

# Chapter 8

## “Worship God”

Two senior, learned devotees, Kuberbhai of Bhavnagar and Bapubha Saheb of Adval, once came together for a spiritual discussion. While exploring the meanings of particular Vachanamruts, these two devotees became engaged in a back-and-forth question-answer session about metaphysics. Neither had it in their nature to back down from a debate. Gradually, their debate got so heated that a young devotee from Ahmedabad, Khengarjibhai Chauhan, went to inform Yogi Maharaj. Although Yogi Maharaj was busy preparing the meals, he rushed to the assembly hall as soon as he heard about the situation. Upon Yogi Maharaj’s arrival, Kuberbhai explained the question in detail and said, “Yogi Maharaj! Please answer this!”

Yogi Maharaj, who was the eternal form of knowledge and for whom the most profound

essences of the Vedas and Vedanta were second nature, humbly replied, “Shastriji Maharaj will answer this question when he comes. We should just focus on worshipping God!”

He had condensed the essence of his entire life into this one phrase. And it had the miraculous effect of concluding the heated discussion. It was as if the *stotra*, “*Nahi Nahi rakshati dukrujkarane... Bhaj Govindam, bhaj Govindam*,<sup>2</sup>” had begun to reverberate in the atmosphere. Yogi Maharaj’s presence had helped everyone realize that spirituality is contingent on pure, heartfelt devotion, not mere discussion and debate.

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<sup>2</sup> From the first verse of Adi Shankaracharya's famous *stotra*, declaring that “The rules of grammar will not save you at the time of death. Worship God, worship God, O fool, worship God”