

# The Guru



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## TRUE AND FALSE GURUS

In India real Gurus know not only how to baptize with water but also with Spirit, or the Holy Ghost. But alas! Many Hindus in their temples, and many Christians in their churches, are baptized only with water, temporarily experiencing good physical baptism, but knowing and perceiving nothing of those marvelous soul-renewing experiences of spiritual baptism. Ministers in churches and priests in temples are oftentimes chosen only by virtue of their intellectual study of the scriptures, and sacerdotal authority conferred on them by ceremonies, performed by formally higher spiritual authority. But real ministers and priests who are fit to be Gurus train first their inner selves in the theological school of intuition and meditation. They must spiritually baptize themselves first before they can aspire to baptize others at all. They teach their disciples not for mundane gains, but, being impelled by God, they baptize them spiritually. It is admirable to lecture and teach good principles, but without becoming a real Guru one cannot redeem souls, nor should he accept others as disciples until he has progressed far himself. Once the true relationship of Guru and disciple is established there will be no more blind spiritual gropings, roamings, or partings because of admonition on the part of the Guru, or for any other reason. Usually there is instantaneous recognition between Guru and disciple, but sometimes it takes long to remember consciously that past close friendship, or to recognize the forgotten memory of past incarnations, so long buried beneath ash-heaps of ignorance.

It is said that one time a preacher of the *Ballyhoo* type somehow managed to force himself into heaven. Surprised at not being profusely welcomed, he said, "Don't you know me, God? I introduced you and your son, Jesus, in the biggest auditoriums on earth." God and Jesus replied in unison, "You may have introduced us, but we did not know anything about it." The preacher, growing very angry, exclaimed, "Why, this is outrageous. I have sent souls to Heaven by the car-loads. It must by this time be getting packed tight with souls sent by me." Then God replied, "You managed to start them alright on their way, but none of them arrived." You may be told by ignorant priests and ministers that they will send you to Heaven, and you may blindly believe this to be so, but you cannot ever reach there without true meditation.

Know also that one cannot be a Guru by self-choice; he must be ordained to serve and save others by a real Guru, or else he must hear in reality the voice of God asking him to redeem others. Many become self-appointed Gurus after reading a few occult books and listening to the voice of their own misguided imagination or their falsely imaginative subconscious mind.

## REFLECTIONS ON THE GURU

### THE HEAVENLY GIFT

A Guru (Preceptor) is sent by God.

### THE NECESSARY HELP

The conception of Guru and Disciple depicts the only real way to retrace the truant soul's footsteps back to God.

### WE CAN HAVE MANY TEACHERS, BUT ONLY ONE GURU

We meet little teachers in the beginning through our vague desires to know Truth. But the Guru is the living embodiment of scriptural truths and is the agent of salvation appointed by God in response to a devotee's demands for release from all the bondage of matter.

### THE END OF THE SEARCH

It is extremely necessary to remember that in the beginning it is wise to compare many spiritual paths and teachers, but when the real Guru (Preceptor) and the real teaching is found, then the restless searching must cease. The thirsty one should not keep seeking wells, but should go to the best well and daily drink its nectar.

### INNER ATTUNEMENT

The way to all righteousness lies in tuning in your whim-guided will with the wisdom-guided will of your Guru. Harnessing your will to wisdom, you will cease to be swayed by prejudice and error, for you will then be guided always by righteousness. Such tuning in of your habit-led and whim-guided will with the wisdom-guided will of your Guru is far different from mechanical obedience to an unspiritual guide, no matter whether he is traditionally, religiously, or socially elected. To follow the blind unthinkingly is to fall with them into the pit of ignorance completely. To follow the awakened, if you are blind, is to reach the goal without danger.

### LIBERATION OF WILL

To tune in with a soul whose will is guided by wisdom is to find freedom of will.

### EMPOWERMENT

Most teachers, who slavishly control their students after the pattern of dogmatic teachings, destroy the power of free will in them, but obedience to a Guru does not produce spiritual blindness in the disciple. On the contrary, it develops his Third Eye of Wisdom and Intuition. Most teachers want their students to see through the teacher's eyes, but a Guru disciplines the disciple only until he can guide himself through wisdom.

### MUTUAL PROTECTION

When I accepted my Master's unconditional friendship, he said: "Will you be my friend under all circumstances? Will you protect me in my highest or in my lowest strata of mind? I was amazed, for how could I dream of my Master being in the lowest strata, but until I vowed to be his friend always, under all circumstances, he did not rest. He was gladdened when I said: "I will be thine always. " It was then, after this amazing spiritual compact, that I understood the significance of a Guru, and really, I never found complete satisfaction, comfort, and God Consciousness until I tuned myself in with the Divine consciousness of my Master.

### NEVER-ENDING FRIENDSHIP

The relationship of Guru and Disciple is unique. It is one of unconditional friendship, never-ending through many lifetimes, until emancipation is gained.

### GIVING AND RECEIVING

No disciple ever goes empty handed to his Master, who gives the disciple priceless spiritual treasures.

### DIVINE LOVE

A Guru is not a help for this life only. He also makes a spiritual soul-contact with the disciple, and says: "Let our friendship be eternal, and let us help each other through incarnations until we are both completely emancipated in Spirit." Sometimes, likewise, an advanced disciple can help a Guru, and vice versa. Such friendship is not based upon any selfish consideration or upon any condition. Such Divine Friendship and perpetual goodwill expressed between two or more souls gives birth to the ever-pure, unselfish, all-emancipating, Divine Love.