

Satsang

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Place: Madison, Virginia

A piece of land measuring 61 plus acres was purchased by the Fivefold Path Inc. last month. The area borders the White Oak Lake. It is proposed to clear the forest immediately and start construction of dwellings and an office building. This will serve as headquarters for the F.P.I. There is a private pond measuring about half an acre. It is fed by perennial streams and the overflow is carried to the White Oak Lake. The place adjoins the famous Shannandoah National Park. This is perhaps the least polluted area in the U.S.

The Fivefold Path is not just one more among the several spiritual institutions that dot the continent of North America. Fivefold Path constitutes the eternal principles of religion given at the time of creation through the Vedas. Man is first interested in material well-being although he has wrong notions about it. Entering the spiritual path is not like leaving your apartment in Washington in favor of another one in California. The discipline brings about the change in your attitudes whatever be the situation you are in. Material prosperity and spiritual growth are not necessarily mutually exclusive. Long face with a collapsing jaw is not the external outfit that spirituality wears. Spiritual path is an endeavor of joy taken to its very source.

The Fivefold Path is the basic code for happy living on earth, whatever be your formal religion. An atheist or an agnostic shall equally benefit from it. It treats the psychosomatic man as a whole. It insists on the search for the Kingdom of Heaven which is within you. It does not mistake charity for love.

One may be doubtful in his mind about the "God that rules the universe," the soul or Spirit that resides within the bodily tabernacle or about reincarnation. Every one, however, experiences the cycle of an ounce of happiness followed by a pound of misery. Every one is familiar with the macabre dance of the volatile mind which flits about like an intoxicated monkey jumping from one tree to another. Every one is familiar with the misery that surrounds us in the garb of disease, pain, old age and unfulfilled desires. Fivefold Path of ancient wisdom is offered like a TV dinner, like instant food, like a package deal to mankind engulfed in the swelling tide of problems created by a technological society. The Fivefold Path offers material and mental aids to bring back the soothing rhythm of a tranquil mind. It offers healthy food to the searching intellect. Resuscitation of the eternal principles of religion for happy living is done under a Divine command. His will be done. The first step is purification of the atmosphere leading to the purification of the mind based on rhythms of nature.

The new era has already set in. The quarreling orthodoxy of religious beliefs will soon crumble like a house of cards when the invigorating breeze of science joins hands with the message of all the prophets and saints. At no time in history were things as bad as they are today. Only a Divine incarnation can reset the energy cycle of the planet. Man has a right to be happy; nay, he has a duty to be happy. Since he is made "in the image of his Father" he possesses the wherewithal to be happy. The Fivefold Path fortifies his ability to do so.

In the pristine surroundings of nature an Ashram will be built to impart training in the science of Self Realization. Fulfillment in life can come only from a level above the sensate.

"Pure consciousness is non-dual, ever self luminous," state the Upanishads.

"Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you," states the Bible.

"May I be a lamp to those who need it, a servant of all. May I have the power to avail myself in diverse ways so that all living beings may lie upon me until they are liberated." (A Bhudhist prayer.)

"Let whatever suffering the world has come to me and may the merits of the Bodhisatwa make it happy." (ibid.)

"Turn steadfastly to the path of devotion, to the way of Allah, for which He hath fitted man. There is no altering in the way of Allah. That is the right religion but most people know it not." (Curan - 29.)

"As in water face answers to face, so the heart of man to man." (saying of King Solomon.)

Self realization is the highest aim of human existence. Self knowledge alone shall redeem man from the shackles of bondage to misery. Mere affirmation of a theist does not establish the reality of Self. Mere negation of an atheist does not obliterate it. The attitude of the Vedas is that of fearless and scientific search for reality. If traditional faith is disturbed by intellectual probings of modern science it may be well deserved. The Vedas state that the only way you can defy the truth is by neglecting it through the blindness of intellect and indulgence in sensuality.

Profession of a spiritual creed and experiencing it are two different things. The spoon in the sugar bowl can never know what sweetness is like. The tongue alone knows.

The proposed Ashram at Madison will be for those who want to experiment with Truth. Truth is an unfoldment from within where purity reigns.

Kriya yoga which covers the Fivefold Path will be taught at the Ashram to earnest seekers. (Please refer to SATSANG #22 for further information on Kriya yoga or write to SATSANG for your free copy.) Kriya yoga starts with the purification of mind through the purification of atmosphere. This is achieved by processes in the science of bioenergy as explained in the Vedas, the most ancient knowledge bequeathed to mankind. By Divine will this knowledge is resuscitated. Parama Sadguru (literally highest among the Perfect

Masters) Shri Gajanan Maharaj unfolded His Divine allotted task to reset the energy cycle of the planet. The Ashram is established as a consequence of the Divine command. The new dispensation is already here. The sun has risen on a new era. The wicked will be destroyed as a result of their accumulated wrong actions. The faithful will be protected. The Kingdom of Heaven is near at hand. Let us rejoice.

Musings at Madison....Vasant

Meditating at the proposed sight for a prayer hall for seekers of Truth reminded me of the description of an ideal Yoga Ashram penned by a young Indian philosopher saint, Dnyaneshwar, in the sixteenth century:

"First, one must find a suitable place. The surroundings should awaken dispassion in you. You should be able to sit comfortably.

The place should be one which is frequented by holy persons. This generates courage and induces contentment.

The spot should be marked by pristine beauty so that one would like to practice Yoga for Liberation.

Should a heretic chance to enter the area he would feel a strong inclination to practice penance.

Should someone steeped in worldly pleasures chance to go there he would feel reluctant to leave the place.

Dispassion would be awakened in anyone who goes there. A person reluctant to stay would be compelled to stay.

A sensuous person, beholding the place, would be ready to forgo even a kingdom to be able to live there.

The place must be as clean as it is beautiful. In such a place highest Bliss is unfolded.

The place should be frequented by the seekers of Yoga (union with the Divine) and not disturbed by the footsteps of others.

It should be surrounded by fruit bearing shady trees which have fruits sweet as nectar.

There should be streams with springs nearby.

The air should be cool and wafts of gentle breeze should pass over the place. Quiet should reign there.

In such a place the Yogi should put up a seat for meditation. Tender KUSHA grass should be placed and over it a deer skin and on top of it a folded clean white cloth.

The seat should be neither too high lest the body sway nor too low to have contact with the ground."

One might wonder whether the Yogi saint was describing Madison. He ends up his treatise with the following prayer which is apt to the occasion.

"May wickedness leave the wicked. May universal Love prosper. May the darkness of evil disappear. May the day dawn when everyone performs his duty.... May the faithful saints shower blessings on the earth. The saints are the roaming gardens of wish fulfilling trees....They are the oceans of nectar.... Let such saints be friends to all."

SAPTASHLOKI
(Seven Verses)

Verse 3

Aspashtam cha kada spashtam
Tatwa jnyana wiwechanam
Anyatra labhyate kintu
Pramanam paramam shrutih

अस्पष्टं च कदा स्पष्टम्
तत्त्वज्ञानविवेचनम्
अत्रापि लभ्यते किन्तु
प्रमाणं परमं श्रुतिम्

Purport: THAT (Almighty Power) is described, sometimes clearly, sometimes not so clearly, at various places. However, Vedas is the standard reference.

COMMENTARY ON VERSE 3 by Vasant (Continued 6)

1. "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God"

(Matthew)

Soul vision is the end achievable in human existence and purity is the means. The Sermon on the Mount which forms the gist of Jesus' teachings stresses purity of body, mind and speech. Through purity alone further evolution is possible.

"No one has seen God any time."

(John)

The above statement of St. John apparently contradicts the previous one from St. Matthew. However, they are two expressions of the same Reality. How? Vedas provide the answer.

Purity of mind frees the intellect from the cobwebs of desires and we establish ourselves into the state of "not my will but Thy will be done." Our knowledge about the illusory nature of the world becomes an awareness. However, the awareness about the Reality that underlies creation is not yet there. Reality dawns only when the intellect is transmuted into higher intuition. Purity brings about this state. Then one does not see a thing, one BECOMES it. The trinity of seer, seen and sight; the trinity of knower, known and knowledge is fused into one. The physical eye does not see it. The seer as such does not exist separate from the seen. Hence, St. John stated, "No one has seen God any time." Vedas describe this state of "nectar experience" and hence Vedas is the standard reference.

Sankara, the young philosopher Yogi of the twelfth century A.D. describes it thus:

"Our perception of Creation is a continuous perception of Brahma (all

pervading Power). The universe is nothing but Brahma. The ignorant is not aware of it. See Brahma everywhere with the eye of the Spirit. The physical eye sees but the physical objects. The mind of the enlightened person sees nothing but Reality."

"Scriptures merely stimulate spiritual awareness. The wise man crosses the ocean of ignorance by direct illumination which is Grace of God."

(Sankara in Vivekachudamani)

Thus no physical eyes have ever seen God.

"Dispassion leads to illumination. Illumination stills all desires. Then you enter the bliss of soul experience."

Dispassion comes only through purity and hence "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God."

For clarification of such statements Vedas is the standard reference.

2. "Be thou perfect as my Father in Heaven is perfect."

What is the perfection set forth by Jesus as the goal of human existence?

"I have become perfect. I am everywhere. I am not an object of perception neither am I the subject who perceives. The subject object duality has disappeared. It is not possible to put into words the experience unfolded within me by the Grace of my Guru." (Sixteen year old saint philosopher Dnyaneshwar in his celebrated work "Nectar-experience")

"I have offered to the world the nectar of Divine experience. Let the world enjoy it to its heart's content."

3. We see misery all around. God created the universe. Did God create evil as well? It is stated that God is merciful. If God created evil then He may be Almighty but certainly not merciful. If God did not create evil then who did? If there is any other power which overrules God's mercy then God is not Almighty. If God acquiesces in evil then God is not merciful.

This is Yang and Yin of Chinese philosophy. This is Aharmazd and Ahriman of the Zoroastrians. This God and Satan of the Hebrews. This is God and Devil of the Christians. This is Buddha and Mara of the Buddhists.

The Yin and Ahriman become Satan of the Old Testament and Devil of the New Testament. God created the universe. God created man 'in His own image'. Man was granted free will to choose between right and wrong. If he chooses wrong things the law of Karma, the law of reap as you sow, operates and man is tossed from one miserable event to another.

To understand the superimposition of Yang and Yin in the frame of time, space, causation continuum Vedas is the standard reference.

The Old Testament God of wrath punishes us for our sins by earthquakes, floods and famines. He also tempts us through the agency of Satan. The God of the New Testament is benign, loving and merciful. Which is true? Both, if you study the Vedas.

The Vadic law of Karma is the law of automatic compensation. Reap as you sow is an inviolable doctrine. This is the God of wrath of the Old Testament. Pain and misery become bearable if we fix our attention on God. Intense good Karma (action) done with non-attachment to the fruit thereof in a spirit of 'Thy will be done' nullifies the effect of previous wrong actions. This is justice tempered with mercy. This is the God of mercy of the New Testament.

The word PAIN in English and the Latin word POENA meaning punishment both stem from the Sanskrit verb PU, meaning sacred. Our thoughts determine our circumstances, state the Vedas. Vedas is the standard reference in such matters.

4. "In the beginning was the Word. The Word was with God. The Word was God. All things were made by Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made." (John 1-1,3)

The initial vibration Aum (pronounced OM) split into particularized forms of energy. The Vedas call it SHABDA BRAHMA (literally, all pervading Word). How can this be ? Vedas provide the answer.

5. "God created all things by Jesus Christ." (Eph. 3-9)

Combine this with Jesus's words, "Before Abraham was, I am." (John)

Historical Jesus came down as an embodied being merely 2000 years ago while creation was hundreds of thousands of years ago. What then is the meaning of the Biblical expression ? Vedas were given at the time of creation as a manual of creation. Study of Vedas will provide the answer.

6. "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us that we should be called the sons of God." (John 3-1)

"The works that I do you shall do also, and greater works than these shall ye do." (John 14-12)

Is it feasible for man to achieve the ability to do even greater works than Jesus ? Vedas provide the answer.

7. "And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father) full of grace and truth.

(John 1-14)

The concept of, "word made flesh" also appears in Bagwat Geeta.

"I am the birthless unchangeable Supreme.

I am born through my MAYA

When righteousness declines and wrong flourishes

I give myself birth

To restore the balance.....

...Every age witnesses My birth

To protect the devoted and destroy the wicked

I come to reestablish the Eternal Law."

(Bagwat Geeta 4-6,8)

Vedas shed light on the divinity of birth and the resetting of energy cycles that keeps creation in harmony.

8. "And being turned I saw seven golden candlesticks. And in the midst of them one like unto the Son of Man."

"And He had in his right hand seven stars."

"The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches."

(Revelation 1-12,13,16,20)

"And I saw in the right hand of Him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside sealed with seven seals."

(Revelation 5-1)

Vedas describe creation into seven spheres known as SAPTA LOKAS. Seeds of human desires do not go beyond the last three known as BHOOH, BHUWAH, and SWAH. Since man was made in His image there are seven centers of energy in his material body, sometimes described as Chakras. These are the seven churches described in the Bible. The lights perceived therein are the seven angels.

9. Is there reincarnation ? What reincarnates ?

Buddha stated that the law of Karma, i.e. the law of "reap as you sow" operates and leads to the chain of birth, death and rebirth, the chain of suffering. This law operates only so long as we attach ourselves to the ego. Bhagwat Geeta tells us that we obviate the law of Karma and reincarnation if we become non-attached to the fruit of action and do our duty in the spirit of service to the Lord. Early Christians accepted reincarnation expounded by numerous church Fathers viz. Origen of third century A.D., Saint Jerome of fifth century A.D. The Gnostics swore by the law of reincarnation.

"To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne even as I also overcame and am set down with My father in His throne."

(Revelation 3-21)

Such a one is freed from the outgoing and incoming wheel of reincarnation.

"Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed."

(Genesis 9-6)

The theater of reaction involves many lives. This is reincarnation. Along with diagnosis the remedy is also shown by all Messengers of God. The remedy is Eternal Principles of Religion (Satya Dharma) which compromises the Fivefold Path.

"All trees and grass these shall also become Lord Buddha."

(A Japanese proverb)

Everything in creation pulsates with the Word and higher stage means higher unfoldment.

10. "I am the way, the truth and the life. No man cometh unto the Father but by Me."

(Jesus)

"The Blessed One (Buddha) has become the truth. Whosoever comprehends the truth sees Buddha."

(From Buddhist scriptures)

"I am the goal, I am the way. I am the witness, the Lord, the beginning, the refuge. Only the ignorant fail to recognize My majesty because of My human embodiment. Fill your heart and mind with Me: you will then come into My Being."

(Shri Krishna)

The I and Me of the Avatars (special Divine incarnations) do not refer to any historical figure but to the, "Alpha and Omega", to the eternal Spirit that pervades creation. Study of Vedas provide the answer.

The knowledge given through Vedas sheds light on the mystery of the presence of Christ as expounded by the Mediterranean world or the Puranic concepts of God prevailing amongst the Hindus. An intelligent scrutiny of these expositions and concepts in the pitiless light of Vedas (literally meaning Knowledge) will benefit all and help establish the Kingdom of Heaven.

(to be continued)

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Practice AGNIHOTRA for purification of the atmosphere.

Practice DAAN (sharing your assets in a spirit of humility) for generating non-attachment.

Practice TAPA (self-discipline, austerities, purification) for fruition of thy affirmations. Purified thought patterns gain potency.

Practice KARMA (meritorious deeds) for self-purification.

Practice SWADHYAYA (self study) for liberation.

The FIVEFOLD PATH, which covers Kriya Yoga, is taught free to anyone who cares to seek in earnest. For further details, please write to :

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