

Sri Isopanisd #2: mantras 4-8

The Lord is Known Only by Maha Bhagavatas

Summary of 4-8:

The Supreme Lord is the greatest person and possesses unique characteristics. Within Him all contradictions are resolved. The pure devotees see everything and everyone in relation to Him and are therefore completely free from anxiety on the transcendental platform. By rendering devotional service in this consciousness they realize Him directly.

Overview of mantras 4-8:

Mantra 4: the inconceivable Lord is known only through **revelation**

Mantra 5: Krishna's **inconceivable** potencies

Mantra 6: **Vision** of maha-bhagavata

Mantra 7: **consciousness** of maha-bhagavata

Mantra 8: **Krishna's qualities** known to maha-bhagavatas

To love Krishna one must know Him, but how can tiny, limited beings know God?

Mantra four

Concept of energies

- Acintya bedabeda tattva
- Lord has 3 main types of energies: a) Internal b) Marginal c) External
- parasya saktir vividhaive sruyate.

Four characteristics of the Supreme Personality of Godhead

- He is fixed in one place, but He is the swiftest
- Can't be approached even by the demigods
- Localized, but controls all parts of the creation. The most excellent (Bhagavan)

How to approach Him?

From Çréla Prabhupāda's lectures on Sri Isopanisd: "This is also confirmed in Brahma-saṁhitā: goloka eva nivasaty akhilātma-bhūtaḥ. Kāñḍea, although He is always in Goloka Vāṇḍavana, He has nothing to do. He is simply enjoying in the company of His associates, the gopés and the cowherds boy, His mother, His father. Free, completely free. And those who are associates, they are still more free. Because when the associates are in danger, Kāñḍea has got some anxiety how to save them, but the associates, they have no anxiety. "Oh, there is Kāñḍea." Just see. (chuckles) The associates, they have no anxiety. Any, anything happening, you will read in the Kāñḍea book—so many dangers. The boys,

along with Kāñḥā, they used to go every day with their calves and cows and play in the forest on the bank of the Yamunā, and Kaṁṣa will send some demon to destroy them. So you have seen, you will see also pictures. So they'll enjoy simply because they are so much confident. That is spiritual life. Avaṣya rakṇibe kāñḥā viṣvāsa pālana. This strong faith, that "Any dangerous condition, Kāñḥā will save me," this is surrender.

There are six phases of surrender. The first thing is that we should accept which is favorable for devotional service; we shall reject anything which is unfavorable to devotional service. And the next is that to introduce oneself with the associates of the Lord. Just like Kāñḥā has got so many associates, you can... That will, of course... Not artificially. When you are advanced you'll understand what is your relationship with Kāñḥā. Then if you introduce yourself with that association, then the next stage is confidence that "Kāñḥā will give me protection." Actually, He is giving protection to everyone. That is a fact. But in māyā we think that we are protecting ourselves, we are feeding ourselves. No. That's not the fact."

Mantra five

Summary: Mantra 5 continues this discussion describing that the Lord has inconceivable potencies which render Him unknowable to those whom He does not favor.

Three characteristics of the Supreme Lord:

- a) Walks, but doesn't walk
- b) Far away, but very close also
- c) Inside everything, but also outside

Deity worship

Mantra six

Summary: Mantra 6 describes the vision of one who can see Kṛṣṇa everywhere, the *maha-bhagavata*.

Three **conditions** for achieving a non-envious consciousness:

- a) See everything in relation to Supreme Lord
- b) See all entities as His parts and parcels
- c) See Him within everything

Three **levels** of devotees.

kanistha adhikari:

Madhyama adhikaris

Uttama adhikari

Imitation versus practice

Mantra seven

Summary: Mantra 7 continues describing the consciousness of the *maha-bhagavata*, which was introduced Mantra 6.

Spiritual oneness

Difference

Real enjoyment comes from having the correct center

Mantra eight

Summary: Mantra 8 describes some qualities of the Lord as he is known by the *maha-bhagavata* described in mantras 6 and 7.

The Lord's characteristics mentioned here are:

- a) Not material body
- b) Omniscient
- c) Cannot be subjected to criticism
- d) No veins
- e) Pure, uncontaminated
- f) Self sufficient knower, who fulfills everyone's desires

Lord's body and Deity

The Supplier of Everyone's Desires

Self-sufficient and pure

Summary of 4-8: We will know the Lord through His revelation and by developing the qualities of an *uttama bhakta*.