

the plan of preaching that the chanting of the Lord's name would bring in to them more of wealth and earthly enjoyments. Attracted by the offer, people in large numbers joined the saints in singing and chanting the glory of God. The divine ecstasy that emanated from that holy act made people forget all vulgar pleasures and turn their minds more Godward. God is the divine talisman for all worldly evils

— Sri Ramakrishna

How long does the convert take to reach Godhood? The answer comes :—

क्षिप्रं भवति धर्मात्मा शश्वच्छान्तिं निगच्छति ।
कौन्तेय प्रतिजानीहि न मे भक्तः प्रणश्यति ॥ ३१

क्षिप्रम् भवति धर्म-आत्मा शश्वत् शान्तिम् नि-गच्छति ।
कौन्तेय प्रति-जा-नीहि न मे भक्तः प्र-नश्यति ॥

*kṣipram bhavati dharmātmā śasvacchāntim nigacchati ।
kaunteya pratijānīhi na me bhaktaḥ praṇasyati ॥*

क्षिप्रम् *kṣipram* soon भवति *bhavati* (he) becomes धर्मात्मा *dharmātmā* righteous शश्वत् *śasvat* eternal शान्तिम् *śāntim* peace निगच्छति *nigacchati* attains to कौन्तेय *kaunteya* O son of Kuntī प्रतिजानीहि *pratijānīhi* know न *na* not मे *me* my भक्तः *bhaktaḥ* Bhakta प्रणश्यति *praṇasyati* is destroyed

Soon does he become a man of righteousness and obtains lasting peace. O Kaunteya, know for certain that My devotee never perishes. 31

Many a sinner has within the span of a single life-time after conversion changed into the divine. The oldest case known to us is that of the sage Valmiki. An illustrious recent convert is Girish Chandra Ghose who after contacting Sri Ramakrishna changed quickly from profligacy to purity.