SAI PEARLS OF WISDOM, Part 38-D

Nov. 18th, 2022

Om Sri Sai Ram Prasanthi Sandesh

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Prasanthi Sandesh, Sai Pearls of Wisdom.

Swami says, "I dwell in the hearts of all, but some don't realize it!" Swami also cites the reason for this. He says, "God's image is in your heart. If you are unable to see it, understand that your heart is covered with the dust of desires and indiscipline. Wipe it through knowledge, service and devotion and you will be able to realize your own Divinity!"

This is an incident from the life of Dr. R. S. Padmanabhan. In 1973, Swami asked him to travel to America for his son's admission. When the doctor arrived at Puttaparthi to seek His blessings, Baba materialized a ring for him.

At that time, Col. Joga Rao was also present there asked Him, "Swami, can one see Your image in this ring?"

Baba answered, "My image may or may not be there! But I will be in his heart and will look after him!" Saying so, Swami blew on the ring thrice and His image appeared on it.

With Bhagavan's blessings, Dr Padmanabhan left. At first, he disembarked at Bern and visited a dental hospital there. He had to travel to Dusseldorf to take the onward flight. When he arrived at Bern airport, he was told that his flight to Dusseldorf was cancelled; DUSSELDORF was cancelled! He didn't know what to do because he was to reach Amsterdam from Dusseldorf. DUSSELDORF! And two aged friends of his who were Sai devotees were waiting for him at Amsterdam.

Just then, the airport officer came to him and said, "Dusseldorf is about 100 kilometres away. If you take a taxi, you may be able to reach in time to catch the onward flight!" Saying so, the officer hailed a cab and Dr Padmanabhan travelled in it to Dusseldorf. As he reached the airport and got off the cab, a porter dressed in a white uniform came up

to him and lifted his luggage. He carried it all the way through. After taking his seat, the doctor started looking for the porter in order to pay him. But he was already gone!

The onward journey was smooth and after completing the task of his son's admission, he returned to India. On his return, he went to Brindavan *ashram* to seek Swami's *darshan*. Bhagavan enquired after his trip. The doctor said, "It was fine!"

Swami commented, "Except for that incident at Dusseldorf! I have to carry your baggage from the taxi to the aeroplane, and you did not even thank Me!"

It was then Dr Padmanabhan remembered Swami's words, "I will be in his heart and look after him!" Yes!

"Sarva Hrudaya Vasine Namah:" "He dwells in the hearts of everybody!" Of everybody! What a miracle it is! What a blessing it is!

In the 12th sloka of the 5th chapter of *Bhagavad Gita*, the Lord has declared, "The united one, the well poised, having abandoned the fruit of action attains eternal peace! The non-united, the unsteady or unbalanced, impelled by desire and attached to the fruit, is bound!"

The inner significance of this verse is, a *karma yogi* - one who pursues the path of action, offers the fruits of action to God and attains eternal peace. And a person devoid of *yoga* has unending desires and is attached to the fruit, he gets bound. Even so, whatever merit the devotee earns by offering the fruit of action to God, the Almighty confers the reward on the devotee.

When Swami Amritananda first met Bhagavan Baba, he was 85 years old. On seeing him, Bhagavan uttered, "Come Amritam!"

Swami Amritananda's Guru, Sri Ramana Maharishi alone used to call him in that loving way. Bhagavan not only blessed Amritananda, but also asked him about his participation in the *Ganesh Yaga* at the age of seven. On hearing this, Amritananda said, "I was only a seven year old child then! How can I get a reward for that?"

Bhagavan then blessed him with an effulgent darshan of Sri Ganesha in Himself and rewarded Swami Amritananda for the merit earned. Bhagavan also cured him of asthma which Amritananda had contracted due to wrong practise of Yoga.

The other example is that Sri Panduranga Dixit, when he was in his mother's womb, Shirdi Sainath had bestowed blessings on him. Later when Dixit heard that Sainath had reincarnated as Sri Sathya Sai, he along with his family went for Swami's *darshan*. He secured Bhagavan's Grace through his melodious voice. Wherever Swami asked him to go, he travelled there and spread the fragrance of Sai's glory!

He went all over Maharashtra and enchanted people through *Nama-Sankirtan* by singing beautiful melodious Sai Bhajans. Whatever merit he accumulated, Swami granted him the reward. Whenever any calamity struck the Dixit family, Swami showered His Grace and protected him, thereby making their life joyous and peaceful. That is Swami's Grace specially conferred on Sri Panduranga Dixit!

And then I should also bring to your attention another beautiful miracle. There is a poem in Marathi which conveys, "One who is an orphan in this world has God by his side! Even the sky which is without a support, He bears its weight!" The feeling expressed through this verse is verily true because God is the support of all. He supports all those who seek refuge in Him.

The most enlightening example is that of Bhagavan Sri Krishna, who lifted the Govardhana Mountain to save people to Gokul. Lord Indra's wrath caused torrential rains. When the cowherds of Gokul came to Sri Krishna for His help to save themselves and their cattle, He lifted the Govardhana Mountain on the tip of His little finger and protected them all. In fact, He did not even want to take any credit for the glorious act! So He asked all of them to support the mountain with sticks. So when God supports His devotees, He does not even take any credit for it!

There are so many devotees all over the world who are leading their life in comfort only due to the support of Sri Sathya Sai. Here is a story which illustrates this fact. In 1966, a couple with two children were living in Bombay. Their life was beset with difficulties. The wife was born in a devout family but after marriage, things took a different turn. She had to face a very difficult life.

Although her husband was earning enough, the entire income was spent on his siblings. There was no saving. To add to the woes, the husband developed a cyst on his neck. In no time, it got enlarged and turned into an abscess. When they showed it to a doctor, he suspected it to be a cancer. He asked the lady to clean it with spirit. On doing that, the cyst burst and started oozing. She applied Shirdi Sai *Udi* on wound, thinking it to be best remedy.

Due to stress, the husband's health deteriorated further and suffered a heart attack. In the meanwhile, somebody told the wife that Shirdi Sai had reincarnated as Sri Sathya Sai and resided at Puttaparthi in Andhra Pradesh. The wife persuaded the husband to go there. He agreed and the couple left for Puttaparthi.

The day after they reached Puttaparthi, Swami called them for an interview. During the interview, Baba asked the gentleman to take off his shirt and vest. Then Swami materialized *Vibuthi*. With one hand, He rubbed it on the person's chest and with the other rubbed it on the cyst.

Swami laughed and said, "Who says you have cancer or a heart attack? You are completely alright!"

The moment they heard this, the couple burst into tears. On reaching Mumbai, they met the doctor. He was greatly surprised on seeing that the patient has recovered so dramatically. After that, the couple started visiting Puttaparthi at least once a year. But their financial condition was still not very stable.

One year they did not have enough money to travel to Puttaparthi. They thought of an idea. They sold old newspapers that had piled up since two years and managed to procure enough funds to buy two return tickets. They left for Swami's *darshan*. This time also Swami blessed them with an interview. While He was giving instructions, Swami suddenly raised His right hand and stretched it for a moment and closed His fist. As He opened His palm, a photograph had manifested in it.

Swami gave it to the husband and said, "Always carry this photo in your pocket. Don't ever separate it from your body!"

Then He turned to the wife and said, "Yours is a devout family, yet you are humble and patient by nature! I am very pleased with you! I bless you with Akhanda Sowbhagya!"

This is considered to be the highest boon for a Hindu married woman. It means that her husband will have a very long life. After becoming recipients of Swami's Grace and blessings, the couple returned to Mumbai and got into their usual routine.

As per Swami's instructions, the husband started carrying His photo in the pocket all the time. One day, the gentleman met with a serious accident. He had head injury and started bleeding profusely. Somebody took him to a hospital. Fortunately the wound only needed suturing. The family was informed. Everyone was in a state of shock! But the wife was calm and firm. Peacefully she applied Swami's *Vibuthi* on her husband's forehead. She was mentally only dwelling upon His blessings, *Akhanda Sowbhagya!*

After the husband's health improved slightly, they left for Swami's *darshan*. But the husband had developed a feeling of guilt. As they reached Puttaparthi, Swami immediately called them in and enquired after their well-being. But the gentleman could not face Swami. He stood with his head bent.

Swami held his chin and lifted his head and asked, "Are you afraid because you lost the photo? Did you lose it when you met with the accident? That's what you think, isn't it? I had given it to you for your protection. And it is not lost. Here it has come back to Me after having saved you!"

Swami opened His fist and the same photograph was there on His palm. That is Bhagavan!

Meet again! Sai Ram!