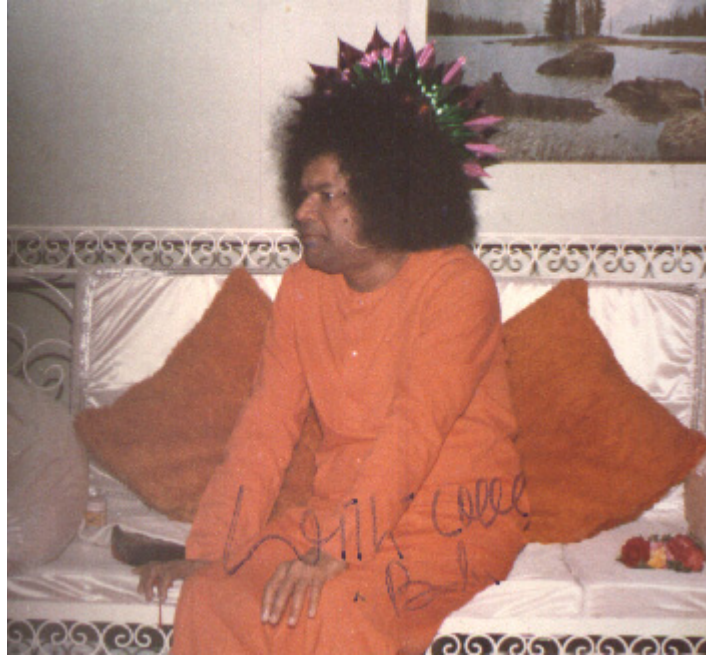


Om Sri Sai Ram

## PEARLS OF SWAMI'S MESSAGES - IV



**This is a Human Form, in which every Divine Energy, Every Divine Principle, that is to say, all Names and Forms ascribed by man to God are manifest. Do not allow doubt to distract you. If you only INSTALL IN THE ALTAR OF YOUR HEART, a steady faith in My reality as Sarvadvaitha Swaroopam (all God forms) you will be rewarded.**

Dear devotee. Your hands are very small, but with these little hands you are trying to serve ME. Your eyes are very small and MY creation is enormous. With your two little eyes you are trying to see the whole vast universe. Your ears are very small, but with these two small ears, you are trying to follow MY words. With your two little feet you are attempting to come towards ME. But merely serving ME with your two little hands will not achieve very much. Merely looking at My vast world with your two little eyes will also not be of much use. Merely listening to My divine words through your two little ears will not get you very far. And merely coming into MY presence with your two little feet will not fully serve your purpose. But there is ONE thing you can do which will have a great impact, which will produce a truly significant effect. That is to install me permanently in your heart. Once you bring me into your heart, then these other activities will not seem very important. Whatever worships you have engage in, using your eyes, your ears, your hands and your feet has only served to control the mind. But when you invite the Lord to enter your heart, then control of the mind and senses becomes very easy. The mind and senses will become still on their own. There will be no need for any special effort to be made for sacrificing the fruits of your actions. **Krishna said, "once you start thinking and indulging only in thoughts of ME, then all the rest will be taken care of by ME automatically."** To achieve this state you must develop a resolve and unshakeable faith in the ever-present Lord residing in your own heart.

Wake up MY children! Wake up to the dawn of knowledge, wake up to the Divine duties, wake up to your Divine rights and wake up to your Divine Reality. Engage in action, all the while remembering the Lord's name. We should keep this goal before us and strive to attain it. Due to silent sitting an expansion of energy takes place in us. This is man's electric power. You all must have seen a radio. Do you know how it works? The more number of programmes you hear through the radio, greater will be the consumption of electricity. Our body is also like a radio. The current of body is will power. We should be careful in using this energy. By talking to

much, we are wasting a lot energy. This leads to loss of memory power. Silent sitting does not mean merely keeping our mouths shut. We should exert control over our thoughts. The brain should get full rest. By rest, here we mean a change of activity, for e.g. - after studies you can engage yourself in manual labor, singing Bhajans etc. Whatever little you study, study with full concentration. Above all this, respect GOD who is your protector. The first and foremost duty of children is to make their parents happy. It is because of our parents we possess a strong body. They have given us food, blood and head. Even after growing up, we should never forget our duty towards our parents. We should always be proud of our parents and show respect and love towards them. Today, if we love and respect our parents, we can expect the same from our children tomorrow. God pervades the whole universe. Self-confidence is the foundation of life. To realize the core of divinity, expand your love. This has to be cultivated right from a tender age. If the sapling is straight, the tree will grow straight. A child in whom values are not developed in childhood will remain devoid of values even in adulthood. There are 3D's - Duty, Discipline and Devotion. Duty is God, Devotion and Discipline are two bodyguards. You are makers of the future. If your life is good, then you will be good citizens of a good country. Ego comes due to ignorance. The causes of EGO are status, wealth, knowledge, and material possessions; these come and go. Money comes and goes but morality comes and grows. Education is for life, not for living. Education should be practical. What is contained in the books should be imbibed and retained in the brain. Fill your hearts with love, then the whole world will be full of love. Where there is love there is happiness. If you commit a mistake due to ignorance then resort to prayer. Prayer unites two people - man and God into one. Prayer elevates you and helps you to abandon the evil path. Inculcation of human values (love, peace, righteousness, truth and non-violence) is the true education. **The hallmark of true education is HUMILITY.** Discipline your life by practicing the human values. Take to the good path. Try and guide those who have gone astray, lovingly into the correct path. First endeavor to improve yourselves in a systematic and humble way as charity begins at home. Light the lamp of knowledge in yourself. By transforming yourselves the effect will spread far and wide. **REMEMBER THE MINUTE THAT HAS FLED IS NO LONGER YOURS; THE MINUTE THAT IS APPROACHING CANNOT BE COUNTED AS YOURS; THE MINUTE THAT IS WITH YOU, THIS ALONE IS TRULY YOURS. MAKE THE BEST USE OF IT, FOR IT MAY BE YOUR LAST.**

Joy and grief; heat and cold are both in the plan of God, and yours is only to know this and treat both as valuables. God draws the individual towards itself; it is in the nature of both to have this affinity, for they are the same. They are like the iron and the magnet. But if the iron is rusty and covered with layers of dirt, the magnet is unable to attract. Remove the impediment that is all you have to do. Shine forth in your real, natural form and the Lord will draw you into His bosom. Trial and tribulations are the means by which this cleansing is done. Sadhana (spiritual endeavor) is most essential, to control the mind and the desires after which it runs. If you find that you are unable to succeed, do not give up the sadhana, but do it more vigorously, for it is the subject in which you do not get passing mark, that requires special study, is it not? Sadhana means inner cleanliness as well as external cleanliness. You do not feel refreshed if you wear unwashed clothes after your bath do you? Nor, do you feel refreshed if you wear washed clothes but skip the bath. Both are needed. Sadhana that you practice must make you better, happier and more useful person. It is your primary responsibility to demonstrate your calmness; humility, purity, virtue, courage and conviction under all circumstances. When suffering comes in waves, one behind another, be glad that the shore is near. In all joys and grief remind yourself **"this will not last long."**

God's grace is not given free. There are today two aspects relating to man, which have to be considered. One relates to a person's right. The other relates to one's duties. Most people are concerned about their rights and engage themselves in struggles to secure them. But they do not recognize their responsibilities. In all the different fields - social, political, economic and even spiritual - men do not recognize their responsibilities and duties. They want high positions and

emoluments. The entire life is wasted in the pursuit of such desires. No one considers whether he is performing the quantum of work for the salary he receives. Whether he is discharging his duties properly and fulfilling his responsibilities. Such an attitude is prevalent not only in mundane affairs, but also in the spiritual field. Everyone says, " I want God, I want liberation, I want to ensure my well being here and here-after ", but does he not make the necessary effort to achieve these desires. " I have no time for Bhajans, I can't do any sadhana, I have no time to think of God " - this is his attitude. But he still wants God. With such a narrow outlook, how can man know what his rights are? To get anything you want from a shop, you have to pay the price. But, man today wants God to ensure his well being, but is he prepared to pay the price for getting it? Is he prepared to offer to God the sacrifice he has to make to secure his Yogakshema (hereafter)? Does he offer the love that has to be given to secure peace, prosperity and security? **Man today seeks to get something without paying the price for it. But the Lord cannot be deceived. He offers the appropriate reward for each action according to its nature - whether it is a gain or loss, good or bad.** We will be entitled to expect what we desire from God only if we make the appropriate offering to God. No one is prepared to offer anything to God, but everyone is eager to get something from God.

Unfortunately today because the parents themselves have no purity of character, and lack-refined qualities and do not lead regulated lives, evil practices and wickedness are growing all over the world. When the parents get up from their beds abusing each other, their children get up assailing each other. Because of the malefic effects of the Kali age, parents tend to be quarrelsome. The children of today take after their parents. The tree is based on the seed and the seed determines the nature of the tree. For the evil ways and bad behavior of children today, the parents alone are to be blamed. Few parents choose to tell their children to speak the truth, to act righteously and earn a good name. It is better that such children are not born at all. They are a disgrace to their parents and to their country. For all the ills, which the nation is afflicted today, parents and teachers are responsible. The teachers do not punish the students for their lapses. Because the students are not punished for their mistakes, they behave as they please. The teachers are responsible for the sins of the students. They do not teach the students the right path. They transmit only book knowledge, but do not teach the right knowledge, wise living and higher values. If there are no morals and no human values, a man becomes a demon. Parents are concerned solely about the material welfare of their children and have no concern for their well-being. It is not wealth that is important. Character is primary. Parents do not teach the children to cultivate good qualities. They do not control children who go astray. They condone the lapses of the children and often encourage them in their bad ways. It is because of such parents the children today take to wrong courses. Parents today are afraid of correcting the mistakes of the children or chastise them. They are afraid that the children might run away and commit suicide. Parents have the right to warn and correct their children. Instead of being a running sore for the parents, it is better they (bad children) are no more. Death is preferable to infamy.

The most important thing in this world is the life of the spirit (Atma-jivitham). Bodily existence, mental life or intellectual life cannot be considered to living at all. The satisfaction he derives from time to time from these endeavors ends in disappointment. They are like pursuit of a mirage. They do not serve to quench one's thirst because they are not lasting. They come and go leaving a trail of misery. Who is a real conqueror in this world? Shankaracharya once asked his disciples - Not the one who has subdued the world and brought it under his sway; not the man who scaled the Himalayas and planted a flag on its summit; not the one who crossed oceans was a hero. You cannot look at conquests in worldly terms. If viewed in this way even an animal can fight another and establish its victory. Likewise, birds can cross oceans and can fly over the Himalayas. Where is the victory in all these? Nothing at all. **Shankaracharya declared, "Only the person who has subdued his MIND, is a real conqueror. It is a mental aberration to think that one has achieved a victory without subduing his mind."**

All spiritual aspirants should cherish in their hearts with gratitude the good done to them by others and always remember whatever form in which help was rendered to them. Only those who lead such grateful lives will be able to find peace and happiness in their lives. The sun God is hailed as the destroyer of the ungrateful. He is described as one who gives up those who forget the good done to them. How does the sun God give up the ungrateful? The Vedas have declared that the sun emerged from the cosmic person (Virata Purusha). The sun's radiance illumines the eyes of a human being. When the mantra declares that the Sun God goes away from the one who is ungrateful, its inner meaning is that the Sun God makes the ungrateful person blind and withdraws from him the power of sight. Today persons guilty of ingratitude go about as blind persons, or as ignorant beings devoid of the real power of sight. Every person should therefore cherish the sense of gratitude. **"When wealth is lost nothing is lost, when health is lost something is lost, when character is lost everything is lost"**

Human life is supremely precious in this world. But not all are aware of this truth. Wherein lies this preciousness? Humanness does not consist merely in the physical and the mundane. It is for the pursuit of righteousness that this body has been given to man. God is the repository of Bliss. He is eternal. Humanness originates from Ananda (bliss) and bliss grows in Ananda and merges in Ananda. This bliss is the goal of man. Man is born in bliss. To manifest bliss is the duty of man. This is the secret of human saga. From infancy to old age man dedicates every effort of his to secure Bliss. But this bliss is not found in the place he searches. When he is the very embodiment of Bliss, to seek It outside himself is sheer folly. Does any man search for himself outside himself? If such a search is done, it is a sign of ignorance. Equally the search for Bliss outside one's self is a mark of ignorance. The human existence is based on DIVINE. Man is a spark of the Divine, without the Divine, man cannot experience Bliss. Man is called "manuja" because he originated from the Self-born Manu. Man does not recognize this fact. Consequently even though he is the embodiment of SAT-CHIT-ANANDA (being-awareness-bliss), he desperately seeks Bliss elsewhere. Oblivious to the higher knowledge (Jnaana) he lives in ignorance, in a dream world of illusion. The Upanishads have exhorted man to wake up from his sleep of ignorance and realize his true nature.

Man assumes that he is investigating various phenomena. This is not so. It is a man's senses which are experimenting with him. Man imagines that he is making use of his sense organs. Not at all. The truth is the senses are sporting with man. Man is not alive to this fact. If man had really mastered his senses and had full sway over them, he would not be subjected to anxiety (vichaaram). It is the senses that are holding sway over man. They are utilizing man for their enjoyment. As a result man has become a weakling. He is a victim of peacelessness and prey to many troubles. It should be recognized that the senses are merely instruments. You should wield these instruments. You should not become their plaything. Unfortunately now man has become an instrument in the grip of the senses. As a result he is powerless to act properly. Nor is it all, he is even misusing the senses. The slave of the senses is a fool. Only the man who subdues the senses is a hero. Anyone who misuses his senses is a fool whatever the extent of his knowledge. It is essential to bring the senses under one's control, so that the senses will be powerless to cause any harm to man.

Many feel that it is human to err and that Bhagawan should forgive their lapses. In fact if they are truly human, they should not commit mistakes at all. Even if sometimes a mistake is committed wittingly or unwittingly, it should not be repeated. It is a grievous error to think that it is natural for a human being to err. Such a feeling should not be entertained at all by anyone. Every man should realize, " I am not weak, I am not an animal, I am not a demon, but I am a man ". When a man has this conviction he will not commit mistakes. When a man is described as "Nara" it means that he is the very embodiment of the spirit (Atma). The Atma cannot be affected by any taint. It is the attachment to the body, which is the cause of bad thoughts, bad desires and bad actions. It is the one who is a slave to his senses, who is a prey to such impulses.

To follow the directive of the senses is a mark of the animal. To be guided by the Atma is the sign of human. No one should attempt to justify his weaknesses and lapses a natural to human being. They should be regarded as signs of mental debility. You should continually strive to master your senses. When you have truly acquired sense-control, you will experience the power of the Divine within you. RIGHT IS RIGHT EVEN IF NOBODY DOES IT, WRONG IS WRONG EVEN IF EVERYBODY DOES IT.

If people do not love you, be sure, it is your fault. It is disgruntled people who find fault with the world. It is those who have no peace in their hearts who cause disturbances in the world. They are restless, so they in turn engender restlessness in others, and then think it is a rotten world. You should know what to do; have the right knowledge, the right judgement and the right action. If you want to see the whole world colored green then you should not attempt painting everything green, but simply wear a green tinted glasses.

"I am Jeevi, a live individual"; "I am a spark of Consciousness"; "I am embodied Atma" - declaration such as these do not reveal a knowledge of the life principle. The Jeevi is Divine Consciousness, installed in a chariot, the body. It is not a bundle of inert stuff moulded into a form and labeled with a name. There is only One all-pervading Consciousness, but man experiences It in fragments and mistaking It as many, he gropes in the confusion caused by his own ignorance.

Many scripture instruct man the truth that God dwells in his body along with the jeevi, God inducing him to aspire for the heights, and the self advising him to be content with the low. The jeevi has faith in the reality of the world and of itself. The Divine Principle, on the other hand, asserts that It is present, both close to man as well as far from him. The fact is, people feel It is far, because they are not aware of Its being near, nay in their own hearts. The truth that the scripture teach is, that God is everywhere, near and far, above and below, inside and outside. God is one, Indivisible, Omnipresent.

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