



Divine Will and Human Wish

Convergence Opens up Possibilities

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Life's possibilities get opened up when man merges his will with that of the God. Life earns the power of convergence of will, when man lives life in accordance with God's desire.

In *Anusruti* (Bengali), volume II, Chapter *Dharma*, stanza serial 140 (page 37 in 3rd edition), Sri Sri Thakur Anukul Chandra says a lyric that in English means, "It is a mistaken mind that blames God. Real question is: why don't we lend our willpower to Him and move ahead?" (See footnote)

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This saying of Sri Sri Thakur is a wonderful reflection on man's willpower and dependence on God.

Human Being's Ability to Do Things

A fundamental premise is that God has granted human being ability to carry himself / herself. Man can think, plan his activities and drive himself as he likes. The ability to do things independently is a valuable gift of the creator to human being. There, of course, exist limitations or conditionality, underlying man's ability to do things; but those limits are man's own making or could be due to circumstances. The takeaway from this premise is that God does not interfere in man's autonomy.

Secondly, human being has been endowed with power to be the master of his own life. He has the ability to discriminate and manage his affairs, independently. However, he has repository of his past deeds and he is circumscribed by the outcome of those deeds.

Man lives in social and environmental settings; which also condition his ability to think and work. At the same time, man can tap resources, both from society and from environment, and equip himself to deal with factors of life. Here again his own willpower prevails.

Many a time, man fails to do what he wants to do. He falls and rises again. He may suffer from myopia and might hit some roadblocks. These are the process of life's journey. All these shortcomings and shortfall notwithstanding, it is to be recognized that man has the power to do. How much is in one's power to achieve and how much remains beyond the zone of possibility is, of course, an issue for each individual. This issue, puzzling and promising as it appears, has also to be handled by the person.

God Factor in the Life of Human Being

God is certainly a factor in man's life. On the one hand, as nature and as creator, God has set laws of nature, which come as rules of game. It is believed that God makes no mistake. He allows laws of nature to play their course and he also allows man to deal with life as man likes.

It is also believed that God is all powerful and merciful to people, particularly to those with constraints and handicaps, deprived and depressed. Man always looks up to God for sharing his power, mercy and capacity.

The charm of life lies in this framework; where these three forces play: a) man's own power to think and do, b) Surroundings and environment, and c) laws of nature. These three factors, together with God's benevolence, constitute the ecosystem for every human being.

Man's Ability is Conditioned

Man has his past actions and accumulated residues. Secondly, man lives to the tune of dictates of complexes. Man also is blessed with a filter that is called conscience. Man has to deal with all these internal forces. It is important to realize that all these fall within the jurisdiction of his own desire and dictates. Man has the power of discretion and determination to play with these forces, as he likes.

Man can overcome any condition, if his will power is driven by irresistible urge. It is here perhaps, he needs external (or super natural) power to supplement his own and, if required, circumvent his limitations. In other words, man needs guidance.

With all aspirations and perspirations, at times, man hits on zone of frustration. There comes time, when roadblocks overpowers man's movement. Primarily, man gets blinded by three I's: ignorance, inhibition and infatuation.

Courage makes man moving ahead. Courage alone, however, does not provide solution. The seed of solution remains hidden in man. The seed needs conducive environmental factors like light and air to sprout and sparkle. Man also needs a gardener who cultivates. Man therefore summarily needs divine will and a Guru, as supplement. Guru is the material form of divine.

Incarnate is the Living Image of God

There is one more live factor for man. That is God as Guru. That factor presents itself as incarnate. As a disciple of incarnate of the age, God becomes his Guru. Guru is benevolent. He is merciful. He comes to help, support and guide man. Man has the freedom to accept the Guru, surrender before the Guru and get the benefit of God's overwhelming power that can be tapped by man.

God and Man – A Powerful Combination

The central message of Sri Sri Thakur's in the above saying is that, man has to exercise his power to draw on God's grace and lead a beautiful life. Man has the option to draw on God's power. Guru like Sri Sri Thakur Anukul Chandra presents the living image of God. With Guru's grace, man can deal with all other factors in life in orderly way.

However, lazy dependence on God's grace may lead to frustration. But active following of Guru's dicta, built on hope and faith, can outstretch man's boundary and can free up the zone of possibilities. Combination of man's drive and Guru's guidance does wonders, towards unlocking the spring of peace and prosperity.

In The Message, Vol V, Sri Sri Thakur says, "Do abide by nature with every nurture that exalts your life and growth - she too will nurture you with affection and caress; know thou Providence as master of nature and seek Him in her bosom."

Mankind, from time immemorial, passing through ups and downs in history, with all inventions and innovations, is looking for God. God has remained a mystery. God remained beyond the reach of speech and mind. Only way, God comes within reach is the time when he comes as incarnate. Mankind has to recognize and take a bow at the present incarnate, Sri Sri Thakur Anukul Chandra.

Blaming God

Blaming God for any consequence in reality tantamount to throwing a stone at the sky. It does not lead to any outcome. Moreover, that act can be as insidious as self-pity; as mischievous as mudslinging; as rapturous as inflicting oneself in rage of futile revenge. In all such situations, one may cause injury to oneself, though such acts might provide outlet to empty out oneself.

Pertinent question here is: does one gain anything by targeting God? Here, Sri Sri Thakur is saying, try to understand God's desire. It is of course never an easy task to understand God's mind or God's way.

Can one drive one's attempt in understanding God's desire and His way? Answer perhaps lies in understanding Sri Sri Thakur.

Summary

Make His will as your will. Live as He wanted. Accept His benedictions. Live with promise.

The way to live as per His will lies in the ideological framework drawn by Sri Sri Thakur. Matching our will with that of His means to live as He wants. Further, following His will, willingly and sportively, calls for higher faith and determination, which itself are outcome of pursuing His will (ideological contour). It is hard, but it is doable.

Footnote:

This topic was discussed in the weekly web-satsang that happens in www.srisrithakuranukulchandra.com every Sunday morning during 7-8 am, IST. Can be referred to session 428 held on 27 September 2020.