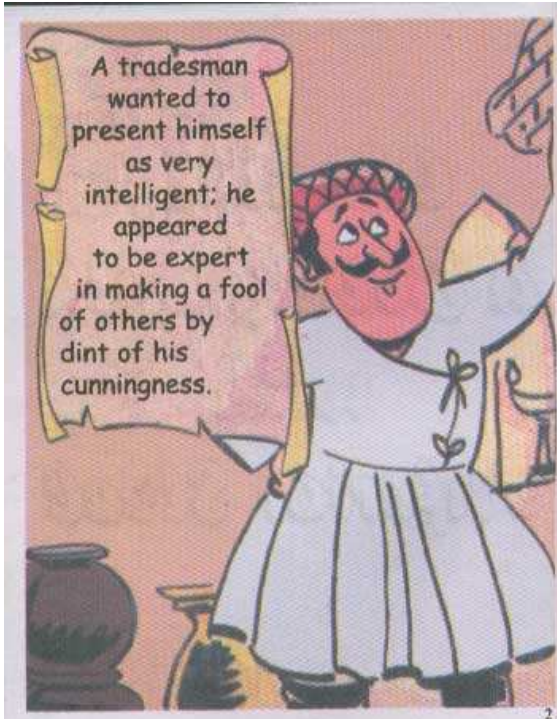


**Cheating  
a Blacksmith  
with  
Inferior Steel**



A tradesman wanted to present himself as very intelligent; he appeared to be expert in making a fool of others by dint of his cunningness.



Once he managed to get some coconuts from a vendor through his usual cunningness. Then he wanted a sharp chopper to break them open



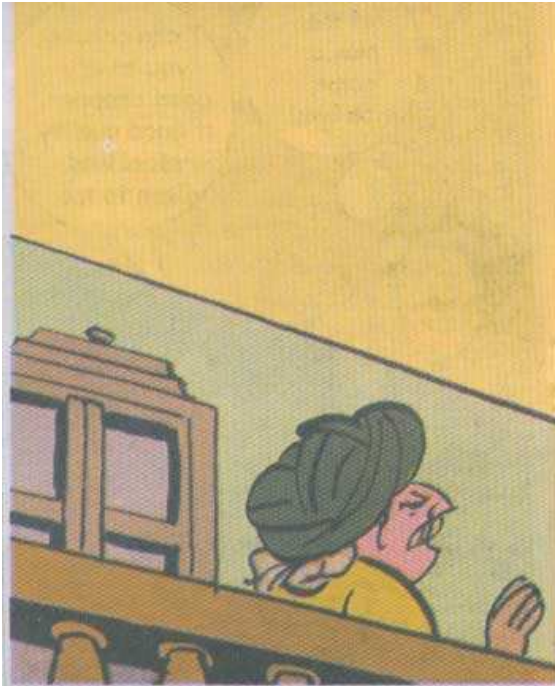
I can reshape this chopper through a blacksmith and make it first class again

hey! here is a rusty old chopper



let me play a game with him!

I can create you a very good chopper, if good quality steel was given to me.



I am a steel merchant and I have some good quality steel in my stock, I would like to give some extra amount of that steel - could you forge a chopper for me with that steel free of cost? Of course you may keep the extra steel. Whatever is left after forging the chopper, for your own labor charge? I can assure you that nowhere in India can you find such excellent steel that I will send you. It is very costly, you know!



After delivering such artful language, the tradesman in fact sent a condemned third-rate sheet of iron through his son to the blacksmith.



Just by glancing at the piece of iron, the blacksmith realized its quality

This is third class steel this tradesman has sent which is only a piece of useless iron. Let me make the chopper only with this steel, but the chopper was ineffective and practically useless





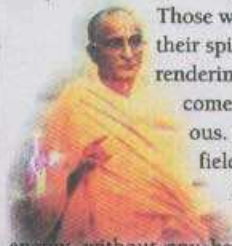
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21

#### PURPORT

By Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura



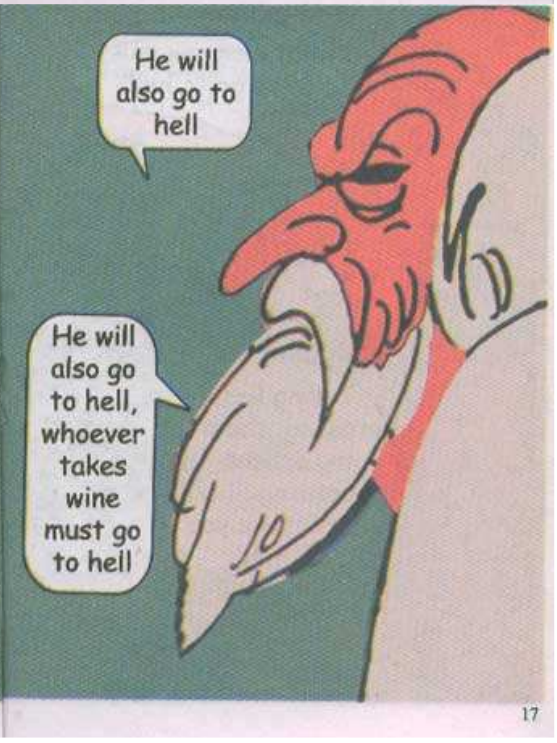
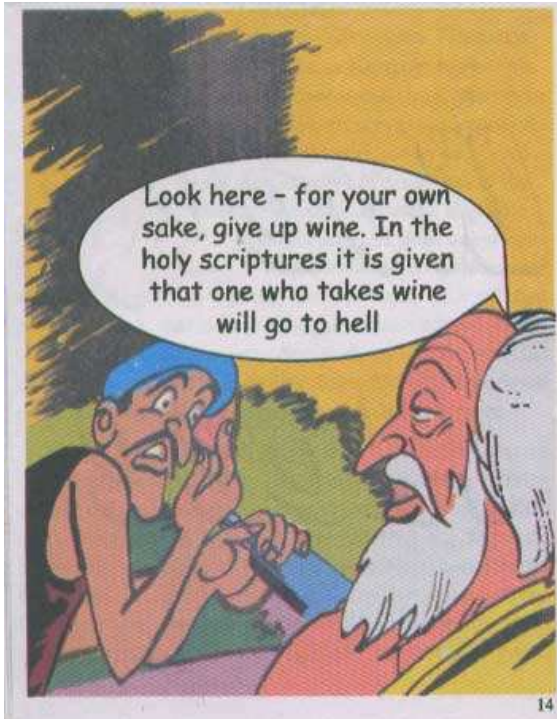
Those who make any attempt to deceive their spiritual master and the Vaisnavas in rendering devotional service will certainly come to an end with something spurious. Any attempt of deception in the field of devotional service is simple self-deception. It pulls one down into the clutches of illusionary energy, without any benefit. Some people with ulterior motives think that others who have surrendered everything to the Lord are only deceived; and those who are continuing to play the double roles of both devotional service as well as self gratification actually gain more.

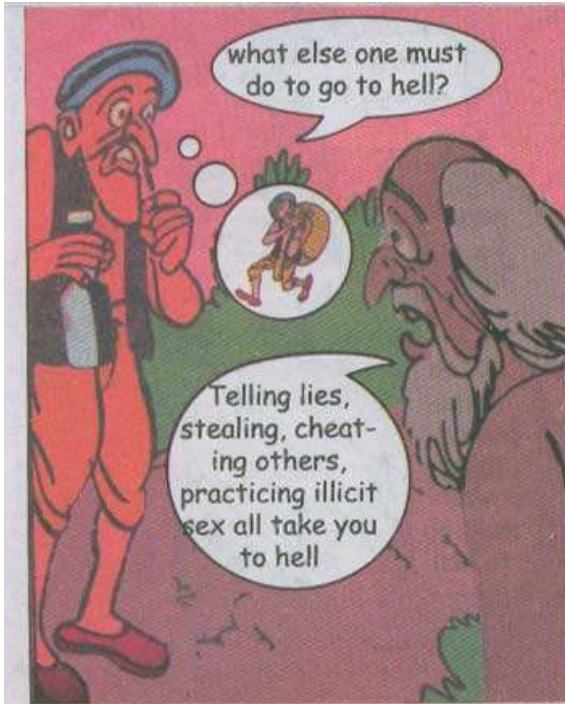
In fact, such a double gain is surely tantamount to deceiving a blacksmith by supplying him with an inferior quality of iron while asking him to prepare a good quality steel chopper. No one can ever deceive the Supreme Personality of Godhead. It is never possible to conquer the domain of the Lord by any sort of deception and quackery. Only one who has candidly surrendered everything unto the lotus feet of the Lord is eligible for achieving all good.

12

# Lively Hell

25





8



19



10



21



**PURPORT**

By Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura

Many people in this material world take into their heads that there should be nothing to worry if many people commit heinous crimes in profusion. In fact, the fallen souls who never care for sincere devotional service to the Lord are in majority on this planet. Accordingly, the brute majority may remain complacent without practising devotional service to the Lord and may come to the conclusion that they will undergo the same fate as other atheists "so what's the use of approaching a few saintly persons to get to hear good sermons! Better to go by the majority."

Thus many people become averse to devotional service to the Lord. This simply reflects the mode of passion.

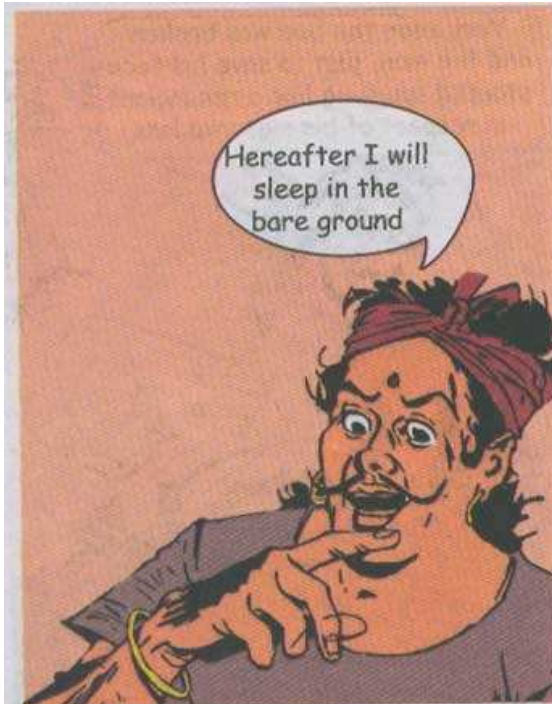


**Sleeping on the Bare Ground When the Bed Is Broken**

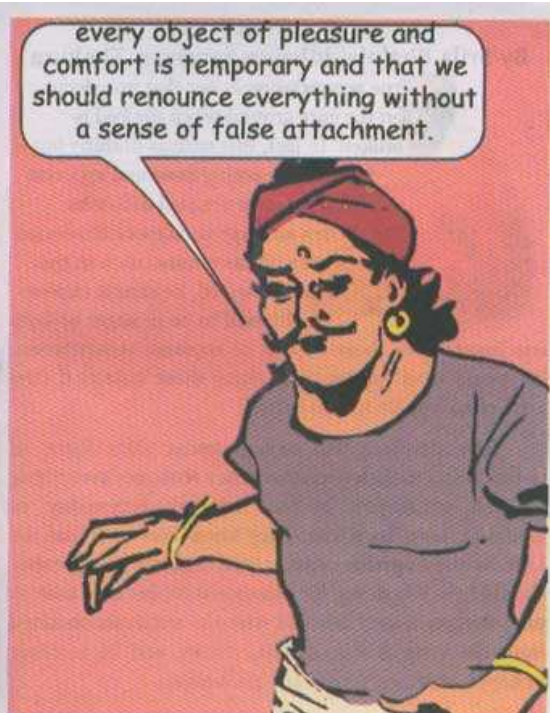


Very soon the bed was broken and the man, just to save his face started speaking like a renunciant in respect of his material loss





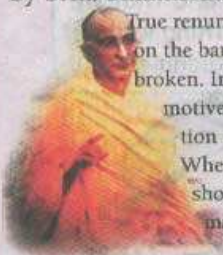
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27

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True renunciation is not that one sleeps on the bare ground when the bed is broken. In fact, this reflects nothing but a motive for earning fame and appreciation for one's unusual activities.

When an impersonalist or illusionist shows off his renunciation in this material world, he simply exposes himself to be in anger or deep attachment with those objects of apparent renunciation. He would have continued to enjoy those objects if they were of no trouble to him before.

Pure devotees will never expose their spirit of renunciation in such a manner. They renounce everything for the satisfaction of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, Lord Sri Kṛṣṇa. They know very well that the Lord is the Supreme enjoyer and that no living entity should have any desire for enjoyment for his own sake. A pure devotee is ever satisfied with the remnants obtained from the Lord as his causeless mercy, and he is never unhappy or attached with any such object.

6