

God Is Purity

The word realize means to make real. Therefore, God-realization means to make God real. Gurudev described that state when he said, “I see nothing except God.” Inwardly, outwardly or beyond, his inner sight could see nothing except Divinity. This is what purity means—seeing one thing only. There is no discrepancy; there is no disturbance to that One thing alone.

How do we attain such a vision? Jesus said, “Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.” But when we see nothing except God, then who we now think we are has disappeared. When it disappears, we know nothing because there is no one there to know it. We have nothing, because there is no one there to have it. We are no one. We have everything, but nothing. That is purity.

Therefore, the fundamental spiritual journey to become pure in heart is ultimately to rid ourselves of this unnecessary false identification as a separate human being. To do that all our fundamental ideas of right and wrong and who we are have to be dropped. Thus, Lord Kṛṣṇa said, “Abandoning all *dharmas*,” meaning all our ideas of right and wrong, “take refuge in Me alone.”

To reach a state of purity where we are no one, have nothing, know nothing, we first start with our desires. We recognize that desires keep us separate, because when we want something, we are separating the object of desire from ourselves. Therefore we have to gradually let them go, see them as poison. When our desires have somewhat abated, then through our reflection we see that most of our ideas, our prejudices, our way of looking at things are all separating too. They make us different from others. Therefore, they too have to be purified.

By this time our sense of separation—which has been propped up by our desires and our ideas of who we are—has been weakened and gradually begins to fade. When it does, we increasingly recognize what we have always been.

In some ways, whether we think God is outside or whether we recognize that we have always been That, the process of purifying our desires and purifying our knowledge is the same. It is necessary. But we can

never let go of the ego as long as we think the ego has to attain something. That is another form of desire. Therefore, the vital importance of the recognition and deep belief that we are already what we seeking.

Pūjya Swāmī Chidānandajī said, “If you want to become God, become like God.” God is absolute purity where we know nothing, have nothing and are no one—a state of pure blessedness.