

PODCAST 171: "ACCEPT BOTH"

Om Sri Sai Ram

Prasanthi Sandesh, episode 171: "Accept Both" is the title for this session.

If we just observe our mentality, it is obvious that we accept one and would like to deny the other. But we should learn to accept both. Take for example God and the devil. We want God and we want to avoid the devil. Or good and bad - we want good and we want to avoid bad. So always when there are two, we want one and want to avoid the other.

But the title of this topic is "Accept Both." For example, the devil is nothing but the other side of God. Religions have been praising God and condemning the devil, while the devil is the other side of God. That has to be noted. So if you repress one part of God, one aspect of His being sooner or later it is going to assert itself.

You know, there are churches now, yes, devoted to the devil. Disciples of the devil are growing, mushrooming all over the world. The first church of Satan is there in America where people gather and worship Satan. Satan means the devil.

So, all kinds of things are going on in the world. The reason may be because of the priests who for centuries have been repressing all of God's aspects. You cannot repress everything forever. Sooner or later, it will assert itself.

In contrast, in the East, particularly in India, there is no devil worshipped at all. There is no devil worship. It cannot happen because we have accepted it. We have never rejected it. The Indian Trinity, Trimurti, the three faces of God, has to be understood. Brahma, Vishnu, Maheswara are the three faces of God. Brahma is the Creator and He creates. Vishnu is the aspect that maintains the world, while existence keeps it running, and Mahesh, the destroyer, is the one who destroys the world.

Now Christians cannot conceive of Mahesh as God because Mahesh is the destroyer. According to them, God has to always be the Creator. The Christian concept of God as the Creator makes it a very limited one.

Then whose responsibility is it to destroy things? Because there is destruction too, and no creation is possible without destruction. Creation is possible only through destruction. God gives life, but who gives death? Somebody has to be responsible for death too. But God cannot be responsible for death. Christians are so afraid that their God is partial.

The Indian God is more total. With one hand He creates, while with the other hand He destroys too. He's good and He's bad too. He is light and darkness both, both life and death. Only if God is both can God be transcendental. When you are both, you transcend both. This principle we have to remember. Then everything will be set right.

Christians, particularly the priests, have been talking so much about God that they have made the world almost sickening and nauseating. They have talked so much

about God and their God is so sweet. Only sweetness is allowed in God. Their God has no salt. He is pure white sugar. What is to be done?

Therefore God has to be accepted in His totality. This whole existence is divine. Do not reject anything. Everything is good in its place. Salt is needed as much as sweetness. Even bitterness has its own place, its own joy, and its own taste. The thorn on the rose bush has its own function. It's the body God gave to the rose. It protects the rose. Do not deny it. Don't prune all the thorns; otherwise the rose will die.

Life exists through these polar opposites. This has been a fallacious step that we have taken, to choose only one pole. When God is only positive, then the negative has to be given to some other entity, some fictitious entity like the devil.

The devil does not exist. There is no hell. All is paradise. Yes. There are two situations. You can fall asleep in paradise, or you can be awake. But there is no hell. There's misery in life; it's a part of life. If there is death, it is a process of life. It's a renewal of life. It gives you a new body, a new model. The old rotten body is taken away and you are given a fresh new model.

So death is not against life but in the service of life. Even what we know as bad is in the service of good. Yes. If you are wise enough, you can transform poison into medicine; and if you are foolish, even medicine can be dangerous. It can become a poison even.

So the West will have to change its idea of God. The western idea is no longer western. It has spread all over the world. Therefore the one dimensional idea of God to humanity is to be revised. It has to be thought over again and again because if you think that it is only one dimensional, that very idea is juvenile. It's not even mature. That idea is anthropocentric and it's made in the image of man. Therefore let us not choose one and avoid the other.

So the denied part is ready now to explode. Please remember, denial is always dangerous. Repression is dangerous. You have to pay tremendously for it. Please note. Accept both the polarities. The negative and the positive are both needed for the electricity to happen. The good and bad are both needed for the world to go on. They are like the two wheels of a bullock cart. The sinner and the saint both are needed. Of course the sinner may be more authentic.

There are no pseudo sinners but there are pseudo saints. Most of the so-called saints who proclaim to be saints, ninety nine percent of them are pseudo saints. Jesus and Buddha are rare. That phenomenon is very rare. We also made it very rare because if anyone wants to attain that state of Jesus-hood or Buddha-hood, we cannot bear it. We'll create all kinds of hurdles. Even if somebody becomes Jesus, we don't tolerate him. We'll kill the man the moment we become aware of him.

Jesus lived only three years as Christ. For thirty years he was in preparation, in meditation, in search. After thirty years when he attained his *satori* or liberation, he went to the market place and started giving the message that he had attained. It took

three years for it to become known to people that this man had attained, and then they killed him immediately.

When Mansur attained God-hood he declared, "Ana al-Haqq, Ana al-Haqq, I am God". His master Junaid said, "Keep quiet. I know, you know. That's enough. No need to tell anybody otherwise you will be in danger, and you'll create danger for me and for other disciples also. Yes. I accept. You know that," said Junaid. "I can see you are awakened, but let it be a secret between me and you."

But Mansur could not sleep, nor keep it a secret. It's very difficult to keep it a secret. Nobody has ever been able to keep it a secret. There were moments when he was in deep ecstasy, so he would start shouting again, "I am God, I am God." Soon the news spread. The priests went to the King and said this is sacrilegious. This man has to be destroyed. This man has to be killed.

First, you don't allow anybody to become Jesus or Mansur, and if someone escapes from your bondage or from your control and becomes one, you will kill him and go on preaching something which is absurd, pseudo.

You create a saint against the sinner, who is bound to be pseudo because he has not absorbed the sinner into himself. He has no foundation. He is a house without any foundation. He is a house made on the sands. The sinner becomes the foundation. Unless the sinner is absorbed and transformed, you'll not find a true Buddha. All other saints that we have been meeting, particularly today, are pseudo, bogus, only on the surface, pretenders.

Therefore, perhaps it may be easy for a sinner to become a saint because he has all the energies which can be transformed into a saint. But the saint has cut himself from all sources of energy. He has become a plastic flower. He's almost hopeless. His case is also hopeless. This calamity has happened. Hence, this devil has become more attractive because the priest is denying God all reality, making God an abstraction.

God is not an abstraction. God is not a person. God is the total harmony of existence, and in that harmony, in that orchestra, all the instruments are involved, including the bad, the dark, and the death. They also have to play their parts. They become the background. They become the context.

We don't see the stars in the day. Why? Do you think all the stars disappeared? No. They're there in the sky. They have not disappeared. It will be too much work every morning to disappear and every evening to come back. It would create unnecessary trouble. They are there. Just because of the sunlight, the background is missing in which you could see them. When the night comes and the darkness comes, the background becomes available. In the dark night, they shine forth. The darker the night, the more shining the stars, and the more stars you'll be able to see.

God is both the darkest depth and the lightest height. Once this is accepted, the devil loses all attraction. The devil dies. The devil becomes a fertile land for God to grow. The devil becomes a fertilizer. You can accumulate fertilizers in your house. You can

accumulate manure in your house, and then your house will stink, emitting a foul smell.

Spread the manure in the garden, and the same manure will sprout into beautiful flowers. The same manure will release great fragrances. Manure has not to be accumulated in the basement of your house. It has to be spread in the garden in the open, in the sun.

We have been repressing anger, greed, sex - everything that has been thought to be bad in some way. We have been repressing it in the basement of our being, in the unconscious, and that's why every human being is stinking.

Bring it into the light. Let it become manure. Let it be a fertilizing phenomenon in your life and you will have great flowers blossom in you. You'll attain the one thousand petalled lotus.

Therefore, let's not condemn. Let's not repress. Let's not deny one part of life because life is a composite, life is a harmony. We have to accept both so that one will be absorbed in the other: the bad will be absorbed into the good. The devil will be absorbed into God, transformed into the Divine. That's what our aim is. This is not possible by simple denial or repression.

Thank you for your time.