## Sai Pearls of Wisdom, Part 35-D

## I KNOW YOUR PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE OCT. 10TH, 2022

## Om Sri Sai Ram Prasanthi Sandesh

Om Sri Sai Ram.

Prasanthi Sandesh, Sai Pearls of Wisdom welcomes you.

We have been talking about the Divinity and miracles and experiences with Swami, and people have been eagerly waiting for these series on every Sunday because we have been presenting these miracles, experiences every Sunday.

Well today, let us know some of these miracles. Every incarnation blesses devotees who have undertaken arduous *sadhana*. God grants His blessings in many ways to those who love Him. And in Shirdi, Bhagavan said, as you know, "In the beginning I give all my devotees whatever they ask for. I grant them so much that ultimately they ask for what I wish to bestow on them." Let us note this point.

In fact, every incarnation wants us to know that we are the sparks of the Divine, that we are eternal and immortal. So, to remind us of our own Divinity, the incarnation through His miracles and teachings, convey the same message.

We have many devotees in the past when Swami was in Shirdi – Dwarkamai Mandir. Many devotees used to gather around Him and get His *darshan*. Of those, the very important people who sat very close to Shirdi Bhagavan are Mahalsapathi, Madhavrao Deshpande, Tatya Kote Patil, and so on. They used to sit around Sai.

One day one gentleman and his family came to Dwarkamai for Swami's *darshan*. And in the family, a boy also was there, who is the son of this gentleman. And the boy came very close and sat very near, very near the Feet of Sainath.

Sai Baba made him sit next to Him and very lovingly, and casting a loving glance towards the boy, Baba said, "Diya, Diya," meaning "Given, given!"

The expression sounded strange to boy's father and all present, all present there. And Shyama silently whispered to the boy to say, "Liya, Liya" meaning "I accept, I accept!"

So immediately boy said to Swami, "Liya!" Swami said 'Diya' and the boy said 'Liya' – I accept. Sainath smiled happily.

The next moment, Shirdi Bhagavan took off His robe – *Kafni* and put it on that boy. At that time, this gesture of Baba was beyond anybody's understanding. A few years passed by. Sainath took *Samadhi* on Dasara – 15<sup>th</sup> October, 1918. The young boy grew up and studied to become a doctor. Sai Sansthan was established at Shirdi. The same boy was appointed as the first President of Shirdi Sai Sansthan. And this boy grew up by that time. His name was Dr. Gavankar and Sainath blessed him with the honourable robe long back.

As Shirdi Sai's well known words say, "Know that everyone will receive help here! Whatever anyone may ask, he will receive it!" We all know the Sai second incarnation is Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba, who is Shiva-Sakthi. And in fact, Shiva had once granted a boon to Bharadwaja Maharishi. He said that He would be born thrice in his lineage. And the Puttaparthi village deity Satyabhama conveyed the same message to Kondama Raju, Baba's grandfather, about this news that Shiva would be born in their lineage thrice. Sri Venkavadhoota, a yogi, had also given a hint to Kondama Raju, Baba's grandfather, about the birth of a Divine being in their family.

As the story goes, we know Swami's mother Eswaramma saw a divine flash of light entering her womb before Swami's birth. All this was God's boons. Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba says, "When you come to Me and see Me for the first time, you may feel shy, but I know you since a very, very long time! So whatever you want to ask of Me, ask without any reservations. Do you feel awkward when asking something from your father? Ask Me in the same manner!"

Swami also says, "I am an invaluable diamond with many facets. So don't use Me as a paper weight; you know the value!" That's what Baba said.

"When I have come to give you the highest treasure, why ask for petty things?"

So when Swami grants boons to His devotees and gives with His innumerable hands, how much can one receive with just two hands? He is giving with so many hands, and alas! We have only two hands to receive those gifts!

The absolute formless God, if He so desires, takes a form. We also recognize Him as *Sat-chit-ananda* - truth, awareness and bliss; or *'Ekam Sat' Satchitananda* dwells in subtle form in each and every animate or inanimate matter in this universe. Everything has 2 attributes namely *Nama* – name; *Rupa* (and) form. *Satchitananda* is associated with these two, the name and form. The name and form, I mean, they are subject to change and is associated with *Prakruthi*, the nature. And the name and form come into existence only because of *Satchitananda*. A human being therefore is a visible embodiment of *Satchitananda*. The name and form are constantly subject to change. But the eternal divine is unchanging.

Bhagavan has said to Arjuna, "Arjuna! Although I am birthless and changeless, although I am the Lord God of all living beings, I dwell in nature and I am born from age to age out of My love. You and I passed through numerous births. I possess awareness of all those births, but you do not know!" We know the respective verses in *Bhagavad Gita* relating to these points.

Well, this had happened many, many years ago. Once Swami was travelling to Madras - now it is Chennai - to visit His devotees there. A few devotees accompanied Him. They were travelling in 7 cars. Swami car was being driven by a devotee, a very young man by name, Krishna, and who has a very thin frame. Well, as they were on their journey, it started raining very heavily. Nothing could be seen through the windscreen. This resulted in a so slow speed of travel. Swami held His own hand behind Krishna, the driver's neck, to cushion it like a pillow, lest his neck should hurt from the continuous driving. What a compassionate Lord He is! He has put His hand behind the neck of this Krishna to make him comfortable so that the neck would not pain because of this strenuous, continuous driving.

And Krishna said, "Swami! I feel like eating something sweet!" While they are on journey, you know, proceeding towards Chennai, this boy says, "I want to eat something sweet!" And Swami materialized hot, hot *jalebis* for them, to all those who are seated there in the car. And then Swami Himself started wiping the moisture on the windscreen. Everybody was amazed to see Swami's concern for Krishna. Finally, they reached Madras.

Whenever this Krishna was in Puttaparthi, Swami Himself would look after all his needs. He would feed him from His own plate. Unable to understand this extreme care, someone asked Swami, why He loved Krishna so much. Swami's answer was clear and straight.

He said, "During My previous Shirdi incarnation, when everybody used to laugh at Me and throw stones at Me, one small boy would come running and cling to Me saying, "He is not a mad man but a Mahatma!" The same boy is born as Krishna and so is very dear to Me!"

Swami knows all our past births. He blesses and rewards us according to the past *karmas*, because He is the eternal consciousness. He is the eternal consciousness as we know pretty well and as Swami declared.

Well, it's also quite interesting to know that Swami materializes Shiva *Lingam*, what we call *Lingodbhava* on every Maha Shivaratri. He then gives this manifested *Atma Lingam*, to some chosen devotee for daily worship. Once it so happened that He gave *Atma Lingam* to a lady devotee and also explained to her about the mode of worship. The lady was overjoyed and she installed it in the shrine in her house and started regular worship.

After a while, she had to travel on work both in India and abroad. She would carry the *Lingam* with her and perform worship wherever she went. But in doing so, she had doubts and was worried about maintaining its sanctity, and felt burdened. She was also unsure whether she would be able to worship the *Lingam* in future. So she thought of returning it to Swami.

On her next visit, during *darshan*, Swami called her for an interview. However, she failed to express her doubts about this *Atma Lingam*. The *Linga* was wrapped in a silk cloth and was with her. The interview got over. Swami started going up the staircase. His upward walk was strangely followed by *tak*, *tak*, *tak* sound. When she looked in that direction of the sound, she was stunned to see *Atma Lingam* following Swami on the steps, resulting in that sound. She immediately checked her silk cloth in which she had carried the *Atma Lingam* and was shocked to find it missing. Found missing! It was not there! And then she exclaimed, "Swami! My *Atma Lingam*!"

Swami stopped for a moment, looked at her and said, "Your *Atma Lingam*?" She realised her mistake. But it was too late. By that time, *Atma Lingam* and Swami were already gone!

This reminds me of another miracle that a devotee experienced - a great man by name Sri Rama Saran. Swami gave him a chain. But unfortunately, he lost it. While taking his bath, he lost it somewhere. Well, he came to Puttaparthi the very next morning crying, "Swami! I lost the chain!" Swami materialized the chain once again for him and said, "Where does it go? It has come back to Me! Don't worry!" And He materialized a chain for him once again.

This clearly shows that anything that Swami materializes would certainly go back to Him if we lose them by any chance. Nothing can be lost!

This is what I would like to share with you.

Thank you! Meet again!