

PODCAST 152: BELIEFS ARE FALSE

Om Sri Sai Ram

Prasanthi Sandesh, 152nd episode.

The title of this session is “Beliefs Are False”.

Everyone thinks that belief is enough, that belief is the be-all and end-all. But it is not so, and hence we have put the title, “Beliefs Are False”. We do not want merely believers; we want people who are ready to change totally.

Mere belief changes no one. On the other hand, the belief becomes simply a part of your memory. It does not touch your being. A belief does not in any way change your actions. It does not give a new quality to your life. It does not bring the ‘superman’ into being. By ‘superman’, I mean a man of awareness, a man of alertness. An enlightened man is a ‘superman’. That's what I mean. So, a belief won't make anyone into a superman.

Any teacher or any master will tell you, “Do not believe me, but understand me.” So understanding is more important than mere belief. Let the revolution happen inside you. After understanding, there will be a kind of revolution within you. It will be clear that something has happened. Just having a belief is too cheap. It is a deception in one way.

Let's say, for example, that you have believed in Buddha, Mahavira, Krishna, or Jesus, but your belief has not made any change in you. We have remained as we always are. So, merely a belief is not enough, no. An authentic revolution in your being is necessary. A kind of revolution is expected of you, not simply a belief. You will go on a search for the truth; that's what I mean by a ‘revolution’. You will go in search within yourself for the source of life and love. That's what I mean, an inner or internal revolution. Your love for the Master can only be shown, and the Master's love can be felt.

So, it's not enough if you believe in your Master, no. You have to bring his dream into reality, by becoming a superman on earth. Yes, by disappearing as a man and transforming into a superman, like that every Master wants you to be enlightened and awakened, awakened as a superman.

Beliefs have not done anything. On the other hand, beliefs have given false identities to people, yes. Without passing through any trouble, turmoil or crucifixion you can become a Christian. Without a long process of meditation, you can become a Buddhist. By that way, beliefs rather deceive you into believing that you have enough spiritual growth, which is not true. At the most, you may carry around the brand of being a Christian or a Buddhist, and so, but there in reality, there is no spiritual growth.

Now the Master takes you to a different level altogether. The Master will say, “I have taken you away from the madding crowd.” The crowd is after positions, power and

properties. And the Master also wants you to leave 'you' and find yourself. "I want to be acquainted with your aloneness, its beauty, its inquisitive blissfulness, its ecstasy." In other words, the Master wants us to go within, meditate all alone, and enjoy the beauty, bliss and ecstasy. That's what the Master expects from us.

In fact, other than experiencing your aloneness, there is no religion, there is no meditation, and there is nothing which is of any value. You have to do meditation all alone. You have to do contemplation alone. You have to do prayer all alone. This aloneness, this being alone is religion. Other than that, other things are worthless.

The authentic Master always remembers not to come in the way. He wants you to go along your own way, your own path, with your own chosen deity. The Master is the last barrier. The most difficult thing is to go away from the Master. That is the last barrier. When Avatars leave their physical form, or when Masters leave their physical form, it will be very difficult for all followers to manage. In that way the Master is the last barrier.

It's the most difficult thing to be away from Him, no doubt. But the Master will give you enough courage so that you can leave him physically and move into total aloneness. We find many people complaining there is no physical form of Swami now. No, no, no, no, He is there, still encouraging you so that you can manage in your total aloneness.

In fact, one repays a teacher badly if one remains as a pupil. If you remain just as a pupil, as a follower, the Master will never be happy. The Master wants you to be a Master, and not remain a disciple forever. That's what is meant by, "I am you, you are mine." *Aham brahmasmi. Tvameva aham, tavmeva aham, tvameva aham ityuta*, "I am you, you are mine."

Otherwise, the 'masters' that we see around are creating an atmosphere of exploitation in the name of spirituality, creating a kind of bondage, a slavery in people's beings. So, in fact a true disciple one day repays the Master by becoming a Master. It does not mean disrespect to the Master, no. It is the greatest respect possible. The disciple has fulfilled the longing of the Master by declaring, "*Aham brahmasmi, Tat tvam asi*, I am that." Yes. So, when you come to that level, the Master will be very happy, but not otherwise. This has to be completely understood and realized.

In fact, just examine the pages of history. What is it that belief has done? Beliefs have created bloodshed. Beliefs have fostered or encouraged more hatred than love. A belief has created subhuman beings rather than creating a superman. So belief is just a belief. On the other hand, it is meaningful to you if you start on a search for yourself. But you have not found yourself. So the Master wants you to search for yourself, which is a challenge and an adventure for you.

Where is man today? He is between an animal on the one hand and a superman on the other hand. I already said what I mean by a 'superman' - an awakened man, an enlightened man, and one who is spiritually alert. To be aware is to be a superman.

So where is the normal average man? He is in the middle between an animal and a superman.

So, one has to undertake this journey towards becoming a superman. It is a journey to a new morning, to a new day, to a new birth - the birth of a superman. So, when a man is able to see the animal nature within him, he can also see the hidden God within him. Qualities like anger, jealousy, avarice, hatred, these are animal qualities. When you can see the animal qualities within, why not also see the divine qualities within, like compassion, truth, peace, charity, love and nonviolence.

I repeat, belief is of no help. Action is necessary. A single action is needed. What is that single action? A readiness to die to all your ugly qualities. I don't mean physical death. Let us die to our ugly qualities and give birth to the true self, manifesting the values of love, truth, compassion and creativity. That's what is expected.

Let our future be that of becoming God from within our own consciousness. Not God in outer space, but you, your consciousness, creates God. Man has to go beyond himself. He cannot limit himself any longer. Only in this going beyond lies true religion. True religion lies in this process of going beyond, going beyond. This is absolutely necessary, so please understand and realize this.

So we also know that our Master has taken us all away from the madding crowds. He wants us to be alone, and enjoy that. Therefore, the Master will help you to proceed on your own way, on your own chosen path. He will give us the courage to be ourselves, to be independent. A true master will be happy if we evolve by also becoming a Master. Yes. This is the greatest respect that we can ever show to Him.

Therefore, beliefs are false. False beliefs don't stop at the level of the belief alone. I think in one of the earlier talks we discussed this topic. There are three levels. The first one is belief. You may have a belief today, but tomorrow you may not. Beliefs are just like the wind, or something like the letters you try to scribble on the sand or on the surface of water, which will not last.

So, this belief is not stable, not permanent, and not strong. This belief has to grow, has to evolve into the next step of faith. Faith is stronger than belief. Faith is an established factor. Faith has got its own justification. It has got all the experience necessary to be stable, to be constant. Then from this faith one has to go a step further and trust.

Trust is the ultimate. It is unshakable. Trust is as strong as a pillar or as the bedrock, as strong as a mountain that would be able to withstand all whirlwinds or any storm, whatever it is. Therefore, trust which is unshakable and would stand all the tests of time, is the finale on our spiritual path.

So to begin with, as I said earlier, mere belief is not enough because it will not take us anywhere.

Sai Ram. Meet again.