

Path to Salvation

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Hare Krishna Devotees,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudev.

I was reading Srimad Bhagavatam verse 1.9.27 today. It is a verse in which Suta Goswami mentions about the different subject matters Sri Bhishmadev spoke to Maharaja Yudhishtira before passing away. The highlight of the verse is its purport. A particular section of that purport by Srila Prabhupada was really awesome and one cannot imagine what an essence Srila Prabhupada has given to us in the form of his books!

In that piece of purport, Srila Prabhupada talks about the hurdles in the path of salvation (like lust, anger, unlawful desires, avarice and bewilderment etc.) and the ways to overcome them. I am putting them as points for easy reference.

1. One should learn how to **forgive** to get freedom from **anger**.
2. One should **stop making plans**, to become free from **unlawful desires**.
3. By **spiritual culture** one is able to conquer **sleep**.
4. By **tolerance**, one can conquer **desires and avarice**.
5. By **regulated diets**, disturbances from various **diseases** can be avoided.
6. By **self-control** one can be free from **false hopes**.
7. By avoiding **undesirable association**, one can **save his money**.
8. By practice of **yoga**, one can control **hunger**.
9. By culturing the **knowledge** of impermanence, **worldliness** can be avoided.
10. By **rising early**, one can conquer **dizziness**.
11. By **factual ascertainment**, one can conquer **false argument**.
12. By **gravity** and **silence**, one can avoid **talkativeness**.
13. By **prowess** one can avoid **fearfulness**.
14. By **self-cultivation** one can attain **perfect knowledge**.

Now another interesting thought occurred to me - Srimad Bhagavatam is so versatile that it gives more than one solution for the same problem/misery, just to make sure that we get rid of these hurdles one way or another. In SB 7.15.22-25 Srila Narada Muni talks about several of these same disturbances but gives slightly different solutions.

Thank you very much.

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudev,

Kalacakra Krsna das.