

Passion and Dispassion

Ram (James Swartz)

2013-04-16

Source: <http://www.shiningworld.com/site/satsang/read/652>

Teresa: Dearest Ramji, *hari om!*

You must be busy with all arrangements in Spain next to answering emails. That's why I mention that your reply to this one needs no hurry.

When the light that I am is shining on everything, and everything is because of this light, where is the need or excitement to go and visit or see places and things and stuff? Or to go for entertainment? There is totally no need!

But then my question is:

How to relate to people I love, who are excited by every new thing that pops up, want to go through a hell of a journey to see other places, etc? Yes, I can say, "Not interested," or I can go along with them because I'm free. Either way, I feel lazy or the question rises, "Why should I? I'm fine."

Ramji: The problem is that *samsaris* do not understand the dispassion that comes with self-knowledge. You know who you are and your loved ones don't. You can't be passionate about what they are passionate about, and they can't be dispassionate about what they are passionate about or passionate about what you are passionate about - the self. There is a lovely verse in the *Bhagavad Gita*: "What's day for a *samsari* is night for a *jnani*."

Teresa: When a new thing comes, like I have an invitation to teach *yoga* in Japan, I do it (not with the feeling of YESSSS, whee!!!, because it's a long trip and I have to close the *yoga* school again for three weeks; on the other hand, yes, nice, one more experience) but don't feel excited like everyone else does when they hear about it. I just do it because it comes along and it's not a bad thing. I can understand, it's nice. See what I mean? It's like my emotions are lost and I get lazy. There's where the doubt is... am I getting lazy?

Ramji: Yes, indeed, and it is a very wonderful laziness. Sundari and I are totally lazy. We only do what we want to do. We do not do what others want us to do, except once in a while, just to let them know we care about them. This is the same doubt you have had all along, Teresa. Lazy means you are a non-doer. It is so good. Why run after all these things when you have everything already, when you are everything already? As Krishna says, to do the *dharma* of another is fraught with danger. I remember reading an interview with the Dalai Lama where he said he was very lazy. This kind of laziness is not *tamas*. It is self-knowledge, born of pure *sattva*. Be lazy! Be very lazy!!!!

Teresa: There's certainly no depression but I (my mind) miss Vedanta people around. Well, things can be worse. ☺ I wish you and Isabella well and am looking forward to your mail.

Ramji: We miss you a lot. Rarely does a day go by that we don't talk of you. You can come and visit us in Spain. We are here now in a lovely little cottage high in the mountains, about to start our house-hunting.