

## **Krishna's Qualities II and III: Various Traits of Krishna and His Personality**

Therefore, Arjuna, you should always think of Me in the form of Krsna and at the same time carry out your prescribed duty of fighting. With your activities dedicated to Me and your mind and intelligence fixed on Me, you will attain Me without doubt. (Bg 8.7)

One should meditate upon the Supreme Person as the one who knows everything, as He who is the oldest, who is the controller, who is smaller than the smallest, who is the maintainer of everything, who is beyond all material conception, who is inconceivable, and who is always a person. He is luminous like the sun, and He is transcendental, beyond this material nature. PURPORT: The process of thinking of the Supreme is mentioned in this verse. The foremost point is that He is not impersonal or void. One cannot meditate on something impersonal or void. That is very difficult. The process of thinking of Krsna, however, is very easy and is factually stated herein. First of all, the Lord is purusa, a person -- we think of the person Rama and the person Krsna. (Bg 8.9)

Engage your mind always in thinking of Me, become My devotee, offer obeisances to Me and worship Me. Being completely absorbed in Me, surely you will come to Me. (Bg 9.34)

### Grateful

Any person who is conscious of his friend's beneficent activities and never forgets his service is called grateful. In the Mahabharata, Krsna says, "When I was away from Draupadi, she cried with the words, 'He govinda!' This call for Me has put Me in her debt, and that indebtedness is gradually increasing in My heart!" This statement by Krsna gives evidence of how one can please the Supreme Lord simply by addressing Him, "He krsna! He govinda!"

The maha-mantra (Hare Krsna, Hare Krsna, Krsna Krsna, Hare Hare/ Hare Rama, Hare Rama, Rama Rama, Hare Hare) is also simply an address to the Lord and His energy. So to anyone who is constantly engaged in addressing the Lord and His energy, we can imagine how much the Supreme Lord is obliged. It is impossible for the Lord to ever forget such a devotee. It is clearly stated in this verse that anyone who addresses the Lord immediately attracts the attention of the Lord, who always remains obliged to him.

Another instance of Krsna's feeling of obligation is stated in connection with His dealings with Jambavan. When the Lord was present as Lord Ramacandra, Jambavan, the great king of the monkeys, rendered very faithful service to Him. When the Lord again appeared as Lord Krsna, He married Jambavan's daughter and paid him all the respect that is usually given to superiors. Any honest person is obliged to his friend if some service has been rendered unto Him. Since Krsna is the supreme honest personality, how can He forget an obligation to His servitor? (NOD chapter 21)

### Dependable

Any person who is reliable in all circumstances is called dependable. In this connection Rupa Gosvami says that even the demons were relying upon the dependability of Krsna, because they were confident that Krsna would never attack them without due cause. Therefore, with faith and confidence, they used to live with their doors wide open. And the demigods, although afraid of the demons, were confident of the protection of Krsna. Therefore, even in the midst of danger they were engaged in sportive activities. Persons who had never undergone the reformatory ritualistic ceremonies of the Vedas were confident that Krsna would accept only faith and devotion, and so they were engaged in Krsna consciousness and were freed from all anxieties.

In other words, all kinds of men, from the demigods down to the uncultured, can rely on the causeless mercy of the Supreme Lord. (NOD chapter 24)

### Compassionate

A person who is unable to bear another's distress is called compassionate.

Krsna's compassion for distressed persons was exhibited when He released all of the kings imprisoned by Magadhendra. While dying, Grandfather Bhishma prayed to Krsna and described Him as the sun which eradicated darkness. The kings imprisoned by Magadhendra were put into dark cells, and when Krsna appeared there, the darkness immediately disappeared, just as if the sun had risen. In other words, although Magadhendra was able to imprison so many kings, upon the appearance of Krsna they were all released. Krsna released the kings out of His sincere compassion for them.

Krsna's compassion was also exhibited when Grandfather Bhishma was lying on the bed of arrows which had been shot through his body. While lying in this position, Bhishma was very anxious to see Krsna, and thus Krsna appeared there. Upon seeing the pitiable condition of Bhishma, Krsna began speaking with tears in His eyes. Not only was He shedding tears, but He also forgot Himself in His compassion. Therefore, instead of offering obeisances to Krsna directly, devotees offer obeisances to His compassionate nature. Actually, because Krsna is the Supreme Personality of Godhead, it is very difficult to approach Him. But the devotees, taking advantage. (NOD chapter 22)

Other traits discussed: *meticulous dresser* and *all-honorable*

### Traits which are only manifest in Krishna, not even in Narayana:

1. Performs wonderful pastimes
2. Surrounded by devotees endowed with wonderful love of Godhead
3. Attracts all living entities all over universes by playing on His flute
4. A wonderful excellence of beauty

### Difference between Krishna's personality and mundane personality types

#### Dhira-datta

A person who is naturally very grave, gentle, forgiving, merciful, determined, humble, highly qualified, chivalrous and physically attractive

Other example: Lord Ramacandra

#### Dhira-lalita

A person is called dhira-lalita if he is naturally very funny, always in full youthfulness, expert in joking and free from all anxieties. Such a dhira-lalita personality is generally found to be domesticated and very submissive to his lover.

Other example: Cupid

#### Dhira-prasanta

A person who is very peaceful, forbearing, considerate and obliging

Other example: Maharaja Yudhisthira

#### Dhira-oddhata

A person who is very envious, proud, easily angered, restless and complacent. (Krsna's dhira-oddhata qualities have been accepted as great because Krsna uses them only to protect His

devotees. In other words, even undesirable traits may also be used in the exchange of devotional service.)

Other example: Bhima