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1. Episode Title: Episode 54 – Bhagavad Gita (Chapter 3, Episode 54)

2. Topics & Tags:

TOPICS: The episode explores the motivation behind performing one's duties, distinguishing between working for results and working out of responsibility. It delves into Krishna's teachings on selfless action (karma yoga) and the true nature of "fear" as a profound love and sensitivity to separation from the divine. The discussion highlights how all natural forces operate out of an inherent love for God, setting an example for human beings to fulfill their dharma (duty) without attachment to outcomes.

TAGS: HH Chinna Jeeyar Swami, Bhagavad Gita, Chapter 3, Episode 54, Karma Yoga, selfless action, duty, responsibility, motivation, expectation, results, fear, love, divine love, Krishna, Arjuna, Janaka, Veda, natural forces, dharma, Rama, punishment, sin, spiritual guidance, devotion, sukumaratvam, soukumaryam, yadi hyaham na vartheyam, bhi:sha:sma:d va:thah pavathe:

3. Main Content:

Jai Srimannarayana! Priya Bhagavadbandhus (Dear devotees of the Lord),

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SLOKA WORD -

a:pada:m apahartha:ram da:tha:ram sarva sampada:m

lo:ka:bhi ra:mam sri:ra:mam bhu:yo: bhu:yo: nama:myaham

SLOKA MEANING -

I repeatedly bow to Sri Rama, who removes all dangers, bestows all wealth, and delights the entire world.

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Bhagavad Gita is God’s upade:sa (teaching) that guides Arjuna about his responsibility. Especially in Chapter 3, Sri Krishna, while teaching the way and the purpose of doing one’s work, says one must do it because it’s his responsibility and not for any benefit.

It could be irritating to work without any expectations for results and only as a responsibility. For example, you will get good marks if you study. Because the result is good marks, you will want to study. Obtaining a certificate will motivate you to study. A job needs a certificate. The desire to get selected for it will make you want to work for the certificate. Only when there is a resulting benefit in sight, will one want to make efforts on the work that yields that result. If you now say not to expect any result, there is something we must observe here. It does not say not to experience the result. It says not to expect the result.

A farmer sows seeds in the soil. He hopes for a good yield and does everything he needs to. Sowing the seeds, plowing properly, and anything else are all his duties. Hence, he will do all of that. He will be happy if there is a good yield. He will be unhappy if the yield is not there. However, he does not do his activities with yield as the goal in his mind. He keeps working because it’s his responsibility. Let’s say there is no yield this year. He won’t say that he will not work this year, because there may not be a yield next year too. A farmer never works on the basis of some guarantee in the yield. Working hard is his responsibility. He will thus keep working. This is also very essential in daily life. A person must do all his worldly responsibilities.

In Chapter 3, Sri Krishna explains the significance of this. He presents Janaka and Himself as examples for it. Arjuna raises a request for clarification: "Krishna! You are the God of the de:vathas (divine administrative forces). You are the first one. It is through You that all the de:vathas (divine administrative forces) are born, Nature is born. It is through You that all the species have emerged. You are the cause for all beings. When You come into this world, what is the need for You to work?"

For someone like us, there is an authority over us. They enforce and perhaps punish us if we don’t complete our work. As an employee in an organization, if one does not complete his work in the designated time frame, the respective authority will question the person and punish for not completing it. If the same person completes more than what’s assigned, he may be given some benefit. What it means is that there is a benefit, loss, or difficulty for working and not working respectively. Arjuna asks Krishna if He also incurs some loss if He doesn’t work. Krishna replies, "No. There is nothing I need." "Is there any benefit He gets if He works?" "That is also not the case." "If there is no expectation of any loss or gain, what is the need for You to work? Because if you don’t do any work, you will attain a specific do:sha (defect). When there is a do:sha (defect), you will incur a sin. If there is a sin upon you, you will enter hell. In hell, you will see the pains of punishment from Yama. Because of the desire to avoid hell, one must fulfill their responsibilities."

However, it is said You are the cause for the existence of all the forces of Nature. Veda (ancient sacred texts) says they work because of You.

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SLOKA WORD -

bhi:sha:sma:d va:thah pavathe: bhi:sho:de:thi su:ryaha

bhi:sha:sma:d agnishcha indrascha mryuthyurda:vathi panchama ithi

SLOKA MEANING -

Out of fear of Him, the wind blows; out of fear, the sun rises; out of fear, fire and Indra act; and death, the fifth, runs.

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Veda (ancient sacred texts) says so. Out of fear of punishment from the Supreme for not doing their duties properly, va:thah pavathe: (air flows). Sun rises, fire always burns and rises high, water cools. We know these. bhi:sho:de:thi su:ryaha (the sun rises out of fear). Sun does not rise or set because of his greatness. bhi:sha: (out of fear), asma:th bhi:tha (from this fear) due to lack of alertness in the ordained duty, bhi:sho:de:thi su:ryaha (the sun rises out of fear). bhi:sha:sma:d agnischaindrascha (out of fear, fire and Indra). If fire is burning the way it should, the cause is the indwelling God. The fear of punishment. It is said that Indra manages all the de:vathas (divine administrative forces). Indra ensures all the forces of Nature are doing their responsibilities. He also works out of fear of punishment if he doesn’t work properly. Chathurmukha Brahma (the four-headed creator god), the four-headed eldest one, is the leader of all of them. Chathurmukha Brahma (the four-headed creator god) also fears death. His time frame is perhaps 100 years relative to his plane. It seems he has served for 50 years presently. He has 50 years more left. He is also supported by a divine power. That power is running him. Finally, death too works out of fear of the Supreme. mrythurdha:vathi panchama ithi (death runs as the fifth). Along with the four of them, he works properly out of fear of what will happen if he doesn’t. All of the forces of Nature work with discipline keeping in mind the timelines. This is what it is said about them. Then, for whose favor do You need to work? What’s there for You to lose if You don’t work?

Swami answers: "bhi:tha: (They are not working out of fear). They are working. Yes. All the worldly natural forces like air, heat, water, shade, trees, and everything, they work in discipline not out of the fear that you are thinking but out of another type of fear. The fear that you are thinking of is, you are saying that it is the fear of getting punished with some thorny stick if one does not work. Yes. [Arjuna said]. However, that is not the fear they have. All the worldly natural forces have full-blown faith and love for God. We don’t know. Can we know if a bird has love for God? We can’t because we don’t know their language and they don’t know ours. Language, expression, and way of working are all different. Everything is different. Not just a bird, any insect, animal or anything behave as per their limits and rules. Do you know why? Because they believe that they are part of God’s universal body and that they are serving It. They are with God. We don’t know this and think that they are ignorant of God. We know how to speak and also understand the meanings. Hence, we think we are worshiping God a lot using all the words that we know. In fact, we seek God to have our desires fulfilled. With a desire or hope that He would take away our pains. We don’t pray without seeking any desires. However, they perhaps have the knowledge of God’s help. They all fully love God and live in unison with God. Everything in Nature, a tree, a hill, or anything. They don’t ever go beyond their boundaries. This is not out of fear."

"The word bhi:sha: (out of fear) clearly indicates fear." "Yes, but that fear is a different fear. It is that fear which results due to love. Worrying of a shutdown of emotion from the other side due to the slightest moment of separation. If someone loves another very deeply, they fear being away from them even for a moment. A child out of deep love for the mother cries out loudly the moment she puts him down. It is the sensitivity to separation, unable to bear it for even a moment. Such a quality is called sukuma:ram (delicate), too soft to handle separation. Because of soukuma:ryam (delicacy), and the immense love towards God’s auspicious qualities, they feel that if they ignore their work or do something wrong, having seen that, God will experience ‘pain’. Because if they don't do their work properly resulting in some loss to others, it seems it’s not the other person who experiences pain, it is God."

We hear about Rama. In Rama’s times, it seems everyone would practice their own dharma (duty/righteous conduct) very well. Why? Because of love for Rama. If they are proper, Rama will be happy. If Rama is happy, then they have life. If Rama is not happy, then they themselves don’t have a life. If Rama must be happy, they should fulfill their responsibilities. It seems even a cow gave milk to the calf for Rama. If it didn’t give milk to its calf, it will cry. If it cries, Rama will be unhappy. If Rama must be happy, the calf should be happy and healthy. If it should be happy and healthy, the cow should give milk to the calf. It seems the cow would give milk to the calf for Rama’s happiness. Anyone loving anyone else is also for the sake of Rama’s happiness. It is the fear of not being able to tolerate any kind of ‘distance’ from Rama. This is a fear that is out of love for Him. It is not a fear of punishment for not working. All forces of Nature have this kind of love for God. Observe Nature. Nothing violates their law except human beings. They don’t seek anything. They keep doing their work because God likes it. Trees yield fruit but do not ask back for any portion. Air gives prana (life force) to us but does not ask back for anything. They never ask. It is fear about God, not about punishment.

"Arjuna! Including mruthyu (death), all of them work properly. Why? Not out of fear that I will punish them or that I am behind them with a stick. This entire existence is My divine auspicious body. Due to immense outpouring love, they cannot tolerate any deficiency in it. They all work properly because they cannot tolerate any kind of pain on My face. I also work the same way to give that direction to them. Therefore, I don’t work for anyone’s praise. It’s not because I will incur any loss. It’s not because I desire anything. I work because everyone around Me should do well."

In verse 23, He says this:

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SLOKA WORD -

yadi hyaham na varthe:yam ja:thu karmany athandrithaha

SLOKA MEANING -

If I were not to engage in action, ever vigilant...

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"If I don’t focus on what I do, others would think they are also exempt from being focused. There is a danger that they get spoiled because of that. I should work sincerely so they don’t get spoiled. That is why I also work. If I am also doing My work, why can’t you do yours?"

Swami is motivating Arjuna to take on his responsibility in the war to suppress the wrong-doers.

Jai Srimannarayana!

Vande: guru parampara:m

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