

A FEW PARAS AND QUOTES ON PRAYER

FROM PB:

Prayer comes to its finest bloom, its loveliest florescence when it can utter four short words: "Thy will be done." Their meaning is not a fatalistic acceptance of karma, not a reference to some power remote from the one who says them. Only towards the close of this course will their wonderful significance become apparent. But meanwhile we may anticipate it by re-reading them in the following way: "Thy will be done *by me*"—not "*to me*." Nor is it enough merely to say them. They must become vivified by inward experience. . . . *PB: The Wisdom of the Overself:*

One who sits with humbled, bowed head and folded, clasped, or knees-rested hands, with mind and heart in awed reverence, in sincere, worshipful, and rapt absorption which is aware of nothing else than the divine presence-- is praying, is meditating, is worshipping, is in heaven already. 18.0

Why ought I to cultivate religious faith, feeling worship? Because it lifts up the feeling nature generally. Because it develops humility. Because it invites Grace. Because it is the duty of a human being in relation to its Source. 18.1.4

By thought, the ego was made; by thought, the ego's power can be unmade. But the thought must be directed toward a higher entity, for the ego's willingness to attack itself is only a pretense. Direct it constantly to the Overself, be mentally devoted to the Overself, and emotionally love the Overself. Can it then refuse to help you? 18.1.77

Jalaluddin Rumi, the Sufi: "When people imagine they are adoring Allah it is Allah who is adoring Allah." 18.1.128

Until it is brought to your attention, you may not know that the idol at whose feet you are continually worshipping is the ego. If you could give to God the same amount of remembrance that you give to the ego, you could quite soon attain, and become established in, that enlightenment to which others devote lifetimes of arduous effort. 8.4.153

What is in your heart? Ramakrishna's was full of the Divine Mother, as he called God. Before long he found her. Saint Francis of Assisi gave humility highest place in his own. He became the humblest man of his time. Fix an ideal in your heart. That is the first step to finding it. 8.4.180

Thus Mind is to be worshipped silently, thought of negatively, and realized in the Void. All other worship yields either an imagination in consciousness or a sensation in the body, that is it yields a symbol of the Real but does not touch the Real itself. *PB: The Wisdom of the Overself:* ch. 14

Shiva Yoga Dipika: "Listen, I shall mention to you the method of worshipping Shiva who is made of Intelligence. It is a secret--the essence of the Sastras and the bestower of instantaneous freedom. . . . Thoughtlessness is the contemplation of Shiva; Inactivity is his worship; Motionlessness is going round him in veneration; the realization of the state 'I Am He' is prostration before him; Silence is singing his glory; knowledge of what ought to be done and what not, is good character; looking on all alike is the supreme pleasure." 24.4.80

The Prayer of the Heliotrope: by Proclus the Neoplatonist

“Each thing prays according to the rank it occupies in nature, and sings the praise of the leader of the divine series to which it belongs, a spiritual or rational or physical or sensuous praise; for the heliotrope moves to the extent that it is free to move, and in its rotation, if we could hear the sound of the air buffeted by its movement, we should be aware that it is a hymn to its king, such as it is within the power of the plant to sing.”

Taimni comments on Gayatri

The purpose of the first part of the mantra is to arouse in the vehicles of the sadhaka (aspirant) certain powers which *prepare* for the effective functioning of the second and third parts.

The second part is to stimulate the mind of the sadhaka an intense *aspiration* or determination to come into contact with the consciousness of Savita the presiding deity of our solar system.

The third part is meant to bring about an attitude of *self-surrender* which is essential for the descent of Divine grace or kripa.

The physical Sun which we see ... is merely an outer cover of a glorious reality which pervades and energizes the whole solar system. ...this Reality is in essence and fundamentally the same as the Reality which is hidden in the heart of every human. The Spiritual Light which is hidden within the Sun is the most excellent light. It is shining through the hearts of all living creatures in the form of consciousness. The Spiritual Light which is shining within the physical Sun also shines within the heart of every jiva. The light which is shining in the heart of all jivas in the form of consciousness is also shining through the universe in the form of the Heavenly Man and making it a living organism. [Yajnavalka Samhita]

MADAME GUYON: everything is a gift of Christ P.16

when you sit in front of the divine, why do you meditate? If you want sweetness and presence and getting something, that is not the highest meaning. Just sit in front of the divine to give love. Take whatever comes to you as a gift of the divine. Take everything in your life as a gift of the divine. Be grateful. If dryness comes, then take that. If pain comes, take that. Because the sun is shining everything. By seeing separation, pain, joy, hunger, then we are not seeing underneath all this is non-separateness. Everything is already reality. Any notion of yourself as other than the one reality is an illusion. So what is the status of correcting an illusory belief? Even less real.

PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

PRAYER to CHENRESIG, based on Prayer of St. FRANCIS: [from Marie]

O AVALOKITESHVARA, NOBLE CHENRESIG, Great Compassionate Lord,
Hear my ardent prayer, please see me in my unworthiness.
I can barely take care of myself, how can I relieve the suffering of the world?
Perhaps with your aid, I may begin simply, with all those I meet.
Make me, then, an instrument of your compassion, a channel of your peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love. Let my love impartial, reaching out to everyone,
Even to those who do me harm or threaten the stability of my world.
Where there is injury, let me sow patience, help me let go of ill-will against any “enemy” who is
Someone who wants to be happy and avoid pain just as I do.
Where there is darkness, let me bring Light. I cannot destroy the evil in the world.
But with your help, may I lighten the darkness of any suffering I see,
Where there is sadness, may I bring joy!
Oh, Embodiment of the Compassion of all the Buddhas,
Whose 1,000 arms dredge the depths of samsara, tirelessly bringing solace to all,
May I realize that you are inseparable from me, changeless and innate.
Therefore, from the seat of this Great Compassion,
May I not so much seek to be comforted, as to comfort,
To be understood, as to understand.
To be loved, as to Love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
It is through effort that we gain merit,
It is through meditation that we recognize Your Wisdom, and it is in dying to self
That we awaken to our immortality.
I dedicate any virtue I may gain to the relief of the suffering of the world.
May I remain in the deep sleep of samsara, until all sentient beings have
Awakened before me.
OM MANI PADME HUNG

PB: A Prayer For The World: 13.4.306

In this time of confusion and anxiety, of strife and trouble, it is our holy duty to remember our dependence on Thee, O real Governor of the world!

We realize that the darkness in the world today has come because so many have forgotten their dependence on Thee.

Those whose positions of power or influence have placed them in the nations' councils need, in their grave responsibility, the help of Thy communion and the benefit of Thy guidance as never before, that they may not stray into error or weakness.

Therefore, we shall daily pray for them and for ourselves, in minutes of private worship or silent meditation, that all may regain the feeling of Thy presence. We shall constantly confess our shortcomings and faults, but we promise to strive to better and ennoble our lives. We shall endeavour to cast out all evil thinking and materialistic belief.

Our need of Thy mercy and grace is vast. Show us the way to win them, O Infinite Father of all beings, Whose love is our last resource.

ANTHONY'S PRAYER (S):

Om Mani Padme Hum

To my dear Lord - truth of my being - the God within my innermost consciousness - reveal thy Grace, deliver "me" from ignorance, guide me to thy lotus feet . . . teach my surrender.

Oh thou unknown God -

have mercy, have mercy. [p.1]

Infinite Mind of the World, radiant Sun behind the sun, we thank you for the grace of your presence in the form of our most beloved and revered teacher, for your presence in the luminous rain of profound and pristine teachings, and for your presence through the support and kindness of the community of spiritual friends.

Infinite Mind of the World, resplendent sun shining in the pure sky of peace, we thank you for the grace of your presence in the form of very special beings through whom your profound wisdom and compassion ever flow to guide our innate ray of life back to your self abiding source. [p. 2]

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