobody can create *śāstras*: *dharmam tu sākṣād bhagavat-praṇītam* [SB 6.3.19].

[Real religious principles are enacted by the Supreme Personality of Godhead. Although fully situated in the mode of goodness, even the great ṛṣis who occupy the topmost planets cannot ascertain the real religious principles, nor can the demigods or the leaders of Siddhaloka, to say nothing of the asuras, ordinary human beings, Vidyādharas and Cāraṇas.]

*Śastra* and *dharma* is the creation of the Supreme Personality of Godhead. Not that anyone can create any religious principle, no, that is also not possible. That is not allowed.

So Ramakrishna Mission says: yato mata tato patha. Is it not? That means anyone can create an institute of *dharma*.

Indian Guest: [indistinct] because God is one.

**Prabhupāda:** That's a fact, that's a fact but that God is not so cheap. That's a fact, God is one, it is not that, that anyone and everyone can become God.

Indian Guest: [indistinct] proved that theory and become realized God in this

very life.

**Prabhupāda:** But he has not studied at least Hindu religion. I will say. I will give you evidence. You should refer to the Hindu religion system. Then I say he has not at least tried to know what is real religion. For argument's sake.

Indian Guest: [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** No. Because you have referred, that's what I am replying you. Because you see if you ask something..

Indian Guest: [indistinct] if we had more time. I shall come some time and...

**Prabhupāda:** No, we have got enough time, we are meant for this purpose, we can spend twenty-four hours for this way, if you take really time to hear. [pause]

**Indian Guest:** Then how long will you be here?

**Prabhupāda:** For the time being, suppose I'll be up to the end of this month. These boys and girls in Europe and America they have been benefited because they have no any concoctions within their brain. They have been presented, *kṛṣṇas tu bhagavān svayam* [SB 1.3.28], and they are, I mean to say ordered to follow certain principles, and they have faithfully done it and they have taken Kṛṣṇa consciousness and they are [indistinct].

[All of the above-mentioned incarnations are either plenary portions or portions of the plenary portions of the Lord, but Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa is the original Personality of Godhead. All of them appear on planets whenever there is a disturbance created by the atheists. The Lord incarnates to protect the theists.]

That is their [indistinct]. They have no hodgepodge ideas [indistinct]. And that is the only constitution by which they are improving so quickly. Within four years they have became so nice Vaiṣṇavas that in our country also, the

Vaiṣṇavas are feeling ashamed by this sincere behaviour.

Indian Guest: [indistinct]

Prabhupāda: Eh?

Indian Guest: [indistinct] sincere [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** Here. What is that sincere? Sincerity means they have accepted the right thing. Kṛṣṇa says:

sarva-dharmān parityajya mām ekamśaraṇam vraja [Bg 18.66]

[Abandon all varieties of religion and just surrender unto Me. I shall deliver you from all sinful reaction. Do not fear.]

They have accepted. Sincerity. They have nothing within the brains that there was so many other *kiñcana*, other *kiñcana* and other *kiñcana*.

You should take Bhagavad- $g\bar{\imath}t\bar{a}$ , that is.. that was spoken five thousand years ago and any section, any mission, they are referring to the Bhagavad- $g\bar{\imath}t\bar{a}$ . So they can not avoid Bhagavad- $g\bar{\imath}t\bar{a}$ .

Indian Guest: [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** Then why not directly *Bhagavad-gītā*? Why you are going here and there? The *Bhagavad-gītā* is the essence, why you are going here and there? Take *Bhagavad-gītā* as it is and you will be benefited. Why adulteration? Why incarnation of Kṛṣṇa, why not Kṛṣṇa direct? That is our proposition. If you have got the original thing.

Indian Guest: [indistinct] Kṛṣṇa was also incarnation of Viṣṇu only.

**Prabhupāda:** That's alright, we are talking of *Bhagavad-gītā*. That when the

original thing is present there why a substitute? That is intelligence. Why should we accept a substitute when the original thing is present there?

Indian Guest: But Ramakrishna [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** That's alright, taking Kṛṣṇa as incarnation or *Bhagavad-gītā* spoken by... we are dealing with *Bhagavad-gītā* and everyone is reading. Śrī Aurobindo also reads, writes on *Bhagavad-gītā*, Vivekananda speaks on *Bhagavad-gītā*. Any big man, Gandhi speaks on *Bhagavad-gītā* and everyone speaks in foreign countries, here also, why not take directly *Bhagavad-gītā*? What is the objection?

Indian Guest: [indistinct]

Prabhupāda: Yes. That you have to do. That's it.

Indian Guest: [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** But if you have seen *Bhagavad-gītā* finish it take it sincerly and you begin. Don't make adulteration. That is our proposition. Especially putting forward that using the *Bhagavad-gītā*, take it as it is, you are benefited. If you are getting fresh milk from the cows why should you go to accept bottled milk? "The bottled milk, [indistinct] will give you same milk," that's alright, "I am getting fresh milk from the cows directly." Which you will prefer?

Indian Guest: [indistinct]

Prabhupāda: That is another point.

Indian Guest: [indistinct] the cows [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** Then bottled milk is guaranteed that it is not taken from the diseased cow?

Audience: [laughter]

**Prabhupāda:** But this is your argument. Why not? I am talking of fresh milk.

Indian Guest: [indistinct]

Prabhupāda: [laughter] Oh, then do you mean to say that bottled milk, is guaranteed that it is not from the diseased cow? That is no argument. There are two kinds of milk current, one man is giving directly fresh milk and another one is selling bottled milk, who is fresher? Sometimes we go purchase, to purchase medicine and the dealer says, "Here is a substitute it is as good as the... it is cheaper." Then he says, "Oh no, I don't want cheaper, give me that original." What do you think? That is intelligence. Because it is cheaper, it may be [indistinct]. Why should take the risk?. Then we take directly. That is the original. That is intelligence. When the original is available why I shall go to the substitute? That is our argument. [Hindi]...

Study the original instruction from Kṛṣṇa and be benefited. That is our proposal. This is *prasāda*. [indistinct]

Devotee: [indistinct]

Prabhupāda: Hm?

Devotee: [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** For a layman one should [indistinct] unless he consults a doctor and one who knows that the ingredients of Anacin Aspro is the same. Cathline [?] asprin and penadrixal [?] then there is no harm taking asprin because maybe different.

Devotee: [indistinct]

**Prabhupāda:** Maybe they are. The ingredients are the same, I know what is aspro and what is anasine [?]. I was chemist in my *gṛhastha* life. This is combination of Phenacetin asprin...

### [tape skip]

That is alright. The formula is different then rectifying, analyze it.

So in the *Bhagavad-gītā* it is said:  $m\bar{a}m$  ekamśaraṇam vraja [Bg 18.66]. And Ramakrishna says that any particle. The formulae is the same? Therefore we should not accept it. Kṛṣṇa says:  $m\bar{a}m$  ekam! And Ramakrishna says any ekam is similar? Immediately the formula different. Is it not? Therefore how can I accept?

Indian Guest: [indistinct] Vivekananda [indistinct]

Prabhupāda: Kṛṣṇa says, "mām" and Ramakrishna says, "anything".

This is trying new. That he has business and now try. An old acquaintance I went to see that he personally told me that the Americans now are inquiring that, "You are taken so much, so much money for distributing to the poor and when we go to India we see that so many poor men are lying on the footpath. So how you are utilizing this money?" This question was asked by the Americans. That they conclude. Even in America there are many institutions, I know—bogus. They draw huge quantities of money from the foundations, As you were, just like our government for rehabilitation. So many things are going on. So in the name of India, poor India, suffering India so many.

Devotee: [indistinct] Foundation.

Prabhupāda: Yes. You can become a kept dog. What is called? Kept wolf?

Devotee: Kept wolf?

**Prabhupāda:** Kept wolf? Yes. And it is advertised that India is very poor, dying. Without American sons are dying.

Devotee: Yes. [End]