

to house Himself --- be it a church, a mosque, or a temple. Dreary intellects, poisoned with their own misunderstanding, have even come shamelessly to insist that these Houses-of-God should be converted into hospitals and schools, lunatic asylums and maternity homes!

But I believe that I am talking to a world which has not reached this nadir of depravity. Not yet. In a society where there is still the play of healthy hearts and virulent intellects, there is certainly a need for temples and worship. And in these Houses-of-God, it is not the intricacies of their design, elaborateness of the ritual, nor the splendour of gold and wealth exhibited, nor even the number of devotees attending, that contribute to their essential success.

The very language and diction of the stanza clearly sound the note that the material objects that one might offer are of no value to the Lord of the Universe, but it is the devotion and love that prompt the offerings that are accepted by the Deity. Be it "A LEAF, A FLOWER, A FRUIT, OR WATER," it is but an insignificant thing that you offer; be it a golden temple, or be it a dry leaf, "WHOSOEVER WITH DEVOTION OFFERS," whatever be the offering, the Lord of *Vrindavana* assures "THAT I ACCEPT." For, when lovingly given, it becomes "A DEVOUT GIFT" and when it is offered by a sincere "PURE-MINDED" student, the Lord has to accept it.