



**Aghoreshwar Baba Bhagwan Ramji**

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**Excerpts from The Way to Live**

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**TRUE GURU**

1. The true Guru is one whose very presence generates pure thoughts, inspires fresh ideas and effortlessly cleanses the soul.
2. The Guru is one whose mere presence brings peace to the Atman.
3. You can achieve liberation through heartfelt devotion to your Guru.
4. Some people compare the Guru with the Parasa stone, a stone which converts iron into gold. This converted gold however does not possess the power to turn another piece of iron into gold, whereas the Guru not only leads forth the Guru in his own image but bestows the capacity to bring forth others.
5. Without the sun, darkness is not dispelled. Without the grace of the Guru, the heart's darkness does not disappear. Just as you cannot create daylight by lighting bulbs, you cannot become enlightened without

the Guru.

6. The teachings of the Guru are profound like rain water which cannot be held by the mountain peaks, but passes through streams to seek its level in the ocean, its source.

7. The truth of life rests within one, but can be known only through the grace of the Guru.

8. If God is angry, He can be appeased; if, however, the Guru is angry, the disciple will lose both this world and the world beyond.

9. The physical body of bones and flesh does not constitute the Guru. Guru is that seat of divinity whose teachings will lead you to perfection. If you take these teachings to heart and incorporate them into your daily conduct, you will be able to comprehend the Guru entirely. The Guru is the full flowering of your thoughts, is perfect devotion, is pure faith.

10. The Guru is analogous to electricity. If the electrical fittings in all your ten rooms (the ten organs of your body) have been properly installed, the current will naturally flow through all of them.

11. Let me be alienated from the world, but, O Guru, do not cold-shoulder me.

12. The real Guru is the same Inner Self which, through inspiration, has shown you the path thus far.

13. The rays emanating from the toes of the lotus feet of the Guru bestow transparent sight.

14. A physical body does not constitute the Guru. The Guru happens to be one's own life-force.

15. Body changes constantly.....from childhood to adolescence to middle age to old age. The process follows its own course. Only the grace of the Guru can eliminate the inevitable pain.

16. The Guru's teachings may not conform to the ancient scriptures, as they are designed to meet the exigencies of time and place. The Guru's teachings cut through life's difficulties, unveil Her mysteries, and lead us toward a bright future.

17. None can cross the ocean of life without the Guru's help, not even if he were Shiva and Brahma combined.

18. O, God! Lead me from untruth to truth, from darkness to light.

19. Complete illumination will come to he who is humble in mind, speech and action and seeks the knowledge of the Guru. Before enlightenment, he performs his daily tasks; after enlightenment, he performs his daily tasks, yet becomes a source of noble inspiration for others.

20. He who studies, analyzes and acts upon the precepts of the Guru earns the right to all righteous deeds and splendors.

21. Even if one fails to achieve anything in this life, one can sail across the ocean of the world simply by concentrating on the lotus feet of the Guru. The concepts of vice and virtue are mere fantasies of the mind. One should entertain divine spirit in the soul.

22. What is grief? It is the non-fulfillment of desire. The shelter of the Guru is essential to guard against desire. The Guru is like a railway station: you can board a train for a destination of your choice.

23. Extricate yourself from darkness. You must make the effort, not the Guru.

## **GURU MANTRA**

1. For rowing across the ocean of life, Guru Mantra is the only oar.
2. The chanting of the Mantra purifies the heart and nerves. Through repetition of the Mantra, the tridosha (the three-fold maladies), are eliminated. Spontaneously, the mind and the heart come into perfect order. Noble deeds and all-embracing pure feelings are the natural result. Peace prevails.
3. Dissolve the Mantra in your mouth. See what pleasure you experience! Life will be fulfilled., and you will get a glimpse of the soul.
4. O, worshippers of Ma Guru! No one teaches the lion to hunt, the fish to swim. O worshippers of the Sadguru: Mantra! Comprehend it. Realize it.
5. Practice of the Guru-given Mantra eliminates predetermined destiny. Misfortune is driven away.

## **GURU AND DISCIPLE**

1. Mutual cooperation of the Guru and disciple is necessary. The Guru's teachings yield perfect results, provided the disciple imbibes them in proper spirit. The responsibility for imparting precepts of true knowledge rests with the Guru, and responsibility for their compliance lies with the disciple.
2. O, my disciples! You will neither grasp what I say nor what the scriptures and the forefathers have said until you yourself have experienced their meaning. Please persevere.
3. The Guru releases the power of memory in the disciple who has complete faith in him. The disciple can then recall and relate events and acquaintances in his past with great clarity. This phenomena is indicative of a divine state.
4. The lion does not teach its cub to hunt; it comes to the cub naturally. Similarly, the fish does not teach its young to swim; they take to the water the minute they are born. Likewise, the Guru's proximity triggers a spontaneous awareness. Proximity of even ten minutes will end the complications of a whole lifetime. If the nearness becomes a presence of the Guru within, then the maxim is proved, "Guru creates Guru, not a disciple".
5. The face of the Guru is like the moon upon which a disciple gazes, savoring the sight even as the Chakora (a partridge). O, I wish to gaze upon the lotus feet of the Guru, now and forever.
6. We are able to switch on the light of our life with the subtle wires of connection to our Guru, the power-house. If we connect with thick wire, the filament will fuse.

## **THE DIVINE**

1. The Divine exists in every ion of the world. The saintly person treats every ion as part of God. O, Man!

To be nearer to the Divine, respect the dignity due each particle.

2. Physical austerities of spiritual practices, penance, fasting, Yoga, are not the only means of realization of the Divine. The Self may be realized in the course of family life, without recourse to any spiritual practice. The only requisite is purity of the soul.
3. If you wish to attain enlightenment, walk the path indicated by your Guru and do good in the world. O, Man! Remember that neither wealth nor your progeny will enlighten you.
4. Perceive the presence of your Self in everyone; every being is a manifestation of the Divine.
5. Your good or bad deeds cannot be concealed from sky and space; the messengers of the Divine are omniscient.
6. Vision is not bestowed upon one who is shown the path; neither is the path shown to one provided with vision. To solve this dilemma, surrender to the lotus feet of the Divine.
7. One who comprehends the real face of atheism, cannot ignore the existence of the Divine.
8. He who comprehends the mystery of life, both from within and without, realizes the Divine.
9. Realization of the Divine is the measure of life. To forget this is to lead a meaningless life.
10. The state of a person whose mind revolves around food, clothes and ornaments is worse than that of an animal. Identification with the Divine alone will release you from material bondage.
11. The heart of the person who has no desire for opulence is the resting place of the Divine. The Divine resides beyond the reach of those who chase after worldly splendor.
12. Only after extricating oneself from attachments does one approach the Divine.
13. One should not be distraught nor lose patience over misfortunes. It is when one can no longer rely on reason alone, that the path to realization of the Divine becomes visible.
14. Investing a single seed in the path of the Guru yields a hundred-fold.
15. One who perceives the beauty of the soul, knows the Divine.
16. That which we call The Divine resides in Truth and Faith alone.
17. Nobody has exclusive claim on the Divine. Blessings are not showered upon any particular individual, nor is any particular individual the favorite devotee. There is no separation. For One-ness with the Divine (Brahma), purity of one's soul (Atma) is essential.
18. O, misguided mortal! Do not be misled in your search for Me. If your heart is pure, God is with you. Don't you know that it is you who happens to be the shrine of the Divine and that I abide in you Yourself?!
19. Those engrossed in worldly affluence are far away from God.
20. For one who seeks God, worldly splendors are left behind. For one who seeks worldly gain, God is left behind.

## **Ashram News:**

Fall Navaratri was observed with much sweetness and enthusiasm at the Ashram. Many local as well as participants from out of town had reserved this special time for this observation. A few participants camped out in the ashram grounds for the entire duration

Each morning Babaji would lead the group into special puja and chantings for an hour, afterwards prasad would be served. The whole day was free to continue one's practice with mantra jap. In the evening after an hour long puja and chanting, Babaji spoke on various subjects and aspects of the Divine mother. Havan was performed by each participants. The festivities and observation ended with receiving of special blessing on the 10th day of the observance.



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