

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A TEACHER, PREACHER & MASTER-

Excerpts from Yogi Bhajan

I never like a student. I never hate a student. Either I love or I try to love. That's all. Those I love, I am very, very critical, bitter, direct, grouchy. I mostly publicly joke with them about what I don't like about them. It's called 'chiseling method: Insult them socially. Hurt them publicly. Surprise them un-mathematically. I mean, keep going. Don't let them rest a minute. Because they should lose the sense of time and space. They are the *most* favorite. Less favorite . . . once in a while I call on them, talk to them. Say good things about them. And worst? Ignore them. These are the three ways of life. And without that, nobody can progress. And all three things need one thing: absolute commitment. Absolute.

That's the job of a teacher: to wake up a man from a deep ego. "Ego coma" they call it. Ego coma is the worst enemy of a mental mind. And nobody can wake you up out of ego coma and if you cannot get out of the ego coma you can never survive as a human being. You will live as a mental tortured prostitute of all unhappiness and happiness blended together and you will never find peace, tranquility, bliss and you can never even sing a relaxed song of life. Those facts we know. That's why you have seen me in experience-sometimes I am very affectionate, I am very fatherly, sometimes I am very manly, very teacherly, but sometimes I just say, alright, now we are going to have a very bitter experience between ourselves and I am going to nail you down:' You remember that? You might have passed through it. Because that's the job-to project such a heavy beam of the magnetic energy to wake you up so that your radiant body can start relating to your auric body so that you can understand the subtle body-subtle body which is going to carry the soul at the time of death and go through. If the subtle body becomes gross or coarse it doesn't matter who you are, you are condemned. You know what you'll become? A spirit, a ghost-which is the worst form of human living.

Because I am the teacher, wherever your ego will say 'no: I'll say 'yes: I'll force you to crystallize so that you can shine. And then after crystallization you can be shaped. You are not even a crystal now. Question of shaping you to make your facet does not arise. How can I tell you your dimension if you do not know your depth? And how can I not give you a direction? My job is to give you direction.

Yes. I give you direction. **If** it is wrong, come and question me. You have that right. But what I am saying is the gospel truth and you can't do it. **If** you can't do it, then what do you expect you can do in your life? Nothing.

One of the difficulties that I have found in America is that people do not understand what a teacher is. There's a great misunderstanding. You think a teacher is one who controls you. That is wrong. You think you *have* to listen to the teacher. That is wrong. I have asked that question to a lot of people. They don't understand what a teacher is. Teacher is nothing but a high-tech computer. You put in the information, it gives you the answer. Beyond that there is nothing. The problem with you is, you want to put information into a teacher and you want him to give you the answer and then you want him to work for you. You want triple action. That is totally ridiculous. The difference between a teacher, preacher and a master is: a preacher collects the knowledge and lays it out; a master has the knowledge and carves you out; and a teacher is in between the two. A teacher simply computes with you the pros and the cons and wants you to act. Don't mix these three. Here the problem is that you don't have any experience with a teacher. You think you are just talking to a man.

Somebody once asked me a question. He said, "Sir, this is the situation. What should I do?" I said, "Just wait a minute!" And I took a paper and pencil and took the notes. **He** was talking very fast and very complicated. **It** was an intersecting situation in which one totally accepts and rejects the same statement. **He** said, "Sir, what's your opinion?" I said, "**It** is a very simple opinion, son. Before I give you my opinion, I want to tell you something very positive!" He said, "What?" I said, "You are super confused!" He said, "What should I do?" I said, "Is there any river around your town? Or something?" **He** said, "Yeah. Ten miles from here there is a river!" I said, "Go swimming in the river. Spend a day or two!" He said, "Sir, it is an emergency!" I said, "This emergency is not going to go away anywhere. The fact is, you are *so* confused. Now, whatever you have said is before me. **It** doesn't make any sense. What it's telling me is totally zero. So my opinion is, it doesn't matter what I tell you, you cannot work it out. So the best way is, go on a holiday. "It's up to *you*!" He said, "Can I think about it?" I said, "You can not only think about it, also pray about it. Do whatever you are going to do. You have asked me a question. I have given you the answer. I think you need a leave. You need a little break." So he went, took a leave, went, had fun, came back after two days. By the way, when he came back, job was done, somehow. He never even understood, even today, how it happened. Because nobody among you

sitting here believes the unseen hand of God affectionately acts all the time. Only sometimes He gives us the privilege with the feeling that we did it.