

SB 10.31.3: O greatest of personalities, You have repeatedly saved us from all kinds of danger — from poisoned water, from the terrible man-eater Agha, from the great rains, from the wind demon, from the fiery thunderbolt of Indra, from the bull demon and from the son of Maya Dānava.

1. Connection between previous verses and this verse.
 1. Previous verse Gopis said “Why are you murdering us” so Krsna may say if I really wanted to kill you, why I saved you so many times.
 2. Gopis using the same argument to say – “Yes you saved us so many times and increased our faith in you as our protector – so why don’t you save us again this time and relieve us from burning in this fire of seperation, which is many times more intense than other fire.
 3. Gopis knew Krsna is going to kill Arista and Vyoma having heard Garga munis predictions.
2. Gopis exhibiting perfection of one’s life – feeling seperation from Krsna.
 1. We may misunderstand as sentiment
 - Madhavendra puri incident
 - Maha bhava only three ppl – Lord Caitanya, Srimati Radharani and Madhavendra puri
 - Ramachandra puri / Isvara puri
 - It is out of pure love – their very existence is meant to give pleasure to Krsna, they don’t see any point in living.
 2. That is actually our most cherished goal
 - We are also separated from Krsna but we don’t cry for him – we don’t have that love.
 - We may cry for cat/dog/car – as that’s where our love is reposed right now.
 - Perfection of our chanting is one day a tear will glide down in seperation from Krsna.
 - Someone asked “Gour Govinda maharaja”, what is meaning of chanting Hare Krsna. He replied, “Crying, Crying, Crying”.
 - We don’t want to tell this to new people – “Chant and be happy”.
 - But in this crying lies our eternal pleasure/treasure.
 - While chanting if we don’t feel like this – we are guilty of one or more offenses.
 - IDS asks S.P “Pure devotee is seeing Krsna everywhere then why does he feel seperation from Him – sikshashtam 12 yrs or more”. S.P replied, “One day you will understand”. ([Seperation from Krsna](#))
 3. While we are separated from Krsna can we practice reposing such sentiments to something/someone and develop such sentiments toward Krsna?
 - Fortunately yes: Lord Siva’s reply to parvati about which worship is best. ([Worshipping a devotee is better than worshipping the Lord](#))
 - Tadiya: That which is related to Krsna – Name, Dham, Devotees.
 - If we get attached and develop seperation from Holy Name, Dham and devotees, it is actually seperation from Krsna.
 - Get extra credit of following “servant of the servant” principle

- I do not know Krsna, I only know my Guru maharaja.
- Can cultivate such sentiments in our current situation where we don't have direct access to Krsna.
- Some examples of separation from S.M/devotees
 - IDS letter to S.P – “I am also feeling separation from my Guru maharaja, but I always feel he is watching over and protecting me”.
 - S.P was absorbed in His Guru maharaja's service/instructions he palpably felt his presence.
 - Giriraj maharaja – S.P leaving the city – couldn't understand why devotees were crying. He heard “At the absolute plane, appearance and disappearance of s.m is same”. He couldn't imbibe it fully. Then he felt S.P's presence in a very profound way.
 - In Separation, when absorbed in them we can feel their presence.
 - Balaram pr vyasa puja offering – I knew your measurements, I bathed u, I fed u. You were my deity. Now that you are gone, whom should I serve you now – broke down crying.
- **Personal incident:** few months into K.C, mentors moving out, I was crying. He was happy - attachment to devotees of Krsna is attachment to Krsna.
 - Remotely it is separation from Krsna.
 - That helped in changing our lives to follow them and come closer to Krsna.
- Similarly. If we develop that attachment to S.M, our only aim would be qualify ourselves for their association in this life/next.
 - If we are sincere, Krsna miraculously will arrange such association in inconceivable ways in this life.
 - Goal of our life than will be somehow perfect our lives/fulfill their instructions to join our S.M in the spiritual world.
 - [SB 7.9.28] Prahlad maharaja confirms, though He sees the Lord face to face, want to serve the S.M
 - It will not be a burden/duty – “oh I have to chant my rounds”. We want to do this – we think that is only option for us – we are talking of love now.
 - We should develop that love for at least for one person in our practice of K.C - develop deep Krsna centered relationships with each other.
 - We should introspect: When devotee whom you love to serve under/work with/listen to leaves for a month, do we feel, “Oh I miss hearing from them” or it doesn't matter?
 - Sarvabhauma pr goes somewhere – do we remember his presence how he comes first and sets up everything or doesn't matter
 - We should cultivate such feelings – that's why it is sadhana bhakti.

- If not, there is something wrong in our practice; we should consult a senior devotee for guidance.
4. Relationship with S.M/senior devotees also is not automatic there are three phases -
- Obedience / Discipline – awe and reverence.
 - Do as a duty
 - Like a child seeking attention/recognition
 - Gratitude/ Appreciation
 - Do it as we are grateful for mercy we are receiving.
 - Still we are at the center
 - Still want some recognition.
 - “I” want do this service so G.M will come to know this and recognize me.
 - Selfless Love
 - Do it because, “it pleases them”.
 - Center is not ourselves, but them.
 - Arrange everything for their pleasure
 - Doesn’t matter if u do it or someone else does it.
 - Example: If Guru maharaja is coming and u don’t know how to cook, you don’t want to cook, rather let some other devotee who is expert cook cook for Him, so he will be happy.
 - Example: TKG reading Bhakti Tirtha maharaja’s letters.
 - When we have such selfless love and completely satisfy our S.M, and when we are qualified, we are offered platform of direct service to Krsna.
 - Yasya prasado bhagavat prasadat
 - Only then we have hope to have some feelings of love for Krsna
 - [SB 7.9.28 purport] One should not attempt to please the Supreme Personality of Godhead by concoction. One must first be prepared to serve the spiritual master, and when one is qualified he is automatically offered the platform of direct service to the Lord. Therefore Prahlāda Mahārāja proposed that he engage in the service of Nārada Muni. He never proposed that he engage directly in the service of the Lord. This is the right conclusion.
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SB 7.9.28

evaṁ janaṁ nipatitaṁ prabhavāhi-kūpe
kāmbhikāmam anu yaḥ prapatan prasaṅgāt
kṛtvātmasāt surarṣiṇā bhagavan grhītaḥ
so 'haṁ kathaṁ nu visrje tava bhṛtya-sevām

My dear Lord, O Supreme Personality of Godhead, because of my association with material desires, one after another, I was gradually falling into a blind well full of snakes, following the general populace. But Your servant Nārada Muni kindly accepted me as his disciple and instructed me how to achieve this transcendental position. Therefore, my first duty is to serve him. How could I leave his service?

CC Madhya 11.31

ārādhanānām sarveṣāṁ
viṣṇor ārādhanam param
tasmāt parataram devi
tadīyānām samarcanam

“Lord Śiva told the goddess Durgā, ‘My dear Devī, although the Vedas recommend worship of demigods, the worship of Lord Viṣṇu is topmost. However, above the worship of Lord Viṣṇu is the rendering of service to Vaiṣṇavas, who are related to Lord Viṣṇu.’