

Sincerity - The Most Powerful Virtue

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Author: Muralidhara das

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,
Please accept my humble obeisances all glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudev!

The following verse occurs in the 1st canto 10th chapter entitled, "Departure of Lord Krishna for Dwaraka". The Lord leaves Hastinapura for Dwaraka after the war and Sri Suta Goswami narrates that incident. He exclaims, how fortunate are the Queens of Dwaraka who were formerly kidnapped by Bhaumasura and held as captive, but were gloriously freed and accepted by the Lord as His wives.

Translation: **All these women auspiciously glorified their lives despite their being without individuality and without purity. Their husband, the lotus-eyed Personality of Godhead, never left them alone at home. He always pleased their hearts by making valuable presentations.**

Purport: *The devotees of the Lord are purified souls. As soon as the devotees surrender unto the lotus feet of the Lord sincerely, the Lord accepts them, and thus the devotees at once become free from all material contaminations. Such devotees are above the three modes of material nature. There is no bodily disqualification of a devotee, just as there is no qualitative difference between the Ganges water and the filthy drain water when they are amalgamated. Women, merchants and laborers are not very intelligent, and thus it is very difficult for them to understand the science of God or to be engaged in the devotional service of the Lord. They are more materialistic. By engagement in the service of the Lord, the designative disqualifications are removed, and as pure souls they become eligible to enter into the kingdom of God. The fallen girls under the clutches of Bhaumasura sincerely prayed to Lord Sri Krsna for their deliverance, and their sincerity of purpose made them at once pure by virtue of devotion. The Lord therefore accepted them as His wives, and thus their lives became glorified. Such auspicious glorification was still more glorified when the Lord played with them as the most devoted husband.*

Personal Observation:

1. **Sincerity** is one of most powerful virtue of true devotees, (not crooked) many times we pretend that we are advance and even we may go covering up for many years being in different ashram and Lord permits such show but sooner or later like every show it also ends. There are many reasons why we should be sincere. First, Vaishnava is truthful how can he lie that he is so and so advanced? Second and more important is that we forget many times that Lord Krsna is the witness of all our activities from time immemorial and as a father knows his child, Lord also knows us better than we do, instead of lying to ourselves and to others also, better be sincere and pray to the Lord to help us so that we can overcome all impediments which are imposed upon us in different forms by material nature. Just see how nicely by sincerity Lord Krsna's wives have overcome these **designative disqualifications** of being women.

2. Prabhupada's usage of the word "**designative disqualifications**" is very interesting. There is no designation for the soul, other than being the eternal servant of the Supreme Lord Sri Krishna (*jivera svrupa hoi krsnera nitya dāsa*). All the designations that we see in this world are pertaining to the body. So whatever disqualifications pertain to the body, they will disappear once we engage in the devotional service of the Lord. In this regard I am reminded of an incident of one devotee mataji with Prabhupada. The mataji asked, "Is it true Prabhupada, that women are not intelligent?" Prabhupada replied, "Yes. As long as you think you are a woman!" That's what Prabhupada means in the purport when he says, - "**There is no bodily disqualification of a devotee.**"

3. Another point to note is Krsna always says, "*stri shudra tathā vaishya*" (women, merchant and labourers are the less intelligent class) and corroborates with another fact that, in Kali yuga there is only sudras (*kalau shudra sambhava*). Where is the question of man is better than woman or vice-versa? So the **designative disqualification** applies to

both man as well as woman.

Thank you very much.

Your fallen servant,

Muralidhara das

Yugoslavia.