

of this stanza gives the answer to this question. One should not feel joyous when one comes at things pleasant, for, that mind which is a victim of joy is also a potential victim of misery. A strong mind, on the other hand, remains unaffected by joy and sorrow. A devotee is he who conquers anger and envy which are his twin enemies. Every time he is overcome by either of these, the stamina of his mind declines. The wind of anger or envy may toss the creeper of the mind of the ordinary man, but the mind of the devotee stands like a stalwart tree, unperturbed by it. He is too strong to be affected by such petty feelings. Fear is worse than death, which can only rob man of his body, whereas the former wrecks the entire personality. The frightened man is a heap of empty sensation, nothing worthy emanates from him. The devotee knows no fear and so divinity beams out of him. Anxiety is another mental disease which eats into the stamina of man. The devotee takes all happenings as divine dispensation and there is nothing to be disturbed about. The devotee who is made up of such sterling qualities is claimed by the Lord as His own.

That man wastes his own time and energy who always engages himself in recounting the worth of the others. For, in doing so, he neither gains in building his own character nor in getting fixed in the glory of the Lord.

— Sri Ramakrishna

अनपेक्षः शुचिर्दक्ष उदासीनो गतव्यथः ।

सर्गारम्भपरित्यागी यो मद्भक्तः स मे प्रियः ॥ १६

अन्-अप-ईक्ष शुचि दक्षः उद्-आसीन गत-व्यथ ।

सर्व-आरम्भ परि-त्यागी यो मद्-भक्त स मे प्रिय ॥