

HANUMAN - LESSON 4



Hanuman found Sita

As you remember, Hanuman flew all the way across the ocean to reach Lanka! It was a remarkable achievement. He came to see if Ravana was hiding Sita, Rama's wife in Lanka.

Lanka was an incredible city. Gold was paved into the streets, and precious gems were inlaid in the buildings. The City was built for Kubera, Lord of Wealth, by Vishwakarma, architect of the gods. Kubera was Ravana's stepbrother. Ravana was very mean and kicked his stepbrother Kubera out of the city, and took command of it himself.

The demons lived in Lanka were very warlike. They liked to drink intoxicating liquor, and all they respected was the power of their physical bodies. Ravana was their King.

Hanuman assumed the form of a little monkey, and started to enter the City. Then he heard a voice. "What are you doing you little monkey, trying to sneak into Lanka?" a demoness snarled. Each city has its own protector. This was a demoness whose job it was to protect Lanka. She tried to stop Hanuman from entering. Hanuman would never hurt a woman, but in this case, he punched her hard in the face, knocking her to the ground. "Lord Brahma told me that when a monkey punched me in the face, then the end of Lanka was near" she said, letting Hanuman enter.

Hanuman started searching the whole city for Sita. He came across one large palace, where he was surprised to hear someone chanting "RAMA, RAMA, RAMA". Hanuman assumed the form of a Brahmana, and humbly inquired "Will you please tell me who you are, chanting the name of Rama in this City of demons?" He replied "My name is Vibhishana. I am the brother of the Demon King Ravana." "How is it that you are chanting the name of Rama?" asked Hanuman. "Like all the demon race, I am lost in sensuality and sinfulness. But still I am chanting Rama in hopes of purifying myself" said Vibhishana. Hanuman introduced himself, and told him that Rama was a gracious Lord, and would accept Vibhishana as his devotee.

After meeting Vibhishana, Hanuman continued to search for Sita. He entered the royal apartments. In a big hall, he saw the demon King sleeping (it was nighttime now) with his hundreds of wives. You see, Ravana was very greedy. Whenever he saw a beautiful girl, he stole her away and forced her to become his wife. Thus he accumulated hundreds of wives. This is why the gods had begged Vishnu to come to Earth as Rama – in order to rid the world of Ravana and his greed and destruction.

Hanuman looked at all the women there. He had never seen Sita, but he knew she would never sleep in the same room as Ravana. He had looked everywhere, but he could not find her! Hanuman felt very depressed. He did not want to go back to Sri Ram and say he had failed. He thought "Rama will surely die if I tell him I could not find Sita". These thoughts went through his mind, as he wandered further, not knowing what to do.

Then, by some miracle, he came across a garden of Asoka trees that he had not yet seen. In it, he saw a small lady sitting on a bench under a tree. She was crying. Her dress was extremely dirty, and she looked very thin, as if she was not eating anything. Around her stood many demon ladies who were her guards. Most were very ugly. There were some with big bellies. Some had only one eye, right in the middle of their stomachs. One had a head like a fish. Most were all very cruel.

Hanuman did not know how to approach her without scaring her. So he lambed into the tree above her, and started singing about the glory of Lord Rama, her husband. "Who is that?" said Sita. Hanuman, still in his little monkey form, dropped out of the tree. "I am the messenger of Lord Rama" he said, bowing to her. Sita wondered if Ravana was trying to trick her. Hanuman showed Sita Rama's ring, which Rama had given him to give to Sita. This convinced her that he was a genuine messenger of Rama.

"Oh, please tell Rama that he must come rescue me within two months!" said Sita. Ravana keeps begging me to become his wife, whom I refuse" said Sita. He has told me that if I do not forget Rama and marry him within two months, he will have me cut up into little pieces and he will eat me for dinner!" said Sita.

"Rama will come, I promise" said Hanuman. "In the meantime, I will teach these demons a lesson" said Hanuman. "But you are only a little monkey! I would be very afraid if you fought with any of these fierce demons!" said Sita. Hanuman smiled. He began to grow and grow in size, until he was much bigger than any of the trees in the garden. He began to pick all the fruits in the garden and eat them, as he remembered that he was very hungry!

The demon guards got very alarmed. They ran to Ravana.

Slokas:

Hanuman Mantra / Stotra:

**Manojavam Maarutatulyavegam
Jitendriyam Buddhimataam Varistham
Vaataatmajam Vaanarayoothamukhyam
Sriramadootam Sirasa Namami**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-QiSqpM2V2A>

Vishun Stotra:

**Shuklambharadharam Vishnum Shashivarnam Chaturbhujam,
Prasanna Vadanm Dhyayet Sarva Vignopa Shantaye**

Rama Mantra:

**Sri Rama Rama Rameti, Rame Rame Manorame
Sahasranama tattulyam, Rama Nama Varanane**

Durga Stotra:

**Om Sarva Mangala Maangalye Shive Sarvaartha Saadhike
Sharanye Triyambake Gauri, Naaraayani Namostute**

Ganesh Sloka:

**Vakra Tunda Mahaa Kaaya; Suryakoti Samaprabha
Nirvighnam Kurume Deva; Sarvakaaryeshu Sarvadaa**

Guru Stotra

**Gurur Brahmaa Gurur Vishnu
Gurur Devo Maheshwarah
Guruh Saakshaat Parabrahma
Tasmai Shree Gurave Namah**

Saraswati Stotra

***Saraswathi Namasthubyam
Varade Kamaroopini
Vidyarambham Karishyami
Siddhir Bhavatume Sada***

