



SPIRITUAL MASTER AND SEEKER

Guru and God

Extract from 14/2/06 Satsang

Om Shri Paramatmane Namaha

Q: Dear Guruji, thank you for everything. I am so lucky to have met you. You have said that a Master is necessary on the spiritual path. Does this mean that it is not enough to pray to, believe in and talk directly to God?

A: It is a question of your own preference and your own situation. Someone may prefer to go direct to God without going through any Master. From my side there is complete freedom and anyone can do it. But you should judge your own limitations and capacity. If you can do it, congratulations! But try to understand the other thing also: going to a master is not against having direct relationship with God. You have not understood so far who is a Master and you are not clear what we mean by God.

For instance, you may want to see the sky. It is very easy to see the sky through a window, and there is no conflict between the window and the sky. The guru is the window. The real guru is one who, although he exists, yet he does not exist. Ego is finished - the real person never wants to become anyone's guru. He serves the world, because he has nothing else to do after experiencing Truth. There remains nothing to be done except to serve the world, loving and helping people. There is no contradiction between God and the guru. There is no contradiction at all. And if God is everywhere, why not in the guru? The last point made in the scriptures is that God exists everywhere. Why are you suspicious about the guru? If you are sincere, no one can deceive you. Your own sincerity is sufficient.

There is so much that I could say about the guru, but time is limited. However, I should point out one or two things to you. Ego is the greatest obstacle to Self- realisation or experiencing God. Ego is the main hurdle. One can change or give up bad habits. For example, one can become a vegetarian. However, this ego does not go away so easily. When you become a little more virtuous, then ego takes the form that you think that you are superior to others and almost becoming a yogi. This ego also takes the shape that you think that you have no ego! How kind God has been to you that he has made you ego-less! This is ego again. It is through the guru that this ego gets destroyed. Today I have told you the secret. Why is it that he can destroy ego? The guru is the man/woman in whom there is no ego, therefore your ego will get destroyed through him.

Here is a physical example to indicate the meaning. Before you see the sky, you have to see the sky in the window. The sky exists everywhere and you want to see the infinite sky. But firstly you have to see the sky in the window. How can you avoid it? You are sitting in a room of ignorance. You are walled around by ignorance just like the walls of the room but you want to see the infinite sky. How will you see it? You have to look out of the window! How else? Will you fly through a hole in the roof? Surrounded by the walls of the room, you want to see the infinite sky. Firstly you have to have a relationship with the sky in the window - that much space. After coming into contact with that space in the window, you can catch a

glimpse of the infinite sky through the window. The sky in the window and the infinite sky are one. The sky in the window is part of the infinite space outside and around. Think about it. Is there a difference between the space seen through the window and the total space outside of the window? It is the same space.

Your ego creates the problem for you. You do not want to go to a guru and you prefer to have a direct relationship with God. It is your ego that creates the problem for you. There is no reasoning in that. I would congratulate you and tell you to go directly to the sky. Who is stopping you? I do not wish to become anyone's guru. Others know their own story but my case is very clear. I am a servant of all people throughout the world. I am trying to help people in the manner in which I can. I am just distributing whatever God gave me, through the grace of my guru, and nothing else but that. Think over it. The ego is the problem. Without having any guru, you want to announce to the world that there is a person who has a direct relationship with God, the infinite, unborn, eternal Truth. No human agency is over your head! It is a direct relationship. Congratulations to you if you can do it. But can it be done? Can you see the sky from a house without the help of a window?

My dear friends, God is everywhere, but always found in the heart. After finding Him in the heart, then you find Him everywhere also. But when you are trying to find Him in the heart, you need someone to guide you.

You need a guide even in trivial matters. You cannot begin to learn how to ride a bicycle without someone teaching you. Your legs will have bruises if you try to do it by yourself! Just try it! You did not begin to learn the alphabet without the help of your mother. Even the smallest skills were never learned without a guide. So now you want to learn the greatest skill in the universe without a teacher or guru.

Faith is the most important element. Faith is greater than reasoning. Some time I will explain all this to you. Reasoning has its own value but do not think that Truth can be found through reasoning. Reasoning should be used but Truth or God cannot be found through reasoning. Truth is not a contradiction to reasoning but it is beyond reasoning. Reasoning gets exhausted and then some other element develops in life. Faith is greater than your intellect. Even in the case of the most trivial of skills was it reasoning that you used in the beginning or was it faith? For example, when you started learning your alphabet, did you ask the teachers to prove that 'A' was 'A'. Before you came to believe that it was 'A', they told you that it was 'A' and with faith you believed them that it was. What is this but belief or faith? Life runs its course more through faith than through reasoning. Life would not be worth living if only reason existed and there was no faith. When someone brings you a glass of water, you should trust that the water was pure and not worry that something was mixed in it.

Q: I am very sorry for my attitude. I feel that my heart is full of love for God but my mind is full of doubts about needing a real guru. How can I create and build a relationship with you as my guru?

A: If you are full of love for God, a little of that love could be given to me also! Do not be such a miser! You do not need to create a relationship. It will be created and you will not be able to stop it. It is not in your hands. No one can create a relationship with a guru with one's own effort or intellect. When the real time comes, the guru catches you by the scruff of the neck and tells you to sit down! In spirituality it happens like that.

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