

God alone is your own – for the rest, nobody is your own, but He will never leave you

Oct 2, 1994 Kirtan at Corfton Rd (Madonna)

Devotees' kirtan.

The kirtan was notable for a bizarre dance performed by Ambikananda as the music developed, causing some devotees to laugh nervously. In his discourse, he said:

“...When we have got it we can talk, but we have to get it. You are devotees, you are householders, you are workers, facets of what I am talking. Truth is truth, but it has to be private. Here it's a family, it's 25 years a baby.¹ So recharging is like a vow, you come and take the gong and bring the pill to go mystically in your thought. Every time you come here you hear reality, you climb up the dome, and then this is your last step. I speak mystically impressed, truth is truth, this way or that way, naked or bare. But a bare flame burns sometimes. Therefore you have to be flame yourself.

‘This is the last step, you are climbing the dome, the dome of Om, and this is mystically built, and evil has no power to crack. Therefore purity, cleanliness, love, seriousness - and laughs! You are our serio-comico audience in the theatre of this life because you have made up your mind that it is not so! Any disagreement? In the short run you have got it, but when it quakes you to the ground - what next! So nothing is permanent. Truth! Truth! Truth! Truth is cleanliness; however dirty you can be, if you are truthful you are clean.

‘There are many ways to come to God, but this is the family way, and the detachment way. This is a real way, “far but close, close but far”. You are the comico, but we also are the comico of God, because we are innocently guileless – to God, not to you. You happen to be spectators. You are watching us. It's a great performance. Everyone is an actor but sometimes we are playing the wrong part, that's when life has enough of us. Karma is waiting in the ditch, karma takes over.’

Then he turned to Tryambaka, Mahayogini, Hari Om, Gayatri and the others who had provided music:

‘Musicians –how much I love you! And if Hari Om is here, who needs the rest! Where will you find such a one? Sing, please me, sing! Gayatri, sing, whoever can sing for me non-stop.

‘A lot of people have had enough of life, but life has not yet had enough of them! You can't escape the law. But he who makes the law can break the law, or change it. You are growing old, you are no more a child. And now you have had enough, now it is time to go back to the kingdom of that which is desperately, longingly, immemorally waiting for you. Go back to church, to chalice, to sacrament. Go back to reality, withdraw, enough of life. You may seek a true friend, but even the friend can withdraw. God alone is your own – for the rest, nobody is your own, but He will never leave you, He has become all this to show you, “Yes, I am the only true husband, the true wife, true friend, true angel, true primo facto.” Life will not stop because you want to stop.

‘I am conscious that I am getting old, and so are all of you, some already gone, some going, some yet to come. But leave something for somebody else. Life has changed so much, but God has not changed, God is still coming, dancing in delight. It's His play, but it's no joke for you. You are tossed up and down. But that doesn't mean you should abandon everything. Keep going. Life is a challenge - face it. Can you just sit crosslegged and call on God?

‘Work purifies. Work for work's sake, say. “This is my lot, this is my dharma, I am a householder.” OK, fine, but not completely. You can't say you are blissfully fine, life is still bitter. So stay as you started, as a worshipper, a lover, though married. It doesn't affect me, I have forgotten I even have a child, but it doesn't depend on me, only when they write papa and all this. I am a child, how can I be a papa? Father and all this doesn't apply to Ramakrishna. He was the child of the Mother; he lived, breathed, died in the Mother. Act voluntarily, and trust on me for a change.

¹ Ambikananda had founded the Universal Independent Ashram 25 years earlier, in 1969

‘Who is this me? “Voluntarily” means natural birth of voluntary prayer. When you voluntarily pray, you pray ten times by ten. Voluntarily you have come here today, and you are very happy, you can come and go as you want. And “trust on me” - who is this me? Me is you, so for a change tell God, “Trust me.” Usually God reminds the devotee, there is a lot of “don’t”. So when you are so good, so volunteering, you can say to God, “Trust on me, don’t warn me.” You give your confidence to God, bury the past.

‘The Light of the world – have you ever thought of it? When you go home say, “I have heard it over and over, but have never thought what it means.” *I am the Light of the world.*” All work stops! There is a shock without electricity which shakes heaven. The light of the world is taken, and somebody in earthplane realizes something very strong. Someone has hit, has thought of something, no one has paid such attention. He is God, but have you realized God? If you realized God you would be passing double and single, like Arjuna shivering and all. Arjuna thought he was just playing and dancing with Krishna. But when he saw the *grandeur* - he hadn’t realized who he was with. You come voluntarily and I am giving you - go and ponder, you will shake heaven and you will be visited by the light. But you might be tempted as well, to see if you are ready. He is always with you, known and unknown. You have to have voluntary prayer, over and over, like a mantra. Voluntarily you are doing a lot, but how many times have you voluntarily prayed the “for sake of love” prayer?² And prayer for “those who do not pray”?³ Voluntary prayer, that’s what you lack, and need to offer. To sacrifice voluntarily to do all these, it’s a joy, a benefit, a profit. A love that does not fiddle about, is straightforward and leads somewhere, this human love leading to a divine love, a spiritual love. We are telling you all this friendlily, musically, eatingly – it is difficult to find another little gathering like this.

‘I bless you all. You are today blotted out of your past life. Those who believe in Me are close to Me. God is your medicine, your hope, God is your forbidden apple that you can eat all the time unsatiatedly. The rest may be forbidden, but I don’t forbid you to love Me. I am *amrita*, the fruit of your meditation. Do you dedicate the fruit of your meditation to God?

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² Sri Ramakrishna’s prayer.

³ Tryambaka’s song using words of Virgin of Fatima