

# Path to Siva

**A Catechism for Youth**

Satguru Bodhinatha Veylanswami

Lesson 11



**Who Is Siva?**

# Lord Siva-Supreme Being



**He/She is All and in all,  
both the Creator and  
the creation, within  
everything and beyond  
everything at the same  
time.**

# Siva has a threefold nature

His highest reality is beyond time and form.

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His second aspect is the Divine Mind, existing here, there and everywhere.

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His third aspect is the Personal Lord, the Creator and source of all time and all form.



# Siva can be fully known only in the deepest meditation

Only in the deepest meditation can the nature of such a vast and mysterious God be fully known

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The name *Siva* means “the auspicious,” “gracious” or “kindly one.”

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Siva is the One Supreme Being that all faiths have worshiped, by many names, and sought to understand for thousands of years.



# Siva has five powers

Creation

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Preservation

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Destruction

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The twin graces of concealment and  
revelation



# Siva creates the three worlds from His own being

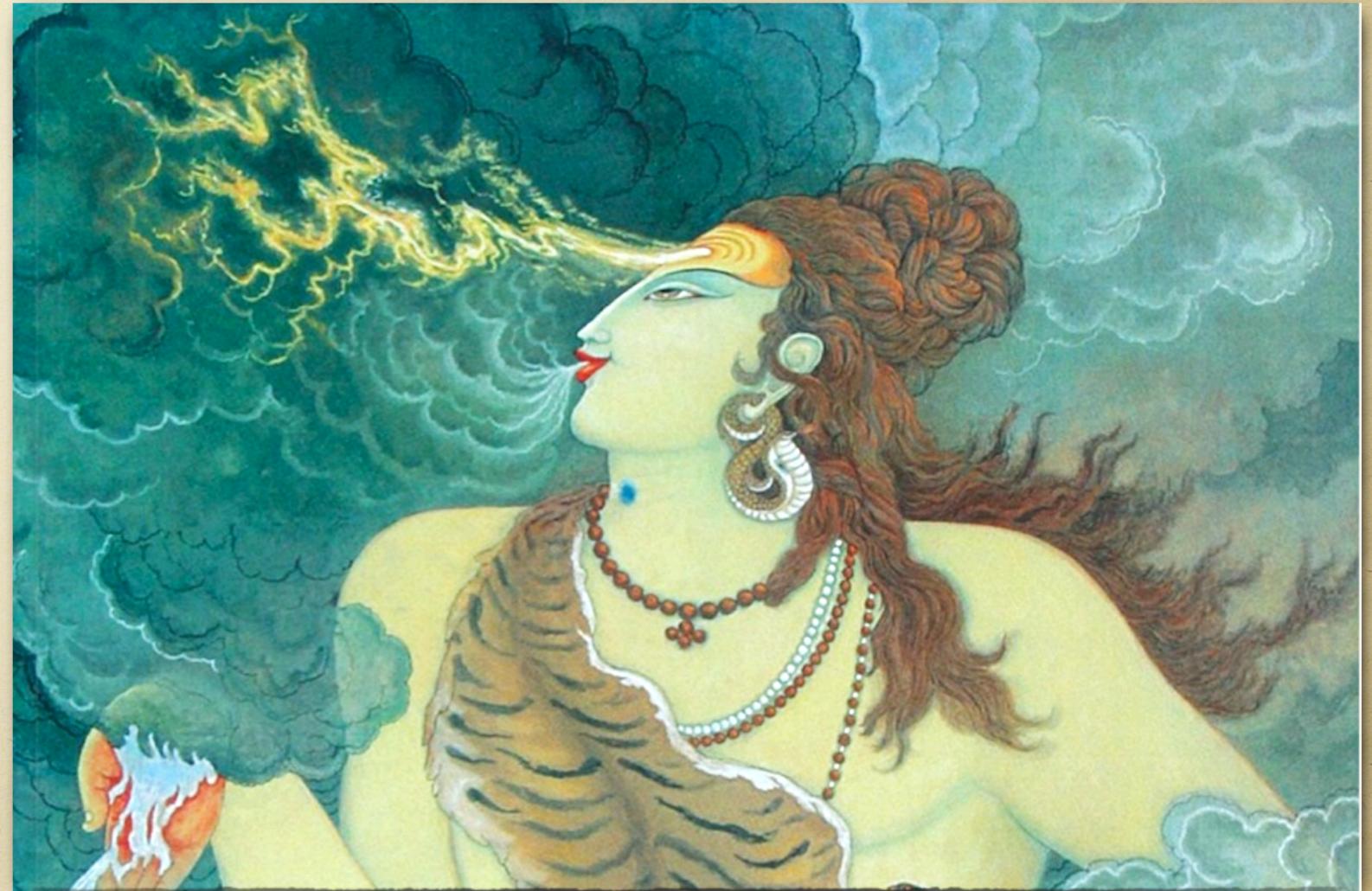
He also preserves the three worlds,  
dancing in each tiny atom at every point  
in time.

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Ultimately, He absorbs creation back  
into Himself.

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He does this in great cycles of time  
spanning billions of years.



Then, in the next grand cycle of time,  
He creates again.

Siva is also the creator of individual  
souls, like us

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With His fourth and fifth powers,  
concealing and revealing, Siva  
governs and guides our evolution, as  
a parent guides a child.



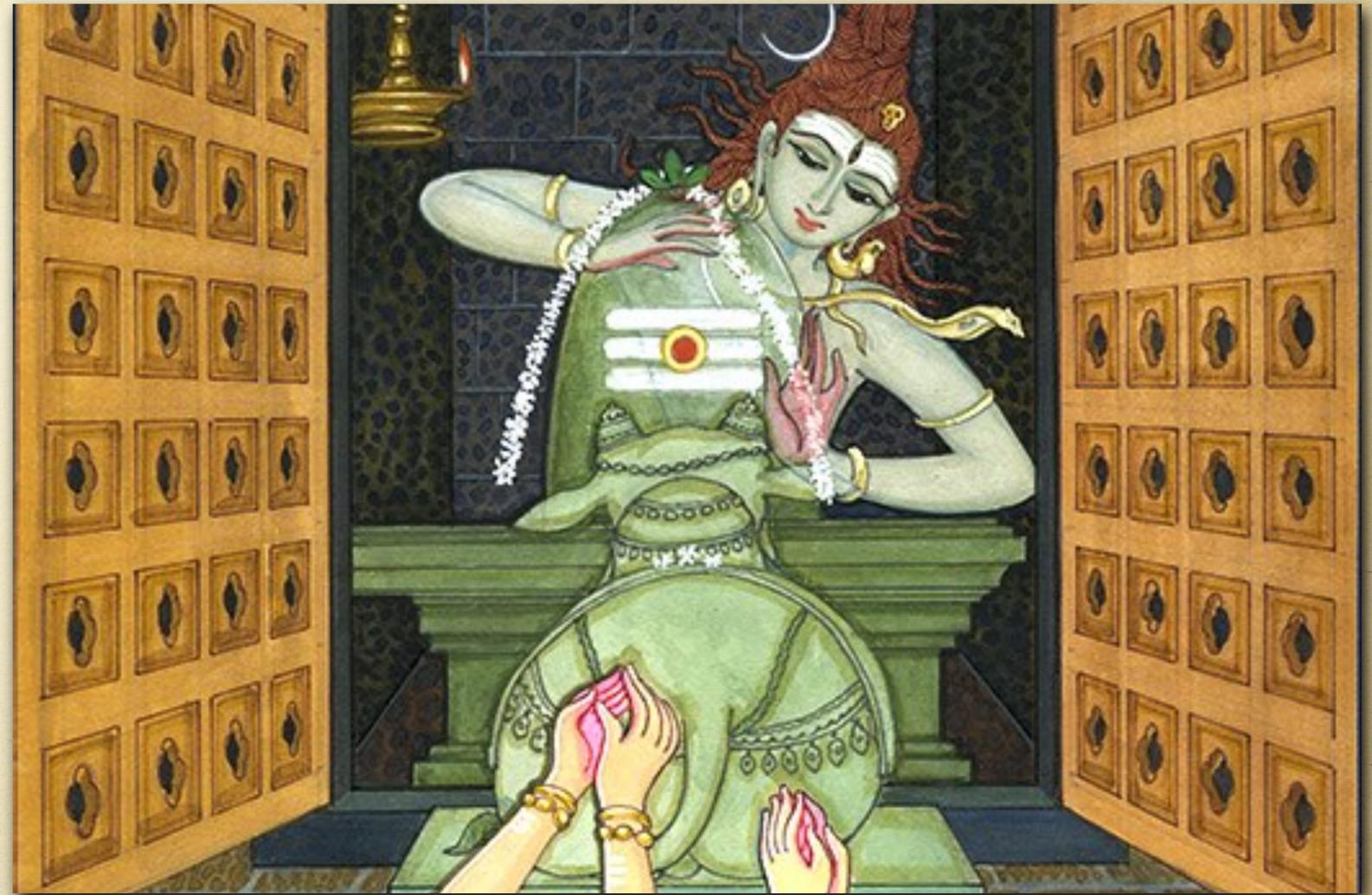
We should always worship this  
great God of love and never fear Him.

He is the Self of our- self, closer than  
our breath.

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Gurudeva taught,

“His nature is love, and if you worship  
Him with devotion you will know love  
and be loving toward others.”



# Siva is the sun above us

Siva is the wind that cools the land.

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Siva is the five elements

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Siva is the thought within our mind

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Siva is the spark of light within our  
body, that which lives and that which is  
inert.



# Siva is beyond knowing, beyond gender

Beyond knowing, beyond gender, He/She is the deathless Being who resides beyond the three worlds, yet stands in souls united.

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# Gurudeva says...

To love God is to know God. To know God is to feel His love for you. Such a compassionate God-a being whose resplendent body may be seen in mystic vision-cares for the minutiae such as we and a universe such as ours.

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# QUESTIONS for Lesson 11



**11.1** Siva is the One Supreme Being that all faiths have worshiped, by many names, and sought to understand for thousands of years.

- True
- False

**11.2** In the list below, check the powers of Siva that are His twin Graces.

- A. Concealment
- B. Destruction
- C. Preservation
- D. Creation
- E. Revelation

**11.3** Siva creates the three worlds, preserves them and ultimately absorbs them back into Himself in great cycles of time spanning

(Check the correct answer)

- A. Thousands of years
- B. Millions of years
- C. Billions of years

**11.4** We should never fear God Siva.

- True
- False

**11.5** If you worship Him with devotion you will know love and be

(Check the correct answer)

- A. Distant from others
- B. Loving toward others
- C. Aggressive toward others