

Text 390 atha naivedya mahatmyam
The glories of the Lord's remnants of food

varahe

yo mamaivArccanaM kRtvA/ tatra prApaNamuttamam
zeSamannaM zamaznAti/ tataH saukhyataraM nu kim

In the Varaha Purana it is stated: Can anyone achieve more happiness than that which is obtained by eating My prasada after worshiping Me and offering Me very palatable food?

Text 391 skande

tadopahAraM bhukttvA yaH/ sevate yajJapUruSam
sevitaM tena niyataM/ puroDAzo mahAdhiyA

In the Skanda Purana it is stated: A great soul who serves the Lord of sacrifice by relishing the remnants of His food lives happily by accepting whatever is allotted to him at the conclusion of sacrificial performances.

Text 392

kiJca tatraiva
zaGkhodakaM tIrthavarAdvariSThaM
pAdodakaM tIrthagaNAdgariSTham
naivedyazeSaM kratukoTipuNyaM
nirmmAtIyazeSaM vratadAnatulyam

In the same Purana it is also stated: Water from a conch shell is more sanctified than water from a holy place of pilgrimage. Water that washed the lotus feet of the Lord is more sanctified than the combined water of all holy places. The remnants of the Lord's food awards one more benefit than the piety earned by performing ten million sacrifices. The remnants of the Lord's flowers and other offerings award one merit equal to that which is achieved by following vows and giving charity.

Text 393

naivedyazeSaM tulasIvimizraM
vizeSataH pAdajalena siktam
yo 'znAti nityaM purato murAreH
prApnoti yajJAyutakoTipuNyam

One who regularly honors Lord Visnu's prasada with tulasi leaves, along with the water that washed His lotus feet, obtains the merit of performing ten thousand million sacrifices.

Text 394

SaDbhirmAsopavAsaistu/ yat phalaM parikIrttitam
viSNornaivedyazeSe yat/ phalaM tadbhuJjatAM kalau

In this age of Kali, simply by eating Lord Visnu's remnants of food, one achieves the merit of fasting for six months.

Text 395

kiJca, tatra zrIzAlagrAmazilA-mAhAtmye
bhaktyA bhunakti naivedyaM/ zAlagrAmazilArpitam
koTiM makhasya labhate/ phalaM zatasahasrazaH

In the same literature, this verse is found in connection with the glories of the salagrama sila: One who honors the remnants of food offered to the salagrama sila obtains the merit of performing hundreds of thousands of sacrifices.

Texts 396-397

brahmacAri-gRhasthaizca/ vAnaprasthaizca bhikSubhiH
bhoktavyaM viSNunaivedyaM/ nAtra kAryyA
vicAraNAbhukttvAnyadevanaivedyaM/ dvijazcAndrAyaNaJcayet
bhukttvA kezavanaivedyaM/ yajJakoTiphalaM labhet

All members of the four varnas and asramas should honor Lord Visnu's remnants of food. There is no use in arguing this point. If a brahmana eats the remnants of the demigods' food, he must atone by observing the vow of candrayana, and if he eats the remnants of Lord Visnu's food, he will achieve the merit of performing ten million sacrifices.

Texts 398-399

tatraiva zrIbrahmanArada-saMvAde
agniSTomasahasraistu/ vAjapeyazatairapi
tat phalaM prApyate nUnaM/ viSNornaivedyabhakSaNAAt
hRdi rUpaM mukhe nAma/ naivedyamudare hareH
pAdodakaJca nirmmAlyam/ mastake yasya so 'cyutaH

In a conversation between Brahma and Narada that is recorded in the Skanda Purana, these statements are found: The merit one obtains by performing one thousand agnistoma sacrifices and one hundred horse sacrifices can undoubtedly be achieved by honoring the remnants of Lord Visnu's food. One whose heart is decorated with the transcendental form of Lord Hari, whose mouth chants the holy name of Lord Hari, whose stomach is filled with the remnants of Lord Hari's food, and whose head is adorned with the remnants of Lord Hari's flower garlands and water that washed His lotus feet, is as glorious as Lord Acyuta Himself.

Text 400 kiJca

pAvanaM viSNunaivedyaM/ surasiddharSibhiH smRtam
anyadevasya naivedyaM/ bhukttvAcAndrAyaNaJcayet

It is also said: The remnants of Lord Visnu has been glorified by perfected beings, great sages, and demigods, as most sanctified. They have stated that after eating the

remnants of the demigods' food, one should undergo the atonement of performing the candrayana vow.

Texts 401-402

koTiyajJaistu yat puNyaM/ mAsopoSaNakoTibhiHtat phalaM prApyate pumbhir/
viSNornaivedyabhakSaNaAt

tulasyAzca rajojuSTaM/ naivedyasya ca bhakSaNam
nirmmAlyaJca dhRtaM yena/ mahApAtakanAzanam

The same merit that is obtained by performing millions of sacrifices and fasting for millions of months can be achieved simply by eating Lord Visnu's remnants of food. By honoring maha-prasada with tulasi leaves and by accepting the Lord's flower garlands and other things that were offered to Him, all of one's gravest sinful reactions are destroyed.

Texts 403-405 vRhadviSNupurANe

naivedyaM jagadIzasya/ annapAnAdikaJca yat
bhakSyAbhakSyavicArazca/ nAsti tadbhakSaNe dvijAH
brahmavannirvvikAraM hi/ yathA viSNustathaiva tat
vikAraM ye prakurvanti/ bhakSaNe taddvijAtayaH
kuSThavyAdhisamAyuktaH/ putradAravivarjjitAH
nirayaM yAnti te viprA/ yasmAnnAvarttate punaH

In the Brhat-visnu Purana it is stated: O brahmanas, know for certain that one should not discriminate, thinking, "This is fit for eating and this is not fit for eating," with regards to Lord Visnu's remnants of food and drink. Maha-prasada of Lord Visnu is unaffected by any material condition because it is transcendental, like the Lord Himself. Indeed, it is non-different from Lord Visnu. Those who discriminate, or have reservations about honoring Lord Visnu's remnants of food, will suffer from leprosy and reside in hell after losing his wife and children.

Text 406 viSNudharmmottare

navamannaM phalaM puSpaM/ nivedya madhusUdane
pazcAdbhuGktesvayaM yazca/ tasya tuSyati kezavaH

In the Visnu-dharmottara it is stated: Lord Kesava, the slayer of the Madhu demon, considers that person very dear to Him who offers Him everything, including rice, fruit, and flowers, and then partakes of the remnants.

Text 407 brahmANDapurANe

mukundAzanazeSantu/ yo hi bhugkte dine dine
sikthe sikthe bhavet puNyaM/ cAndrAyaNazatAdhikam

In the Brahmanda Purana it is stated: One who eats Lord Mukunda's remnants of food every day obtains the merit of performing one hundred cdndrayana vratas with each bite he consumes.

Text 408 anyatrApi

ekAdazIsahasraistu/ mAsopoSaNakoTibhiH

tatphalaM prApyate puMbhir-/ viSNornaivedyabhakSaNAAt. iti.

Elsewhere it is stated: Simply by honoring Lord Visnu's remnants of food, one obtains the merit of observing one thousand Ekadasi fasts and ten million fasts.

Text 409

tato yathoktamAcamya/ tAmbUIAdi vibhajya ca

mahAprasAdaM dAsyena/ gRhNIyAt prayataH svayam

Thereafter, one should, according to prescribed rules, perform acamana, offer betel nuts and spices to the Lord, and then, as an obedient servant, accept them as His remnants.

Text 410

tathA ca navamaskandhe zrImadambarISacarite

kAmantu dAsye na tu kAmakAmyayA

yathottamaHzlokajanAzrayA ratiH

In the Srimad-Bhagavatam [9.4.20], this verse is found, regarding the pastimes of Ambarisa Maharaja: Indeed, Maharaja Ambarisa never desired anything for his own sense gratification. He engaged all his senses in devotional service, in various engagements related to the Lord. This is the way to increase attachment for the Lord and be completely free from all material desires.

Text 411

naivedyabhakSaNe yacca/ nirmmAlyagrahaNe ca yat

mAhAtmyamAdau likhitaM/ jJeyaM sarvvamihApi tat

The glories of honoring the Lord's remnants of food and flower garlands are also applicable in this connection.

Thus ends the translation of the Ninth Vilasa of Sri Hari-bhakti Vilasa.