Selfless Admiration

People are so unwilling to recognise anything that expresses the Divine that they are ever on the alert to find fault, discover apparent defects and so reduce what is high to their own level. They are simply furious at being surpassed and when they do succeed in finding superficial “shortcomings” they are greatly pleased. But they forget that if they confront even the Divine, when its presence is on the earth, with their crude physical mind they are bound to meet only what is crude. They cannot hope to see what they are themselves incapable of seeing or unwilling to see. They are sure to misjudge the Divine if they consider the surface-aspect of its actions, for they will never understand that what seems similar to human activity is yet altogether dissimilar and proceeds from a source which is non-human.

The Divine, manifesting itself for the work on earth, appears to act as men do but really does not. It is not possible to evaluate it by such standards of the obvious and the apparent. But men are utterly in love with their own inferiority and cannot bear to submit to or admit a higher reality. This desire to find fault, this malicious passion to criticise and doubt what something in oneself tells one is a higher reality is the very stamp of humanity — it marks out the merely human. Wherever, on the other hand, there is a spontaneous admiration for the true, the beautiful, the noble, there is something divine expressed. You should know for certain that it is the psychic being, the soul in you with which your physical consciousness comes in contact when your heart leaps out to worship and admire what you feel to be of a divine origin.

The moment you are in front of what you feel to be such, you should be moved to tears of joy. It is the mean creature who stops to reflect: “Yes, it is something great but it would be worth admiring if it fell to my lot, if I were the happy possessor
of this quality, the instrument of this superior manifestation.”
Why should you bother about your ego when the main concern
is that the Divine should reveal itself wherever it wants and in
whatever manner it chooses? You should feel fulfilled when it is
thus expressed, you should be able to burst the narrow bonds
of your miserable personality, and soar up in unselfish joy. This
joy is the true sign that your soul has awakened and has sensed
the truth. It is only then that you can open to the influence of
the descending truth and be shaped by it. I remember occasions
when I used to be moved to tears on seeing even children, even
babies do something that was most divinely beautiful and sim-
ple. Feel that joy and you will be able to profit by the Divine’s
presence in your midst.