

## 9. God

Speaker: Prashant Kakoday – December 2013 – Cambridge, UK

The first thing for us to know is that the word 'God' itself is not central. There are so many ideas about what God is. However one common aspect is that God is something higher. Within the Raja Yoga philosophy God is the One who is in the highest consciousness, who knows things in total clarity. That is, complete wisdom, full love, full bliss and full contentment; free from anything inauspicious, in a broad and absolute way.

In addition, the difference between Raja Yoga and other ways of connecting with God is that here we are not praying to God or expecting God to change this life or make anything better or perform a miracle. There is zero expectation, zero praying and zero begging. The effort for us is to know that consciousness, that high consciousness and to experience that high consciousness. That is what we call Yoga ... Raja Yoga. So one nice description of Raja Yoga is when we see what God sees, know what God knows, think the way God thinks and feel the way God feels. What else can anyone ask for? This is Raja Yoga.

Now, the big questions arise. What does He know? How does He remain in that richness? How is it possible to experience this? Whether God or ordinary mortal, how is it possible to be forever free from sorrows and complaints or, indeed, anything inauspicious? How is it possible to be able to love everyone forever, regardless of their actions? To be an ocean of love? And what is that love? So these questions are very, very important if we want to know about that highest consciousness.

The practical answer to this is simple. What is it? He understands the whole of the physical world as a story. Since it is a story there are no passions about this story, no complaints, no anger, and no falling in love with someone in the story. There are so many stories in this world, this is another story. One who understands that this is a story, is now free to be beyond the story - to step outside.

The world beyond the story is the real world. The story is fiction and beyond is real, and in the real world are real people. This world beyond is of light and the people are of light. We call them souls. It is souls who give this world beyond a divine sparkle. For God this world beyond is normal. He lives in this world, he does not live in the story.

He lives with these real people of light, these souls, in the world of light. This world is eternal and all in this world are immortal. God knows of this absolute security. He knows that all these people of light are like Him. All are secure like Him, all are desireless like Him. They are so secure that they exist without needing anything, that is why they are desireless, sorrowless, and egoless. This is their experience.

God is the one who knows there is no need for desperation in the story, there is no preference even about how the story should go. It truly doesn't matter, because all are safe and beautiful. They are truly noble in the real world. This is all that matters. He loves the people in the real world, whether they are in the sky or visiting the story world. They are the same people, they belong to Him, they live with Him and they are loved by Him. In fact they are worthy of love - forever and they are worthy of immense respect - forever. God is the one who knows this always, He never loses sight of this truth.

To know the theatre and the story as a story is by itself wisdom; not to be deceived by the story is great wisdom. God maintains that wisdom forever. That wisdom is the difference between God as the Supreme Soul and human souls. Human souls get deceived by the sophistication of the story that is hugely impressive. Our problem is that the story has become so sophisticated that we have become deceived. This is the limitation of us human souls, we get deceived. The wrong attitude to the story is the only reason for any sorrows, desires, attachments, ego, vices and ignorance in the world.

God remains free from it all because He is not deceived. Because He has this common sense. He remains in a position to help others to come out of this deception. Because He doesn't get deceived, He plays the role of God for all souls in the scheme of the drama. When we come to understand this dimension beyond the story we come to understand why God is God.

It is not that we project His love and bliss just because we heard it in a scripture. We come to understand how He is a being of bliss, love and contentment forever. How He can love everyone despite their part in the story. He will do so because He understands the story as a story, He does not mix fact and fiction. He therefore remains very clear and naturally stays in the highest consciousness. What is our method to pull ourselves out of the lower consciousness? Just as children become adults by keeping the company of adults but If they stay in the company of children they do not mature, they do not become adults and the process of maturity is delayed.