

## PODCAST 156: SUCCESSFUL MAN / FULL MAN

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Prasanthi Sandesh, 156th episode.

Who is a successful man? Yes, if we question and try to elicit answers, we find many responses. One may be successful in one aspect, but may not be successful in other areas. But in general, who is a successful man?

And then the next question that arises is: if one is not successful, naturally you will be a failure. But what else? Is there anything beyond this? Yes, that is a full man. A successful man need not be a full man.

A successful man is a worldly person and a product of this mundane world, and he has got his own parameters or yardstick. If one seeks power, if he attains a top position, he is successful. If one aims for money, he could amass a large amount of money, and then he is a successful man. In politics he is a successful man if he becomes a minister or a chief minister. It's like that.

Therefore, a successful man is usually based on position, power, money, prestige, respectability, name and fame, or any other such worldly aspect you may add. These are usually the criteria to say that one is successful. But a successful man need not be a full man.

A successful man thinks of worldly pursuits and struggles hard to attain his goals. After all, when we analyze a successful man and his life, it's the fulfilment of all ignorance and jealousies, and it is the most contemptible thing possible.

Also a successful man is very often full of anger and hatred, and all that is ugly will come to its climax in him. He may also be the most degraded or the most spiritually sick, and will be the last man to be interested in creativity, in love and in prayer. He believes in continuity only. These are the points that we find if we are open, free, unbiased and frank about what is a 'successful man'.

In contrast, a 'full man' does not have continuity with you. He is discontinuous. A full man will disappear, leaving all ugly desires, and he will give place to something new - creativity. After all, we have to realize one thing - comfort is not blissfulness, and convenience is not ecstasy. These will just drag you from the cradle to the grave, which is not a life at all. That's what we certainly conclude on close observation.

Some of the scientists say that one stops growing or maturing, and expresses himself in full at the age of thirty. By the time one reaches thirty, yes, he is full. I am just mentioning one school of thought. I don't mean that everybody says the same thing or that everybody should agree with this.

That school of thought believes that one 'dies' at the age of thirty, but may drag on through life till eighty, while all these fifty years he appears to be alive. But there is no life, there is no music, there is no dance. It is just dragging on in their life. They do

not know why they are living, why they are here, from where they have come, to where they are going. This is the situation with most of the successful people. They are not bothered about their origin. They are not bothered about their life sojourn. They are not bothered about the ultimate either.

So, you must have heard of hippies. Hippies believe that it's very rare to find a man living at the time of his actual death. It means he's already dead from every other point of view, though physically living. So, he's just living; that's only in name's sake because of his breathing process, but he is already dead. That is what hippies feel about it.

The successful man has no interest in discovering the meaning of life, or the significance of his own being. They will have no interest in their own roots or their own flowers. These are the points that we find in the so-called successful man. He may be successful in amassing wealth. He may be very successful in climbing the ladder of his career. He may be very successful in being famous, prestigious, and knowledgeable, or what not. So basically we find these features in a successful man.

Actually, it is possible to live if we keep growing. If we go on discovering, if we go on loving, if we go on singing and dancing. When we continue to live like this, existence remains a wonder to all of us. We have the eyes of an innocent child, so full of wonder that each and every thing is a mystery. That's what we find in a 'full man'.

A full man lives like this - continuously growing, discovering, loving, singing, and dancing, as I said. The whole existence looks like a wonder, a mystery. This is the life of a full man who lives to the very end of his life. He lives to the very end of his life, unlike a successful man who lives up to a certain stage and dies, yet continues to live physically.

A full man is not like that; he lives to the very end of life. Such a full man knows no death and we'll also know that a full man is full of juice, full of youth, with a higher level of consciousness, and he knows no death. And even if it happens, he views death as a freedom from prison, and that he is going back to his real home which is eternal immortality, universal existence. He will be part of the universal life, formless, infinite and eternal. We have to think in this direction, not merely going by success only. We should think of being a full man.

If we just think of a successful man again, he doesn't know what love is. He knows only power, respectability and money. A successful man does not know anything about creation and creativity. He may be an expert in science and technology; he may be in possession of several weapons and be very clever in destruction. He lives the longest life, but does not know much more to life. He has no idea there is something more to life. Why? Because he stopped growing. There is no further hope and no future; he is almost a corpse, a dead body. Without love, music, dance and creativity, life is just a matter of living death. So, love is an art. It has to be learnt, something like prayer or meditation.

The creativity that a full man has may not be valuable in the marketplace. A productive man is a technician, while a creative man is a genius. He is a genius. The day man stops committing mistakes, he will stop learning. After all, the successful man may claim that he never committed mistakes. It implies that he stopped learning. He is only a machine that never commits a mistake because the machine is perfect.

In other words, a successful man leads the life of a robot. You may be efficient, but through mistakes you mature, you grow wise, and you evolve as a man. In contrast, as a successful man, you may be an expert in discovering drugs and you may replace man with machines. That's all. What's so great about it?

So success to some is the full growth of everything; but actually it is the full growth of all that's ugly, and such a so-called successful man should be avoided.

But a successful man should lean to or aim at or should grow further into a full man. The question arises, how is it possible? It is. When one is deeply rooted in meditation, that man has moved from the head to the heart, giving priority to love and not logic, who may not be rich outside but has immense treasures in his being. A man fully awakened, enlightened, and fully aware of his godly existence, is so overflowing with joy that he wants to share it. He is a full man.

He is a full man, he is a new man and he is a superman, no doubt about it. We find a new life in him, a new space to move, a new dimension and a new sense of direction. His travel is inward because he has realized that he spent many, many years moving outward, and by this outward movement we have driven far away from ourselves.

It's time to come back home and have a look inside our own beings, to have a look at our own being because we have not thought about it till now, as our travel has always been only outwards. I can also draw your attention to the idea that a full man has to be just a womb, so that a full man is born. He is to be born as a womb. Man has to be just an arrow, but the target is to become a full man.

In other words, a full man is born and acts as an arrow, aiming at that state of a full man or a superman. After all, in the successful man or the ultimate man there is no question of any love or any creativity. There is no question of giving birth to stars, so forget the language of transcendence. The ultimate man or the so-called successful man thinks that he has arrived and that the journey is finished and that he is the goal of the whole existence. What a foolish thought it is!

Therefore, in this brief talk, I would like to bring to your attention that a successful man need not be a full man. A successful man may be the ultimate man from our calculation. But a full man is a superman, a new man in letter and spirit. As it is, we might be an ultimate man or a successful man at present, but it's time to evolve further into the state of a full man or superman – being a new man through meditation and an inward journey.

Thank you for your time.