

DIFFICULTIES OF SURRENDER

It is rare that somebody can surrender entirely to the Divine's Will without having to face one or another of the difficulties.

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How many efforts and struggles again to give ourselves, to surrender, once the individuality is constituted!

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For if the struggle is not an actual one, that does not mean that it will not come one day in one form or another.

For always, at least once in our life, we are placed in some circumstance to test whether we are ready for an entire surrender to the Divine Will; whether we are, before all, human beings striving to attain and manifest the Godhead; ready to renounce everything in the world — what seems to us good as well as what seems bad — for that supreme conquest. In that ascent towards the heights, both virtues and duties — that is to say our mental prejudices and preferences — stand far more in our way than our exterior weaknesses and faults. An error can always be used as a spring-board, whilst a virtue is more often a limit, a barrier that must be surmounted.

I will add, quoting a passage of *The Synthesis of Yoga*, “All these are within us waiting to wall in the spirit with forms; but we must always go beyond, always renounce the lesser for the greater, the finite for the Infinite; we must be prepared to proceed from illumination to illumination, from experience to experience, from soul-state to soul-state, so as to reach the utmost transcendence of the Divine and its utmost universality.”¹

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¹ Sri Aurobindo, SABCL, Vol. 20, p. 315.