

“Of Thee alone must be the spoken word,
All else is but futility and pain.”

MATRI VANI

(*Replies to letters from different people at different times.*)

On Various Subjects.

19.

Verily, abounding sorrow is the essential characteristic of life in this world. Fix your mind upon God.

20.

Ishwara, the Lord of the world is not a thing to be perceived by the senses or grasped by the mind. By contemplating the Divine peace is won. God Himself draws you towards Him.

21.

Never let your mind be idle ; endeavour to keep it concentrated on the Eternal.

22.

In all matters without fail depend wholly upon God. To Him you should submit your heart's petitions and yearnings. Your whole life will have to revolve round Him, you have no other resource ; on your own you are utterly helpless, for are you not His creature ? Whatever He does is all for the highest good. You certainly are not in a position to choose what seems best to you. Why should He permit you, who are the offspring of the Immortal, to stray towards that which is of death ?

You may deem yourself fortunate, for as you yourself say, God has rescued you from the jaws of death and preserved you to this day. Place your reliance on Him alone. The sufferings and obstacles bred of desire which you encounter, even these should be welcomed as in fact the doing of His merciful hands. To become agitated is of no avail. If you must be impatient, be impatient for God; cry, "To this day I have not received any response from Thee and invaluable time has been spent in vain." Do not let your mind and body be tormented with restlessness induced by worldly longings.

23.

On hearing the news of someone's death, Mataji had the following conveyed to the bereaved: "Such is the law of worldly existence. You must dwell in fortitude. Surely, you have realised by now what is the true nature of the world? Peace can be found only by directing one's mind towards God. The more time you devote to *dapa* and meditation — whether so disposed or not — the greater the likelihood of your obtaining deliverance from your grief."

24.

To perform one's duties is a good thing. At the same time one has to be mindful of man's real Duty.

25.

Since everything belongs to Him alone, there is no other means but to lie prostrate at His feet. If there is to be anxiety, it must be solely for Him.

26.

Under all circumstances depend on God. "Of Him is all that need be said, the rest is vanity, woe." Wherever you may find yourself and in whatever condition appeal to Him. In this way only may you expect peace.

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