

Mar 22, 1980

Kirtan Ufton Rd (Shiva Shakti and Gopal Christ)

*Ambikananda introduced 'Charles from Taos', to the devotees, an American artist who had been recommended by Sambhu, now living in Taos, New Mexico*

*From Swamiji's discourse:*

‘Whenever two or three are gathered in His Name, there He is, manifesting ...

‘Dwell by yourself, in your own chamber. But first come *here*, and then go and make it in your own liking, in your own play. Eat it in your own way, the way you understand it ... Think of the Mother. Think of God in your own way. Think of yourself – how you can make it easy. Think of God your way, the way you approach God. That suffices. You have all had the grace of God. Now all you need is the grace of your own pure mind. How do you get the grace of your own mind? By now and then withdrawing into your own chamber, by being very old and experienced ... Go through earlier experiences. It is *here* that you will attain. Once you have passed ABCD you don't have to go to the preliminary stage again ... God, devotees and scripture *with proper understanding* are one ...

‘If you fall you will not fall lower than I have said, because if you go up to a certain height it's not very possible for you to reach water yet, you have to go through trees, clouds, other planes. It depends on a very strong mind. Don't run away. Resist the Devil. Afterwards use discrimination. In daytime it's difficult to see Him because there's too much distraction, you miss the primeval sound. Therefore protection, *Rakshamam*.

‘I am the eternal flower, my friend. Come to My undying self. This is my word of declaration.

‘Rest one night but keep awake two nights. I allow you to fall, but get up from the same ground where you have fallen. Be strong from the where-you-are. Don't run away. Don't be Superman, but would you leave your child in danger? After, use discrimination. I am giving the hand of the Gardener. If you're very strong and know your reality, how can you forget your immortality and go dashing to the graveyard with flowers?

‘Who is not the very son of God? Who is a foreigner? Who is an outcast? Who is an alien?

“Against your will” means a loose rope<sup>1</sup> - tightened by elastic. The bigger the rope the bigger the pull.

‘Please get rid of body consciousness. Today you are buried. I see black, but I see red out of this black, charcoal comes, white ashes, red embers become lips. A glow comes through your eyes. The body is a cage for worms.

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<sup>1</sup> Sri Ramakrishna describes free will as ‘a loose rope’ that allows limited movement