

A Breviary Of Adwaita Hermitage

The Rev. David R. Graham

Adwaita Hermitage

Mid 1990s

A P E N I T E N T I A L F O R M

The Confession

Let us acknowledge our condition.
Gracious Parent, Mother and Father!
Our faith in You has not been steady.
Our adherence to Truth has not been unalterable.
Our love for brothers and sisters has not been selfless.
Our witness to Your Grandeur has not been unsullied.
Our remembrance of Your Name has not been unbroken.

Save us, Father! Save us, Mother! Save us!
Be with us at the time of trial.

I am a cripple whom God has touched.

The Absolution

Our God knows all before it is asked
and sees all before it is done.
He has equal love for every living thing.
He feels the agony of separation more keenly than we do.
He cannot refuse the sincere pleading of a contrite heart.

Therefore,
let those who are contrite be at peace,
walk forward with firm step,

forget the past
and refrain from errors previously committed.

Our God resides in the heart of every being.

[Adwaitha Hermitage](#)

November 1991

AN EXHORTATION

Leader: Brothers! Sisters!

Let content be our content.

People: We agree!

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November 1991

A COLLECT FOR ALL-SAINTS

The old year has passed away.

The new year begins today.

Rama Sita, Krishna Radha, Sathya Sai.

Bharadwaja, Valmiki, Vyasa, Suka.

Abraham, Gauthama, Pythagoras, Zoroaster,

Lao Tzu, Isa, Mohammed.

Moses, Paul, Jerome, Elijah, Jeremiah.

Kausalya, Rukmini, Mandodari, Miriam, Judith,

Mary Magdalene, Monica, Paula, Scholastica,
Clare, Theresa, Madam Guyon.

Euclid, Archimedes, Ben Maimon, Francis,
Rama-Krishna, Ramana Maharshi, Lee, Jackson,
MacArthur.

Hanuman, Jatayu, Jambavantha, Adiseesha,
Secretariat, Charles, Sampathi, Vali, Angada,
Halftime, Gita, Cisco, Henrietta, Puff-Ball,
Twin Kitty, Jolly Roger, Shrewness, Elmer, Mike.

Any other persons, animals, places or things

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October 1992

A P R O P E R F O R A L L - S A I N T S

When You come to earth,
You call Your playmates
and bring them with You.

You delight in their presence
and they delight in Yours.

Your playmates are always looking for each other.
They give each other happiness, as they do You.

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October 1992

A COLLECT FOR CHRISTMAS

For the protection of the righteous,
for the destruction of the wicked,
and for the re-establishment of Truth,
Righteousness, Peace and Love,
You incarnate from age to age.

A CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCE

Swami Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba, Isa (Jesus) of Nazareth, Mary,
Jerome, Douglas MacArthur and Francesca Graham, Kevin Berg and
Dianne Onstad, Bill Paddock, Lori Hall.

Elliott and Lucie Benveniste Kavesh, George Vutetakis, Robert and Ann
Lund, Lucius H. Biglow, Jr., James Luster, Jr., Malcolm and Mary Stuart,
Katherine Taylor.

A PROPER FOR CHRISTMAS

"Lord! You are the Conflagration that destroys
the Forest of Delusion in which man has lost himself.

"You are the Solar Orb that makes it possible
for the Lotuses of the Hearts of Good Men
to bloom in beauty and fragrance.

"You are the King of Beasts,
come to destroy the brood of Demonic Elephants.

"You are the Eagle come to hunt down and destroy

the bird that flits into birth and flits out of life,
in a recurring cycle of joy and grief.

"Lord! Your eyes are as charming as Lotuses.
My two eyes cannot drink in all the beauty of your effulgent Form.

"You are the Moon that sheds cool light to enrapture
the twin Chakora birds, namely, the eyes of Sita.

"You swim happily as the Celestial Swan
in the placid lakes that shine in the hearts of Sages.

"You are the Garuda Bird that preys upon and destroys
the Serpents that breed in the minds of doubters and unbelievers.
All cruelty, confusion and calamity will be burnt away
when a tiny glance from your eye falls on them."

Ramakatha Rasavahini

Swami Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba, Vol. II, p. 10.

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Christmas 1992

SCRIPTURE AND HOMILY FOR CHRISTMAS

I Kings 18:20-40

The Homily which follows is by
George Vutetakis and is used with his permission.

God is Purusa, Enjoyer. Until we cleanse our hearts of material ills, the sexual preference of God is not relevant. It is our own attachments and ego which define God according to our own concept.

The Vedas are there, written by God so we may understand how to re-awaken our constitutional relationship with Him.

If one visits the University of Chicago, they will see a library containing 40 aisles of Sanskrit Vedic text. Every aspect, every detail of life and reason for it are described. The Vedas are also consistent. With each perspective taken, the center point is the same.

If one wishes to be fooled, there are also plenty of avenues to take. For, spiritual realization is a gift for those who are ready.

To understand spiritual, it is necessary to understand material. Together, the result is spiritual. Apart, the result is material. The way to understand this, and the path one must take to become free of our bondage to illusion, is to approach a Guru who is teaching the Vedic conclusions. Not by creating something new, but by teaching in accordance with clear disciplic successions.

God can be masculine and/or feminine. That is His prerogative. From our point of view, He is beyond comprehension and is not subject to vision which is clouded by association with this body.

God is Purusa, His Shakti is Prakriti, the Enjoyed. In the Vedas, the Mother Goddesses fall under Prakriti. The Goddess of Fortune is a direct expansion of God. She is the original God.

One cannot artificially separate the masculine and feminine attributes of God without illusion. This is within the aforementioned philosophy of Acintya Beda Abeda Tattva: simultaneously the same and different.

Each quality and aspect of God is distinct and complete. Together it is all His energy. It is important to understand from both perspectives and this is achieved through instructions from a Guru who sees beyond this gross and subtle material plane to the Spiritual Creation.

Krishna describes in the Gita how He is the taste of water; of purifiers He is the wind, etc. He displays the Universal Form to Arjuna. This is called Virata Purusa. It is recommended as the first Form of God to worship. By viewing everything as emanating and created by God, we gain respect for the sheer magnitude and the impossibility of understanding through the senses and the mind.

We as jivas (souls) are also Prakriti. The example is given that God is masculine and every one of us is feminine. It is our nature to serve. By service to God and His creation we become fulfilled and harmonious with it.

The male/female issue digs into areas of great pain in our culture. These areas are simply a distorted reflection of spiritual. Unscrupulous personalities take advantage of this reflection to gain personal profit, whether through money or power.

Please be careful to make sure your vision is not tainted with even a bit of material desire before you judge who is who in the spiritual world. The only way to understand otherwise is through the bona fide scripture such as the Vedas. We can romanticize, but to act in devotion is recognition of God as

Creator, Maintainer and Annihilator of all that is. Attention to detail is a symptom of awareness.

There are many details, but the message is simple. The moment one turns to recognize God's existence, the Spiritual Path is started. This is why the Prophets come. Thank you.

A COLLECT FOR GOOD FRIDAY

O Divine Master !
By Your acceptance of fate,
By Your resignation to destiny,
even when this entailed harm to Yourself,
You demonstrated the perfect attitude
of a spiritual aspirant.

A GOOD FRIDAY REMEMBRANCE

We remember those who have died or suffered for the Faith
especially Jewish and all other victims of the French, Communist and
Nazi Terrors, Sephardim expelled from Spain and persecuted there, Bahai's
persecuted in Persia and elsewhere, the martyrs of Uganda, Pharsees
expelled from Persia, Moslems persecuted in Europe and Africa and all
other ethnic or religious groups of whatever name that are made to feel
unsafe.

In particular, today, we remember, Elijah, Jeremiah, Hosea, Judith, Mary,
Stephen, Paul, Jerome, Agnes, Clare, Xavier, Theresa, More, Madam
Guyon, Pascal, Calvin, Fox, Thoreau, Mary Baker Eddy, R. Buckminster
Fuller, Jermaine, Bonhoeffer, Malcolm X, Suki and all rocks, plants,

organisms, insects, fish, birds and animals whose lives are cut short by a-dharmic intentions.

A P R O P E R F O R G O O D F R I D A Y

You lifted up Jesus upon the cross
as an example of acceptance.

You placed before humanity
this evidence of the horror of cruelty.

When He was dying on the cross
and getting unkind thoughts about
His persecutors,
Jesus heard You say to Him,
"All life is one,
My Dear Son,
Be alike to everyone."

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Good Friday 1993

A C O L L E C T F O R E A S T E R

Lord Jesus ! You rose from death
fully Yourself.,
three days after You were crucified.

To You it seemed like three years.

You invited Your disciples who were faithful
to accompany You to India

or to remain near the Mediterranean.

You promised to be ever present
to the pure in heart and the humble in bearing.

You promised to protect those
who are devoted to You and
to bring them to the Father, to God.

PRAYERS OF THE HOLY, CATHOLIC PEOPLE

Preserve, protect and keep us undefiled, O God,
according as we merit Your Grace
and as You resolve to let us have It.

We remember Your servants who have triumphed
on account of their adherence to Truth:
Maimonides, Clare, Dominic, Kausalya,
MacArthur, Jean MacArthur, Lee,
Rose of Lima, Jackson, Mary Ely Lyman.

We remember those whose faith in You was unshakeable,
whom You tested in the crucible of life
and found unmixed with down-ward-dragging tendencies:
Washington, Kaikeyi, Bach, Clara Schumann,
Glenn Gould, Betty Huff, Pasteur,
O'Keeffe, Kandinsky, Potter.

"The human crowd is a pack of crows.
They caw loud and hoarse,
without any rule or reason.

Men do not try to know the truth.
In their ignorance,
they blabber as the whim dictates."
Sri Rama

Grant, Dear Friend, that we may ever merit
and have the company of genuine seekers
and those who truly love You.
Never let us fall into the arena
of the human crowd.

A P R O P E R F O R E A S T E R

You lift up Your children
from the humiliation of defeat.

You charge them with new zeal
and resource
for the game of life.

You do not allow Your kith and kin
to be carried off by a foreign power.

You test their loyalty
but not beyond their capacity.

You teach Your playmates, in this way,
to rely on You
and to finish the game.

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Easter 1993

A COLLECT FOR WHITSUN

Lord, you come to all
who rely on You.
You protect them from harm
and hold them free from guilt.

You are the Resident
of every heart,
the Inner Spring
of every being.

You have resolved to save
all those who rely on You.
They are Your Source and
You are their delight.

A PROPER FOR WHITSUN

Like Wind and Fire,
He comes in the time of
non-expectation.

Like Heat,
He is there when
He is contacted.

Like the Breath,
He is coming and going,
going and coming, ceaselessly.

Like the Eye,
He is seeing
this thing called 'world.'

Adwaita Hermitage
Whitsun 1993

A.M.D.G.