

I wanted to make him understand and experience that the thought, the feeling and the force that is in a gift is much more important and valuable than the thing given itself.

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A practical problem comes up more and more often: should one who is preparing to do Yoga and has made it a general rule to offer You everything and depend entirely on You, accept gifts, in money or kind, coming from others? Because if he accepts, he is put under personal obligations and duties. Can a sadhak allow this? Can he say to himself: "The Divine has many ways of giving"?

What is to be done if a person begins to quarrel because one has accepted a gift in one case and refused in another? What is to be done to avoid such bitterness around one, provoked by repeated refusals?

"The Divine has many ways of giving."

This is the correct thing. One never has any obligation to anybody, one has an obligation only to *the Divine* and there totally. When a gift is made *without conditions*, one can always take it as coming from the Divine and leave it to the Divine to take care of what is needed in exchange or response.

As for ill-will, jealousy, quarrels and reproaches, one must *sincerely* be above all that and reply with a benevolent smile to the bitterest words; and unless one is absolutely sure of himself and his reactions, it would be better, as a general rule, to keep silent.

6 October 1960

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People say, "God is the friend of the poor", but it seems wrong and false. God is the friend of the rich. We do not know what place we have.

To the rich God gives money, but to the poor He gives Himself.

Words of the Mother – III

All depends on the poor giving more value to the riches or to God.

22 August 1964

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The financiers and businessmen have been offered the possibility to collaborate with the future, but most of them refuse, convinced that the power of money is stronger than that of the future.

But the future will crush them with its irresistible power.

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In this material world, for men, money is more *sacred* than the Divine's Will.

12 March 1965

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Greed for money: the surest way to decrease one's conscience and to narrow one's nature.

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I am not for getting interest on money.

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I dabbled in stocks and shares a little, but came a cropper. The speculation I carried on for a while has burnt quite a hole in my pocket. I really wish I hadn't. Are you dead against speculation?

You ought to know that I do not approve at all of speculation — but what is done is done.

17 December 1939

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