

ROLE OF A PERFECT LIVING MASTER

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It's nice to enjoy holidays. The Saints and Mystics celebrate their holidays every day and every night. When we go to sleep, They go and celebrate their holidays in Sach Khand, Their true home. They don't wait for a particular day to come. For Them, every night people go to sleep, and They go into Their own True Home and celebrate there. Soami Ji, one of the mystics, says that, "Diwali, the Festival of Lights is celebrated in India. It comes only once a year, but the Saints' Diwali, or Festival of Lights, takes place every night in Their own Heavenly Home.

So the holidays for us are confined to a few days over here, but Mystics tell us if you want to have true holidays, they can be celebrated every day within yourself because your True Home, your real place, where you belong, where your real consciousness belongs, is inside you and not outside. Whatever we see outside has been created by our consciousness. And therefore, the reality of our own being is inside us, and a true celebration takes place inside us.

There is nothing wrong with celebrating outside also, because outside has been created by the same force that exists inside. One Mystic says, "Do not make any distinction between the outside and the inside. They are both arising from the same consciousness. Do not think that the outside creation is something to be run away from and that the whole truth lies inside. We say go within, not because outside is bad. We say go within because, by going within, you will find out that the outside and the inside were the same. The outside is being created by the same power of consciousness that creates all experiences inside."

If this were not so, the role of a Perfect Living Master in an outside world would be very limited. The truth is that when we find a Perfect Living Master, a human being like ourselves, who has a consciousness of totality while He is just a human being like us, the fact that such a person can exist in our created illusion of reality outside means that the outside is not as unreal as we think. There is no difference in the level of reality that can be created outside as much as can be created inside.

That is why if we cannot find our own self, if we do not know who we are, we can find ourselves and our true self outside of ourselves in the form of a Perfect Living Master. A Perfect Living Master is part of our perception. We see Him. We create Him, but we create Him with our endowed power from within of total consciousness, whereas we, sitting with our own mind, cannot think beyond certain limits. A person created by us outside of ourselves can speak to us, talk to us, guide us, and even miraculously take us beyond ourselves as we know ourselves at this time. Therefore, the power of the reality we create outside ourselves is as strong, as magical, as the power inside us. This is what gives the

importance to a Living Master that comes into our life outside of ourselves.

What really is the consciousness of a Perfect Living Master is our own total consciousness, our own totality, our own ultimate power, our own ultimate reality is reflected in a human being who comes outside into our life. The outside is set up on certain principles which we call laws, laws of nature, laws of existence, and those laws are operating, and the Perfect Living Master, Who is another person coming outside of ourselves within those laws, operates within those laws, and there is no difference.

A human being who comes as a Perfect Living Master in our life is as human as we are, has the same life as we have. Indeed, if He has come for a specific mission, like if He has come to guide us to a spiritual totality, He will make sure that His life outside is compatible with our life outside. He will make sure that His language is similar to our language. He will make sure that His lifestyle is similar to our lifestyle. If He has a mandate to take care of several souls who have to be taken back home because they are ready to go back home, they are fed up with the show that they have been experiencing outside in this world, He will take upon himself the role of being equal to or compatible with each one of those souls.

If one is rich, He will be rich for that person. If one is poor, He will be poor for that person. If one lives in a big city, He will go to the big city for that person. If one lives in a village, He will go to a village for that person. Depending upon the condition of the seeker who is seeking the truth and seeking reality, a Perfect Living Master adjusts His own physical life and His own condition to the condition as required by compatibility and equality with the person who has come to seek, who He has come to pick up and take back home. This is a remarkable feature. That is why we see, first of all, that Masters come in different parts of the world, and They come by mandate to pick up the individuals who are seekers and ready to be picked up at that time in that part of the creation.

They do not come just to give a general message. Their mandate is very different from the teachings of the philosophers, teachings of the gurus who come and give us a general message about the truth being inside us, that outside has been created as an illusion, and that if you want to find the truth, go within yourself, that there are various ways of meditating upon yourself, that the power of attention to be concentrated within yourself can give you experiences of higher realities of different levels of creation, levels of consciousness.

These are philosophies. There are these philosophies. People come and teach these philosophies. They are philosophers. They are teachers. They are not Perfect Living Masters. Perfect Living Masters do not come to convey these teachings. They exist in thousands of books already written. They exist in all historical documents that we have. Perfect Living Masters come here in human form like ourselves specifically to pick up those who have been mandated that they will pick up in their lifetime.

As the seekers of reality and truth who are fed up with their existence in this world get ready to go back home, these Perfect Living Masters come into their lives and take them back home. Their mandate,

their requirement is just to pick up those people. They do not come to change the world. They are not reformers. They do not come and lay any new doctrines. They do not come with any new philosophies. They do not teach any new paths.

They go by the simplest, oldest of paths already recorded in thousands of books in every language of the world. They do not come to write books and to tell us something more. They come specifically to pick up the marked souls who have been brought on their list, that at this time, in this part of the world, in this part of the seeking world, these souls are ready to go back home. They come and look at their list, and they go wherever necessary to pick up those marked souls and take them home.

So therefore, a human being who comes as a Perfect Living Master into our life has not come to do anything like a philosopher will do. They will become friends. They will be like us. Their thinking will attune to our thinking. They will deal with our day-to-day problems in this world as if it is Their problems. They will come as friends, advisers, counselors, brothers, sisters. They will take up these relationships, and They will function at the same level that we seekers are functioning, because Their purpose is to take us back home. As we understand Them better, They use the only method They have always used throughout history, throughout the history of creation. They use the method of love and devotion to take us back home.

There is no other method. All other methods, meditation, spiritual disciplines, dieting, following certain rules are all meant for our minds. Our minds love rules. Our minds are only convinced if we have rules to follow. Therefore, They go ahead and lay down the rules for our minds so our minds can be satisfied. “This looks like a spiritual path. This looks like a mystical path. I am willing to follow it. I have to rationalize it.” The mind wants to rationalize. They allow you to rationalize it.

They give you a framework in which your mind has to be satisfied because if your mind is not satisfied, and the soul has been entangled with the mind for millions of years, there is no way that the soul will turn around and go back home. The mind is looking outward all the time to find answers to all its questions. It looks for answers outside in this physical world. It looks for answers in the intellectual world. It looks for answers in the world of logic. It looks for answers in the world of rationality, and always wants to say, “This makes sense, therefore, I am willing to follow. If it doesn’t make sense, I will not follow it.”

The soul has no such requirement. Our reality has no such requirement. Our truth and reality is our soul, not our mind. The mind is an accessory added to the soul. It was used for a very good purpose, to add to the soul so the soul could communicate, could experience, could create a reality in time and space. It was the most useful gadget the soul was ever given. If a soul, which is pure consciousness, which is pure light, which is our pure self, if our own self was given such a beautiful gadget like a mind that could create different experiences in time and space, place them in a certain chronological order, connect each experience with the other by a law of cause and effect, what a beautiful thing it can do!

A mind that could create sensory perceptions, a mind that could create an astral body and a sensory system, a mind that could create the illusion of being covered, the self being covered by a physical body, what else would you need? It was the most magical device ever given to a soul! The soul was pure consciousness. It could be conscious of anything it wanted, but what would it be conscious of? What creation would be around the soul if it didn't have these gadgetries around it, and the mind was the best gadget it could get? The mind created this wonderful opportunity for experiences, and the soul went along with the mind and enjoyed it.

But the mind had some other traits, too, deliberately created. The other traits were negativity. Other traits were to have a desire for attachment, desire for variety of experiences, and a desire for going out into shadows and illusions and make them reality and look upon them as reality.

An old Greek philosopher, Aristotle, he says, "The importance of a show, the importance of a drama, a stage show, (now I could even add a movie that we go and watch), the importance of seeing a show, the importance of seeing a movie is that it can draw our inmost feelings out." Although we know it is a shadow, although we know these people are only acting, they are not real, it is not a real show going on, it is just an act. In spite of the fact that we know they are only acting, it brings out real emotions, real feelings in us as if something real is happening.

This capacity of the mind to suppress even the knowledge that it is a show and to make it into a reality and experience emotional, intellectual, and spiritual feelings through an unreal show, is a great talent that was given to this mind. That is exactly what the mind did! That we were able to create the realities around ourselves, and even knowing they have just been created, we took them as so real in order to have real spiritual, mental, sensory, physical experiences.

So the mind was a very useful thing, but the negative side of it was it got attached to whatever it created. By attachment, it would be tied up with that. It almost created a trap for itself. Like a spider's web, it began to create experiences to which it got attached. From the attachment, it was difficult to pull it away. It loved pleasure. It loved different sensory experiences. Therefore, the mind tied us over and over again to the different experiences it created and made it very difficult for the soul to find out who it really was, because it always functioned in this creation through the mind.

So we have to distinguish between the accessory called the mind, functioning to create experiences for us, from our own self, which is the soul, which is the spirit of consciousness alone per se. It does not have anything in it that constitutes time, space, cause, effect, karma, morality, good, bad. It doesn't have any of that stuff. Our soul is pure consciousness, having the ability to be aware of, to be conscious of anything it wants. It uses the mind to create the kind of experiences we are having. So the mind as a device has created a little problem for us. The problem is that we have identified ourselves.

We do not think we are the soul or the spirit of consciousness. We think we are the mind. Philosophers began to say, "I think, therefore I am." That is not at all correct. It was, the truth was, "I

am, therefore I have a mind and I can think.” It is the use of the mind that makes you think. It is not that consciousness itself is thinking. It uses a device, and the device is the mind. But by identifying ourselves with the mind and considering that because we are a thinking machine, therefore the thinking machine is our self, we got into all the trouble that the mind could create through desire and attachment.

According to Buddha, “The entire suffering of the human being is arising from desire and attachment.” It does nothing else. It is all mind made up. Mind has made up all this. The mind has created desires for experiences it has generated, got attached to them, and then we are pulled back into those experiences again and again.

Therefore, I can't see of any way in which, situated as we are, identifying ourselves with the mind, and not only with the mind but with the functions of the mind such as sensory perceptions, we begin to identify that the perceptions are our own self, that the world is merely what we think we are perceiving and that there is nothing else except what we are perceiving through our senses.

Not only that, that the sensory perceptions are built into a physical body. We are identifying ourselves 3 steps away from reality. Who we are, we don't know because we think that is us. Wrong. We think the sensory perceptions are creating the world for us, therefore, the perceptions are us. Wrong. Because they are embedded in a physical body which we generate outside of the system, therefore, we are the physical body. Wrong.

We are making 3 big mistakes, and by making these 3 big mistakes, we have moved away from our own self and we really don't know who we are. So it is great that these physical things contain something of the physical experience which ties us down also contains something that can push us back into a knowledge of our own self. And what is that which the physical experience contains?

A human being, like ourselves, who comes in the form of a Perfect Living Master and pushes us back into our knowledge of the self. A Perfect Living Master never comes to say, “Follow me and follow me in the world.” He says, “Go within yourself.” He says, “I am merely a reflection of your own consciousness.” A Perfect Living Master has no identity of its own. It is being projected in the same way as the rest of the creation ... with one difference. We have invested this particular projection of a Perfect Living Master with a consciousness which is our own totality of consciousness. That is a big thing, that we can set up a show, we can set up characters in the show, and put one character there which has all the knowledge, all the consciousness of the original creator of the whole show, and he is just one character.

Sometimes we give an example from a literary work called *The Canterbury Tales*. Some of you have heard this story from me before. Some of you may not have heard, that Geoffrey Chaucer, an English author, he wrote a book called *The Canterbury Tales*. It was a story of a number of pilgrims, 20 or 30 pilgrims are going to Canterbury. In those days in the 17th century when the story was written, there were no easy modes of transportation, so they went on horses, on little buggies, on little carts, and on

foot. They all walked. The whole pilgrim party walked, and to while away the time, for it takes several days to reach Canterbury, they are telling stories to each other, singing songs, reciting poems, and when they are doing that, this whole story has been written by Geoffrey Chaucer.

Chaucer introduces himself also as a character. And he stays amongst the pilgrims, he is also walking. Chaucer is also walking amongst the pilgrims. Those pilgrims come out with some of the finest poetry that we have known in English literature. They come out with some of the finest descriptions of a character. Because of that, we call Chaucer the “Father of Modern Novel.” There was no novel before him. He characterized people, because before that there was a king and a queen, and every king and a queen were the same. All the stories that were written before that, every king was a king and every queen was a queen, every layman was a layman, every clown was a clown. Whatever name you gave to the character, he was only that character.

But Chaucer introduced specific qualities in a character, calling it a characterization. For example, there is a lawyer, an attorney also in the Pilgrims and this is how Chaucer describes that attorney. He says, “A busier man than him there n’as (n’as means ‘never was’ in Old English). A busier man than him there n’as, and yet he seemed busier than he was.” Looks like a modern attorney. This was a characterization.

He describes a woman, a wife who was traveling from Bath; Bath, a town in England. He says, “There was that wife from Bath, housebands at kirk she had five.” That means, husbands at church, she had five. “Withouten other company in youth, but I need not talk of that youth.” That means, besides other company she had in young times, I am not going to talk about that.” This kind of description of a character had never taken place earlier. This is like the setting of a modern new story that you see in the movies, new story you read in modern novels, so Chaucer is being credited as being a character writer, that he created the concept of characters, and then he puts himself, Chaucer the character.

Chaucer the author is now Chaucer the character, and he is also moving along with them. These great poets, these great story tellers are asking Chaucer, the character. “Come on, you also tell us a story. Come on, give us a poem.” Chaucer says, “I don’t know any poetry.” A man who had written the whole book, the man who had written the part of every character, when he becomes a character, he says, “I don’t know what to say.” They said, “Come on, we know you are a good author.” They even identify him in the story. “We know you are a good author, and we know you can be a good poet. Come on, give us a good poem.”

And then Chaucer the character in that book, *Canterbury Tales*, comes out with the worst rhyme in the whole book. It is the worst poem in the whole book. Not only that he knew about it, all the characters criticize him. “Oh, no, we expected something better from you.” Question has been asked, “Why did Chaucer, the author of the book, when he became a character, why did he put himself in such a low position that he could be ridiculed by his own characters?”

In fact, a simile has been given to the religious concept of Jesus Christ, Who came as One with His Father, the Creator, comes and is crucified by his own creation! Chaucer, as a character, was crucified by his own characters whom he created! Why did he do that? Why should he have done that? He did it because, in spite of the fact that Chaucer the character read a very poor poem, it is Chaucer the author who wrote all the poems.

When Perfect Living Masters come into this world, They come like Chaucer the character. They come, and They become the same level. They can be ridiculed. They can be criticized. They can be crucified. People can make accusations against Them. People can take Them for trials. They go through all that. Why? Because They know they are just a character acting at the same level as the people They are dealing with, the people who are on Their marked list of sheep to be taken home. They are the author of the entire show.

Yesterday, I opened a book at random to see what was the coincidental message of the day. I sometimes do that. Haven't you opened a book at random and a message comes up? I opened up a book. It had poetry from Swami Ji of Agra, Who was the founder of the Radha Soami movement in the last century, and He was very famous. The poem I read was very interesting. He says, "The merciful Dayal, (that means the One who comes in the form of a merciful Mystic), is One with the same Creator Who creates the negative Kal."

And he says, "How come that the ultimate Creator, Who is sending a messenger of His, who is sending a personification of His as a Perfect Living Master, should also be the Creator of all the negative mind, negative Kal, negative time, negative things that are happening?" And then He says, speaking on behalf of Sat Purush, the Creator of Dayal, He says, "I created both Dayal and Kal. Had I not created the negative things here, nobody would have appreciated me at all as they are." He says, "The whole purpose of creation in two parts, in duality, was for a soul consciousness to experience the opposite. You could have no idea about love and compassion if there was nothing negative to be created at the same time.

Therefore, He says, "I created both sides, and that's the way you can appreciate the other side." This is in a big way! He says, "When I created a copycat, Kal, who should copy my design. I designed that I should have positive attributes which you should appreciate after going through negative experiences. My copycat, Kal, he copied that and divided his own realm, the realm of the mind, into good and bad and divided everything into white and black, into dark and light, and made every experience possible to human beings through sensory perceptions into duality; that you could have no experience in this world if it wasn't into pairs of opposites."

So therefore, this whole concept of creating a show which should add beauty, should add compassion, should add things which we really think are very high, add the element of love as a very important segment. It is not possible if the whole show had not been set up the way it was set up. The author set up the show, comes himself as a character in the form of a Perfect Living Master and operates at the

same level as the characters. When those characters by the force of the show itself are ready to go back home, He takes them home.

It is a wonderful story, it is a true story, it is a story of creation, a story of the work of Perfect Living Masters, a story of the self, of consciousness. Perfect Living Master is no other than the totality of consciousness, and we are all participating in the totality of consciousness. We look separated. That's part of the show. We look, we are different. We look, we belong differently. We look with different bodies, different thoughts, different minds.

These differences have been created, but they are created where? They are all created within an ocean of consciousness, which is always one. It has never been separated. You will discover, even by following the path of these Perfect Living Masters who take you back to reality, that ultimately there is only one consciousness, one creator, one experiencer, and all experiences of the many are taking place within that one. There never has been anything outside of it. The many have been created within the one.

What would happen if anyone of us sitting here got an awareness of who we are. If we suddenly discovered that we are not this physical body, just a cover upon ourselves, that we are not the sensory perceptions, they are just instruments we are using to perceive a drama created outside of ourselves. If we suddenly discover that the thoughts we were having are merely churning out of a certain stream of words, stream of images by a machine we have installed in ourselves, that we are beyond all these three, that we are totality of consciousness, what would be our experience? We suddenly experience that everything that we have ever experienced, or will experience, is taking place within one totality and that is our true self. That our true self has never been more than one. Everything that has happened which creates the experiences of the many is taking place within the one. Nothing has ever happened outside of it. Nothing can happen outside of it. That is a great revelation!

Perfect Living Masters come into this world not to teach us new morality. They do not come to teach us the way to live. They do not come to teach us how to reform the political systems. They do not come to teach you how to reform your social system. They come to show you that you can, while you are trapped in these bodies, while you are trapped in your sensory systems, while you are trapped in your mind, you can still have the experience of who you are.

That experience is generated by first that totality appearing within the show as a Perfect Living Master, as a human being outside of yourself, and then going within yourself, stage by stage, "*darja bar darja*" as Great Master would say, step by step, you discover your own reality. The ultimate reality you find at all times there was only one consciousness. The show of the many took place in one alone, and we are participating in the one and we have never been separated. Our reality is that one. All the rest is created. All the rest is an illusion.

This is a great opportunity that is provided to every seeker. Whoever seeks to find the truth can find it.

How do you find it? By going within. How do you go within? By discovering a person outside in your life who has gone within. And a person that you discover outside your life who has gone within will take you only as far as he has gone. He can't take you more.

The difficulty is that in this subject of spiritual awareness, every level that we perceive looks like the final level. People get a little glimpse of something, and they say, this is reality. People have different kind of journeys in their inner experiences. Some people have experiences by knocking at the doors of different chakras below. People take drugs and say they get extrasensory perceptions. They get extra experiences.

Whatever they do, every experience looks to them as if it the final experience beyond the physical. Therefore, there are limitations. Every teacher, every master of every kind has a limit to what he can teach you and where he can take you. Most of these, I have discovered ... I just celebrated my 84th birthday, and you are coming and saying happy birthday to me, 84 years is a lot of time in the physical world in one body to research this thing. My research has shown that 99.9% of the teachers who are today teaching us what is spiritual are teaching us what lies within the mind and created universe outside.

They have given us different levels. They have given us inner experiences. They have given us journeys into the unknown, but it is all up to a level of time, space, and the mind. The number of Perfect Living Masters who can tell us that the reality of your own self is not divided at all, it lies beyond the mind, is so few. At all times you can count it on the number of fingers on your hands, there are so little.

So therefore, it is not possible by doing a research and going into a list of spiritual teachers. You can go on internet and see thousands of teachers are there teaching the same thing in every country. In fact, in India if you go, there are more teachers than students today. And Great Master used to say, "The guship has grown so much that there are more gurus than chelas."

So that is why people are teaching everything, but the teaching is not what the Perfect Living Masters take us to. They do not come here to teach. They come here to take us back home. It is a big distinction between the two. Teaching they follow because others are doing the teaching. They follow a format for their work of taking us back home by following what the format is going on in the universe around, and our mind will not accept other formats.

Therefore, they give a long rope to us. They say, go ahead, follow this, follow that also. Is this better for you? Go ahead with that. You are following something else? Go ahead with that also. They do not discourage us. Anything they feel is taking us towards a realization of who we are inside, they encourage. They do not even say, "Oh, don't first find out a perfect guru and then follow him." They say "Follow any guru who tells you, follow any teacher who tells you to go within themselves."

Because they know that everyone of these people who come into our life and guide us towards our own inner self is taking a step towards their path. But to take us beyond our own mind to our own reality is left to the privilege of the Perfect Living Masters, Who Themselves operate from beyond the mind and

can take us beyond the mind to our own reality. That is why the qualification required to find a Perfect Living Master is a very simple one. It is an earnest desire to seek. If you are a seeker in your heart, in your mind, and you are seeking the truth because you are fed up with the untruth. If you are seeking the reality because the show you have been through is too messy, is too bad, you are done with it, you are fed up with it. If you are in that state and you are seeking, you are bound to find a Perfect Living Master eventually. That's the system.

There is no other way to find a Perfect Living Master except through seeking. If you think that you can judge by the qualifications of a human being and find out who is a Perfect Living Master, I tell you, "You are a master yourself then. Then you are as good as the Perfect Living Master if you have such knowledge that you can say this person is a Perfect Living Master, because a Perfect Living Master will never say, "I am a Master. "

He will not even exhibit the qualities of some of these qualified psychics and qualified people who are showing extrasensory perception and doing street miracles. He won't even do that. He doesn't have to. That is not His job. His job is to pick up the seeker and divulge to the seeker who he is and take him back home. So therefore, it is not that we find a Master. There's no way we can find a Master. I know no way in which a human being with a sharp intellect can ever find a Master.

He will keep on analyzing and say, "This one has these characteristics and this one doesn't. He is too ordinary to be a master. This one, no, I asked him something and he didn't have the answer, not a Master." The checklist of what our intellect tells us could be a Master is so faulty that we cannot see where the love lies, where love and devotion can take us. The mind is incapable of love and devotion. Only the spirit can love.

Therefore, when you use the mind exclusively to search for a Master, you fail. But a Master can find you. The truth is that every person I have met in my life who has been able to get initiated by a Perfect Living Master has been found by the Master, by a series of coincidences in life, series of steps that have gone on in their life, different levels through which they passed, different kind of seekings they had, different kind of disappointments they had, different kind of pain and suffering they had in the physical world, all added up to their being ready. When they were ready, by coincidence a person comes along who happens to be the Perfect Living Master, and they enable that seeker very quickly, in spite of the objections of the mind, to find out this was a Master.

So this is something which is not based upon intellectual or rational principles. It is based upon the intensity of inner seeking. If you seek intensely, a Master will come and pick you up. Of course, the mind will question, the mind will doubt, because apart from the function of thinking that the mind has been given, it has also been given the function of putting things together, creating logical sequences.

And therefore, the mind has to question everything. By questioning everything, it is a great generator of doubts and therefore doubts everything. If you give a clear indication to the mind, "This is it! There

must be a catch in it. Let me find out what the catch is.” The skepticism is built into the mind, and, therefore, the mind will create doubts. What follows from the doubts is fear.

Once you have a doubt, you also have fear. So doubt and fear seem to be a subsidiary function of the mind, not very good for a spiritual seeker, but that is what comes in the way. Even when a seeker with intense seeking from his soul and his spirit comes across a person, a human being who happens to be a Perfect Living Master, the mind will create these doubts and create these fears.

And to overcome them, it takes time, but the method Perfect Living Masters use is, first, go along with you, to satisfy your mind, put it aside. “Okay, what are your questions?” “Here are the answers.” “You got some answers.” “Okay, any more questions?” “Yes, I have more.” “Okay.” Gradually you say, “What questions am I asking? What is the relevance of these questions? My seeking is deeper than these questions. What am I trying to satisfy myself for?”

Then comes the part that you get trapped. Then you have no questions. Then you only feel, this guy has some kind of a love which I have not experienced before. The difference in the love that a Master can give us is that it is unconditional. It is not based upon reciprocity. It is not based upon what we do. A Master, if he is a Perfect Living Master, will allow us to experience love which is unconditional. You don’t experience it because you love the Master. You may hate the Master!

If you are on His list, you will experience unconditional love from that Master. You can do whatever you like; you will still experience unconditional love from a Master. That distinguishes that human being from all other human beings, and, therefore, gradually, you come to realize this is a different connection we have. This is something different happening to us. That is when the revelation comes, and then following the instructions a Master gives merely to satisfy our mind and to satisfy the sensory and bodily functions of us. He says, “Do meditation. Follow these disciplines. Follow this.” Mind says, “That looks very sensible. You must get something by doing these things,” and we follow that.

Eventually we discover that none of them were necessary except the love and devotion and connection with the Master through that affection that He was giving us. The mind would not accept it, so the Master takes us through a series of steps which ultimately lead to a faith built upon the love we are experiencing. The faith is not built upon the other experiences we are having. Then we are having experiences here which are self-created to keep up the show in working order. The show of creation in the physical world has to be kept in working order, and one law alone has been able to achieve that. Orderliness of this show has been achieved by one law, and that is called the law of karma. It is a wonderful law.

If I had to design a law for any kind of created universe, I could not find a better one than that. The law of karma states very simply, “Whatever you do willfully with your intention, you must reap the consequences. Do good, you will get a reward. Do bad, you are punished. Do good and bad, you are rewarded and punished.” It is not that one cancels the other.

You never cancel anything. This law is so beautiful. This law completely perpetuates the creation. It makes the creation permanent because you can do whatever you like, and you come up with the consequence of it and stay here. No way to escape. There could be never a bigger prison house, a better designed trap than the law of karma. One law has been used to perpetuate and create this universe in this form, that whatever you do, you are trapped here. You can't get out.

You can achieve very high status by continuously doing good things. You can reach status of the creator of the universe at a certain level. It is said that Krishna, one of the avatars, avatars of Vishnu, the God of Sustenance in Hindu religion ... In the Hindu pantheons of gods, Vishnu is considered to be the sustainer of the universe, and he comes in the form of avatars who come as incarnations of that god to take care of the world. That is what the Indian books say.

According to that, one of the avatars well known avatars, was Krishna. We call him Lord Krishna, we worship Krishna. Many people in Hawaii, Honolulu, say, "Hari Krishna, Hari Rama." At the airport they used to say that. You might have heard that. That Krishna, when he was very young, he had awareness that he had come to sustain and to see the sustenance of the world, that the world was running according to the law of karma.

Therefore, even at a very young age he is speaking to a friend of his called Udo, and that is a very famous saying of his. He tells the young boy Udo, and Krishna himself is a young man, he says, "Udo, karman ki ghat nyari se" : that the nature of karma is very, very rare and very difficult to find out. And then he points out to an ant crawling on the ground. He said, "Udo, see this ant crawling on this ground? He has taken the form of an ant. It has once been Brahma, the creator of this universe. At one time it was also head of one of the heavens called Indra, and he has been heading that heaven. The law of karma got him those positions, and the law of karma brought him back as an insect now."

The law of karma is so relentless that you can reach the highest level, be it running as the creator of the universe and become an insect? He pointed out that, "The law of karma is such a relentless law it has made this universe perpetual, made this creation perpetual. This creation is as permanent as the creator now, and when you dissolve this creation, you set the seeds for a new creation on the same law."

So this law of karma binds us here. It is a mental law. It is a law that the mind recognizes. All judicial laws of different countries have been framed on that basis. They are framed on the same basis. You do good, you are rewarded. You do bad, you are punished, and the punishment will be according to how bad you are. What makes good and bad? Your mind makes it what is good or bad. Like Shakespeare says, "There is nothing either good or bad. The mind makes it good or bad." Our own conscience, which is an aspect of the mind, the mind's aspect called conscience says, "This is good, this is bad." We trap ourselves with that.

There is no way to get out of all this, and nobody can tell us how to get out of this except one who is operating outside this whole system. What is outside the system? Our soul, our consciousness. Even

now while we are sitting here talking to each other, it is lying in the realm beyond this system, beyond the mind, but we are trapped because we identify ourselves with the mind. We identify ourselves with the senses. We identify ourselves with the body, and we are trapped here.

The Perfect Living Masters, even when they are in human form in our life, while they are talking to us as human beings, they are in touch with their consciousness beyond the mind. They are in touch with the reality while they are talking to us as human beings. Therefore, there is a very big difference in an association with such people. When you associate with them, the very presence of somebody who, at the very time that we are with them, is talking with knowledge of total consciousness in which you and that person both are included. When you see a Perfect Living Master in a human body, you are not seeing a person. You are seeing your own self and that person together, but you can't see that. You see only the outside, but the Perfect Living Master is seeing both. He is seeing you in your totality, Himself in His totality, and there is no difference in the two.

Look at their viewpoint. Look at what the viewpoint of a Master of that kind would be. When we come across such a person, in looking at us and looking at the world, imagine what He is seeing. He is seeing oneness. He is seeing himself. He is seeing how the show has been set up. He sees how different individuated souls created to experience different points of view of the same consciousness are operating and how some are ready to go back to the totality, some are still working here. He sees that.

Therefore, when we come across a person like that and He says, "I accept you. Your name is on my list. As a human being, I have come here. I had a limited list. I didn't come for trillions and trillions of souls who are scattered over the universe. I came for a limited number who are ready. I came with that. Other human beings will come. They always come. Human beings will always come endowed with this capacity of retaining their total consciousness, and they will be called Perfect Living Masters, and They will pick up the souls that are on their list. They are marked souls. They are like a shepherd come to collect His marked sheep." It is like that.

Therefore, when a person who is a Perfect Living Master comes and accepts him, we call that acceptance "initiation." We say, "To get initiated by a Perfect Living Master is the greatest thing that can happen." I believe that. I believe there is no event in human life, or any life, that can compare with this. I don't know any event whatsoever that compares with a Perfect Living Master with that consciousness coming into our life and saying, "I accept you for initiation."

It changes everything. It has changed everything from that moment. Your life has undergone the biggest possible change. You are no longer bound by the laws of karma. You are no longer bound by anything that attaches you here. Everything is now being governed by totality of consciousness operating through a Master, who then manifests in your local consciousness, even in your physical consciousness, He manifests, and on a daily basis we begin to see events happening in the outside show.

"This must be the hand of the master." "This is a miracle happening for me." "That is a great

coincidence that happened.” Even little, little things like that keep on happening, and we attribute it to the Master because He is now involved. He has gotten totally involved. He has taken you out of the normal laws of karma. You have a huge accumulation of karma.

I sometimes mention to you how big the reserve we have built of karma over centuries and centuries of reincarnation, and that can create millions of future lives. When a Perfect Living Master initiates you, he burns and destroys all that reserve karma. There is no reserve karma to create any future lives.

Therefore, the very law which sustains and perpetuates this universe is being broken at that time, as you have only a few karmas of this life left. In the few decisions you are making with your mind, with your so-called free will in this life, that is the only karma left. It is a very big change, and then after that, you say, “I am going to do my duty.” “I am going to do these things.” The Master says, “Why worry? I have accepted you. I will do all that for you.”

Do you know that if you are initiated by a Perfect Living Master and you say, “Master, now I am initiated, do everything for me. I want to do nothing.” He will do it for you. Everything that you can think of or conceive of, He can do. The mind doesn’t accept it. The mind there are external circumstances don’t accept it. We keep on saying, “Master, I want to do it. Give me help. I can do a little bit. You give me some support in this.” Master says, “Go ahead, okay whatever you think you can do, go ahead.”

It is so difficult for us to surrender in the early stages of our experiences on the spiritual path; to surrender to a power that has taken over control, that has taken over responsibility, that has taken over everything, and, therefore, as time grows and you discover that what you are trying to do, what your struggle is, what your duties are and you are performing them, behind that, the Master is putting His hand, “Okay, okay, give you a little push here, give you a little push here. You have to go through some karma, old karma, but only for this life. Alright, I will help you. If it is too hard, let me know. I will try to wrangle some little elements of it and change it.”

It is a great relationship. Do you know, I have not found any greater relationship of two friends except one, a disciple and his Master. They are the best of friends. There is no real friendship like that. A friendship where you feel that you stand for each other. A friendship where you feel you are on the same level and equal. It is a most beautiful relationship.

One of my colleagues who was a disciple of Great Master, a beautiful man. He was a veterinary doctor. I tell you his stories many times. In smaller groups one day I will tell you more stories. His name was Dr. Isha Singh. He came to the conclusion, after wonderful experiences with his Master, he came to the conclusion that, “A Perfect Living Master becomes a friend first, Master next, not the other way around. Don’t think that He is a Master first, then he becomes friendly. Not at all.” He says, “He is a friend first, then He reveals He is a Master.” So therefore, this friendship, the feeling that you can do things common, you can share in each other’s work.

He reduces His work, a Perfect Living Master comes and starts working in this world. One Master was weaving all his life. Amongst His disciples were rich, multi millionaires, who said, "Give up the weaving loom. You don't need it." He said, "I need it. I need it to work with people who are working in the same way."

Another one was a cobbler, mending shoes. He remained a cobbler, and kings were sitting at His feet and following Him. They said, "You don't need this. You can come to our palace and live there." "No, it is necessary for me to be a cobbler because I have to be friends with people who only can accept me as a cobbler, not in a royal palace." The Masters come and engage Themselves in activities in the physical world which match the activities of their disciples, and, therefore, They become friends. This friendship is so important. This, itself, changes one's life.

I have said so many things about creation. I have said things about things being beyond the mind. The rational mind can say, "You are making up these stories." I can, anybody can make stories. Maybe nothing exists. Maybe there is no such thing as any higher region. Maybe this is the whole thing. Materialists believe, materialism believes, "This is the whole thing right here. Everything else is just imaginary, made up by us." Okay, maybe it is. If I were to go along and say, "Yes, this is all a material thing." Even then I say the story I made up is very good. It made me so happy, took care of everything.

All my life changed just by a story? It is a very good story then! In the story, in the process of making a story, I found a friend who is a perfect friend, a friend from whom I experienced unconditional love. I would never have experienced that without the story. The story is very fundamental. It doesn't matter what your faith about the story is or not. It is the experience that you have with a man like that, that convinces you that this is something different going on. It is not the level of knowledge, intellectual knowledge that will tell you who a Perfect Living Master is. It is the experience with that Master that will tell you who he or she is.

Therefore, this path is a path of love and devotion and friendship. It gives you an experience of true friendship, gives you an experience of true love. It gives you an experience of unconditional love, which is otherwise extremely rare. I can't find it! I go ... people say we are...what do they call it? We are souls, what are they called? (Soulmates) They call themselves soulmates. We are one soul. We became soulmates, and we found true love.

After 3 months they are in divorce court. I say, "What happened to the soul mate stuff?" "No, we knew from day one we were not made for each other." "But that is the day when you told me you were soulmates!" What happens? We discover that the mind creates doubt. The mind creates fear. All the time, in every relationship, including with the Master. How can we rely upon that mind to discover the truth about love and devotion? Therefore, it is the Master's unconditional love that awakens in us that response that we can recognize that there is something more real than we have ever known, and that reality is beyond our minds.

I have given you these stories because they arise from my experience. I have not given you a single story from a book, except I did quote a couple of things, but the fact that Perfect Living Masters function like this is based upon my experience with a man, a human being, a white-haired man. He is called the Great Master. It is experience with that man that makes all this possible for me. I have no doubt that if this has been made possible for me, an ordinary person like me, in ordinary circumstances, where I came from, where I grew up, what I have gone through. I look back upon my life, and if one ordinary person with a white beard can do this to me, I am quite sure it can do to all of you if you come across a Perfect Living Master with your own seeking in your own heart. You don't have to shout. To get to a Perfect Living Master you don't have to shout. It is all internal. Just be intense with your seeking. Say, "Master, I am done with this. I am done with this messy stuff that we call life here, and I want to move on. I want to move on to more real things. Master, I don't know where the ultimate reality is. I want to move at least one step forward. Ultimately take me where you are." And the Master will take you exactly where He is.

A Master never takes you, a Perfect Living Master never takes you to a level below Himself. If He comes from totality of consciousness, He will put you in touch with totality of consciousness. If you merely follow His ordinary instructions in this physical life, He will take you right within this life. If you have problems and difficulties because of your mind and your excuses, you know, "I have other problems and it is very difficult to do it," He may give you another chance, but He will take you back to the same level where he belongs.

When I come to celebrate a holiday with you like this, I think this is a celebration of being with a Master. I think it is a celebration we call it Christmas or other names we give to the holidays, this is because we remember people who are enlightened, people who have gone beyond our own level of experience, people who have spread love in this world. We are remembering them. I know that a lot of the Christmas season, in this country particularly, is buying and giving of gifts, presents, and some people love to buy presents, love to give presents, and more than that, love to receive presents, but some of them are under hardship. I meet people who say, "Oh, God, again Christmas time has come. I don't have the money enough to buy all the presents. My list is 50 people." You are not making a holiday out of it. You are making a pressurized celebration which you are trying to force yourself to follow.

And then I find, "Oh, I have nobody to celebrate Christmas with. I can't live like this. I am going to commit suicide." You commit it. I was shocked to hear that the rate of suicides in this country is the highest during the holidays because people are more lonely, and they see that the rest of the year they can spend without anybody around, running around clubs, internet, and whatever, but during the Christmas holiday they need physical presence. It is not there, and they think it is so bad to be alone. It is so bad that it is worth ending your life.

Look at the different sides of this holiday. It is not all as glorious as we think it is. Look at me. I have

been traveling around, I've been meeting people. For several years I have not had an opportunity to be alone. I sometimes wish I could have a holiday where I can be just alone. People say, are you foolish? It is stupid to be alone. You have a lot of company.

Every few years, some people who know me for a long time, they know that every few years I used to have a break of two or three days and just go hide and myself alone, with no contact with anybody, and enjoy it! Nobody seems to be enjoying that any more here. They say, "We are lonely, we are missing somebody. On these holidays we miss even more."

So if you are on the spiritual path, if you are really on the spiritual path, I can tell you one other thing, a secret. You can never be alone. If you are initiated by a Perfect Living Master and have followed simple instructions to manifest the presence of the Master within you, which we call manifesting the Radiant Form of the Master within, if you can do that much, you can never be alone. You will always have the company of the Master. It's so beautiful, and you will have company the same way like you have in the physical world, even more than that. You travel together, you talk to each other, you have all kinds of beautiful experiences together. You fly whenever you like together, no airplanes needed. There are so many things one does just by having a Perfect Living Master in one's life.

I think that's a true celebration of a holiday. I wish all of you enjoy that kind of holiday, and you all fly in the upper skies in the regions that lie beyond the physical skies. They are all available to you and just represent different levels of consciousness. This world is not created in one level. It's created, It is almost like you open up one, then another one opens up. It is like the peeling of the onion. You keep on taking off, and there is something else inside it. You take one cover off, you have another one.

This world is created like that. The physical world is merely one thing. You withdraw your attention from the physical world, put it inside you in the seat of consciousness, from where everything is being experienced, just go back there, get rid of the awareness of this world, and another one opens up; different, more wonderful than this, and you withdraw from there, another world opens up.

Ultimately you can keep on doing this endlessly in the company of a Master, in the company of One Who knows that route of opening layers of consciousness. You go with Him, ultimately you come to a total reality where there is no two, no one, there was no number. It was just totality of consciousness in which the show of creation took place, where the show of being conscious took place, and that is the ultimate aim of these Perfect Living Masters, to take us, take anyone who is initiated by Them, to that level of reality.

Once you have that reality, it doesn't mean that you are lost to other levels. Indeed, you have got all the levels if you reach that reality. If you are following a meditational program of a Perfect Living Master, He tells you to go stage by stage. You withdraw your attention from here, shut off this experience, become unaware of the physical world in your own body, where consciousness is operating, open up another world. Step one.

When you have that experience, you are not having experience of this physical world. It is just like a dream state. When you go to sleep at night, you cut off the experience of this physical world. You go to bed, close your eyes, and you go into a dream state, which is another world opening up. At that time, the dream of running around and doing things, you are not aware that you are lying in a bed sleeping. You cut off the awareness of the wakeful state because you go on into dream state.

Similarly, when you withdraw your attention from the wakeful state by deliberate process of not going to sleep but opening up another world, you go into a state of a world which is very different, follows different laws, laws of time and space are different, laws of gravity don't apply, many laws of the physical universe don't apply, it is a different kind of life there, yet a highly populated place with a bigger time span of creation than you have here, the big bang has not affected that state.

Therefore, you go into another world. But while you are in that world, this is not there. You have withdrawn from it. You can go to another world, still higher than that into a world where all the concepts came up from, where the whole beginning of this creation of the mind took place. It is a separate world altogether. You have left the physical world, you left the astral sensory world, and opened up a new one. It is a separate world. While you are in that world, you don't have any access to the physical world. You have withdrawn yourself from here.

You go still higher, go beyond the mind, and you discover that you are pure consciousness. You are the soul. The rest was all created to help you to have experience. When you go into that, it is a new world, but when you have the world of the spiritual self, you have no access to the world of the physical or the world of the astral or sensory, or the world of the mind. You have withdrawn from there, but when you go to the totality of consciousness, all the five worlds come back to you.

That is why the Perfect Living Masters, when they are with us, at one time, at the same time they are experiencing all the levels of the consciousness. Not only are they experiencing it, they are working at all the levels. They are working with their souls who are on the marked list in the physical world. They are working with souls who have been with them much longer in the astral plane. They are working with souls who are still stuck up on the concept stage, conceptual stage, and they are working with souls on the spiritual stage.

They are working at the same time, and their awareness is opened up to all the five levels at once. You can have that, too, but it only happens when you reach totality and not at the intermediate stages. That is why there is a very big distinction between the experience of a Perfect Living Master, who has got all the five stages of awareness open and he flips from one to the other as he likes at the same time; than from us, who can at one time have only one level of experience, which is our reality of that time.

Today at this time, our physical world, physical awareness created by a physical body, is our only reality. There is no other reality. Everything else is imaginary. Dreams are imaginary. Astral is imaginary. Sach Khand is imaginary. Heavens are imaginary. The only real thing is physical reality.

When we go to another level, that becomes the only reality. Everything else becomes imaginary.

Therefore, when you reach the fifth final stage of totality of consciousness, you will find that nothing was real anyway! Anywhere! They were all realities created by us, and you can tap into any reality at any time. This is a very different experience. That is why Perfect Living Master said, “Don’t rest content with any kind of spiritual progress unless you go to totality.” Great Master used to say, my teacher, my Master used to say, “His path, his spiritual path begins from Par Brahm above the mind and goes to totality. The rest,” He says, “Is just preparation for the path.” He thought going up to universal minds and going into astral stages and stages of discovery of time and space is all preparation for the real journey. The journey was that high.

I congratulate so many of you sitting here for this holiday, initiates of Perfect Living Masters, and I feel very privileged to be in such a good company of people who are already accepted, and we are fellow travelers. We are going to the same destination, and this is a celebration for me. I come to you with celebration of this kind, exchange gifts, exchange presents, exchange pleasantries also. Don’t commit suicide. Enjoy yourself and have a holiday. Eat, drink, and be merry. Don’t drink alcohol. Don’t drink and drive. Don’t even drink ordinary drinks and drive. Try to be on the path, on track. Enjoy with all your intensity to take advantage of it. This is a very good opportunity, like every other opportunity to remember your Master.

Opportunity to remember that we have a great opportunity, and we have been initiated by a Perfect Living Master. There is nothing like it. We found a true friend in our life. Enjoy the friendship. Enjoy the friendship externally as much as you can find, which is not much. Internally, as much as you can find, which is a lot.

So, therefore, I wish you all very, very happy holidays and also wish you very Happy New Year 2011. I am sure there will be more spiritual development in the area where are sitting, in this country itself, in the next year than has ever happened in the history before. I am saying this on the authority of my own Master, who said, who went that far as to say that, “The axis of spirituality itself, which had been focused for centuries in the East, is shifting to the West.” He also said that, “This axis of spirituality, where a number of Perfect Living Masters appear to take care of a larger number of true seekers, is shifting itself into the West and will localize itself in a big way about this time in North America.” He said that.

So I am just quoting something that the Great Master said long, long ago. He said that about 60 years ago, the statement that I am repeating. In truth I must tell you as friends that I was living a very comfortable life in India, had a good job. I was offered the job of governorship of a state. I was offered a job in the cabinet of the government there. I was offered a job with a huge house and do nothing but make other people work. I would get a big pension. I left all that. Why did I come here?

I came here because of Great Master’s words that the spiritual axis, the axis of spirituality is going to

shift to this country, and you will have more spirituality here than in the East, which will all become involved with building material things. More factories, more industries, more money, and this will go from having too much money, not giving any happiness, not giving real spirituality, back into the spiritual path. He predicted this, and because of the prediction, I rushed here to take a ringside seat. I am sitting on the ringside seat and watching that what he said is actually happening.

So blessings from the Great Master to all of you, and enjoy your holiday! Thank you.

Now there will be a song that I always try to play on my iPhone on the YouTube. It is a song that I heard Tiki singing in Minnesota when we were there, and it is a beautiful song. It is a favorite song of mine, and I was very surprised to...Did I hear it in Wisconsin the first time at the Christine Center? To walk into a hall where people are sitting, and she is singing this Indian Punjabi song from the scriptures of the Sikh religion, Guru Granth Sahib, where there were 10 gurus came. The fifth one was the most vocal and gave more information than any other guru out of the 10. He sang this song, and she is singing that song, the same song, in Indian language. I was very impressed. I stood like this. I was wondering what was going on.

“Where am I”, I thought for a moment. That song says that “Whatever you ask from a Perfect Living Master, whatever you ask from the Lord, He will give you.” It is that simple. But the caveat which is hidden in this song is, you have to ask with full faith, and love and devotion. If you have full faith and love and devotion, you will get whatever you want. The song also says that “He has power over all the nine universes. In spite of that power, He still puts his hand on your head and grants you the blessings that nobody else can ever grant.” (someone’s phone starts ringing with a chirping noise) The same song says, “If he gives you a hug,” if he gives you a hug, (aside: birds chirping? audience laughs - Crickets chirping.) “If he gives you a hug, Kanth Lae” that song says, “he removes so many of your negative things, vices of yours, that he wipes out a lot of your karma merely by giving you a hug.” A person, a human being.

I mean this is amazing that such a song showing the power of the Lord in human form can do, that just talking to you, shaking your hand, doing something, can have that power to remove so much of your karma. I was very impressed, and I said, “Tiki, you must sing this song when we celebrate our holidays.” Would you like to hear that song? I have given you the meaning already. Whatever you ask from your Master, He will give you. With all his power of the nine worlds, He puts His hand just on your head and grants you so much grace. It wipes out so much negativity that is standing in your way. He gives you a hug, and he wipes out so many vices that were standing in the way and creating karma for you, and you are free from them. Whatever you ask from your Master, He will give you. With love and devotion, ask for it.

Jo Mange Satguru apne te soi soi deve

Jo Mange Satguru apne te soi soi deve

Chatura disa, kino bale apna, Sire upara kara dareyo

Kirpa katak avalokan kino, das ka duk bidareyo

Jo Mange Satguru apne te, soi soi deve

Jo Mange Satguru apne te, soi soi deve

Thank you, Tiki. Thank you.

There is some food for celebration on the tables behind you. I know many people have been waiting for that! “When will he stop talking so we can go to the real celebration?” Because so many functions we have where people think that eating the food is the real celebration. I agree. I will only say that, “Not only this food should be eaten, which can sometimes be overeaten or something. There is a lot of delicious food inside ourselves. In meditation you go in the very first stage of your experiences. You can have sensory experiences which are nothing that this world can match. If you are interested in good food and have a feast without adding weight to you, without adding calories, that’s the place to go! Not this table.” But this food is also pretty good. I had a look at it. By looking at it, I was reminded of a story, a short story, that won the first prize in a short story competition.

I read it shortly after I arrived in this country, and that short story was about a man who wanted to find a soul mate, and he could not find a soulmate. He did not know how to find one. He was single. He had to buy his own groceries. He had to buy his own detergents to wash his laundry. So he had gone to the store to buy a laundry packet of detergent. When he went there, he saw Tide, Dawn, and so many other names. He said, “I don’t know which one to buy.” So he closed his eyes just to go and pick up one box, whichever came to his hand. When he closed his eyes and was about to walk, a woman passed by. He got hold of her. He knew that was his soul mate! It came so suddenly, so he married her. The short story says when he married her there was a big feast.

Now the author of the short story says, the feast was all laid out. All the food was laid out on the tables. But where was God? God was in the basement. He was looking at the electric meters to see how much grace He had distributed the last month, because, the author says, “Electricity in this age is grace. There is no difference. You can measure the grace by the happenings in your life.” We go to a meter and see from the electric meter.”

So God was measuring the grace of how much he had given in the last month, and then the author, who is the man who marries that woman, he says, “I was standing there. The food tables were in front of me, and I could see the footsteps, God coming up the steps from the basement, and I knew he was behind me.” I said, “He is in full support. He is supporting my wedding, so I peeped with the corner of

my eye to see, is God looking at me to support me? No, I behold, God was looking at the food!” So he was blessing the food. With this story, all the food is now blessed, so you go and enjoy it.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H0_zA2p1YhU

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