

those who seek heaven. Those who are free from desires derive the benefit of salvation.

42. The man who repeats this mantra in purity, hears or narrates this to anyone, shall attain all desires.

Sanatkumāra said:—

43. On hearing these words of Śiva, the great Ātman, the gods derived more pleasure than Viṣṇu and Brahmā.

44. At his bidding, Viśvakarman made a splendid chariot of good features, consisting of all the gods, for the welfare of the people.

CHAPTER EIGHT

(The detailed description of the chariot etc)

Vyāsa said:—

1. O Sanatkumāra, of good intellect, O omniscient one, O foremost among the devotees of Śiva, this wonderful story of lord Śiva has been narrated to us.

2. Now please mention the structure of the chariot¹⁹² which consisted of all the gods and which had been made by the intelligent Viśvakarman.

Sūta said:—

3. On hearing these words of Vyāsa, Sanatkumāra the great sage remembered the lotus-like feet of Śiva and spoke thus.

Sanatkumāra said:—

4. O sage Vyāsa, of great intellect, listen to the description of the structure of the chariot etc which I shall give to the extent of my intellect after remembering the lotus-like feet of Śiva.

5. The divine chariot of lord Śiva consisting of all the worlds was built by Viśvakarman with devoted effort.

192. The present account of the cosmic chariot made for Śiva tallies with that in the *Matsya Purāṇa* (chapter 133).