



By
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Money brings no misery

Questioner: Is it true that if you make progress economically, materially then unhappiness begins to settle in us?

Sadhguru: Now, does affluence bring suffering? Not necessarily. Money doesn't bring suffering, stupidity brings suffering. If people have decided the moment money enters their life, they are bound to become stupid, yes suffering will come. Money will not bring suffering; money will bring comfort, isn't it? Money cannot bring joy, but money will bring comfort and convenience.

Why should comfort and convenience become suffering? We wanted it, so why should, what we want become the source of suffering? Just because we have one thing, we completely forget about the other; that's been the problem of humanity. Let's say you went for a South Indian meal, and you ate only pickle, pickle, and pickle. It tastes wonderful, but by evening you'll have problems - it doesn't even wait until the next day.

So money and affluence is just like that. It's beautiful, if it comes in certain proportion into our lives. If you have enough money in your pocket, you don't have to worry about working tomorrow. You can close your eyes and meditate if you wish to, isn't it? The man, who is working from meal to meal; even if he wants to close his eyes, cannot do it.

So money is not misery. Stupidity is always misery. With what, you are stupid, whether spiritually stupid or economically stupid, it doesn't matter. There are all kinds of religious and spiritual idiots. Do you think they are happy?

So many people are going into the temples, mosques, and churches everyday, when they come out, do you see joyful radiant faces? When I was just 11 years of age, this intrigued me so much that I planted myself in front of a major temple just to watch people. I wanted to see how they are, after they meet God. They go in, they come out; all that you hear is gossip. They are talking more about somebody that they saw in the temple or about the footwear that goes missing and start cursing the whole creation and the creator.

I always found people who were coming out of restaurants seemed to have more joy and fulfilment on their face than the people who were coming out of the temple. What a shame, isn't it? What an absolute shame that a dosa can do something more than the divine! So the question is not about the divine, or dosa, or affluence. If human beings handle things improperly, misery will come, that's all. The money didn't stay in their pockets, it got into their head, and then misery is sure to come.