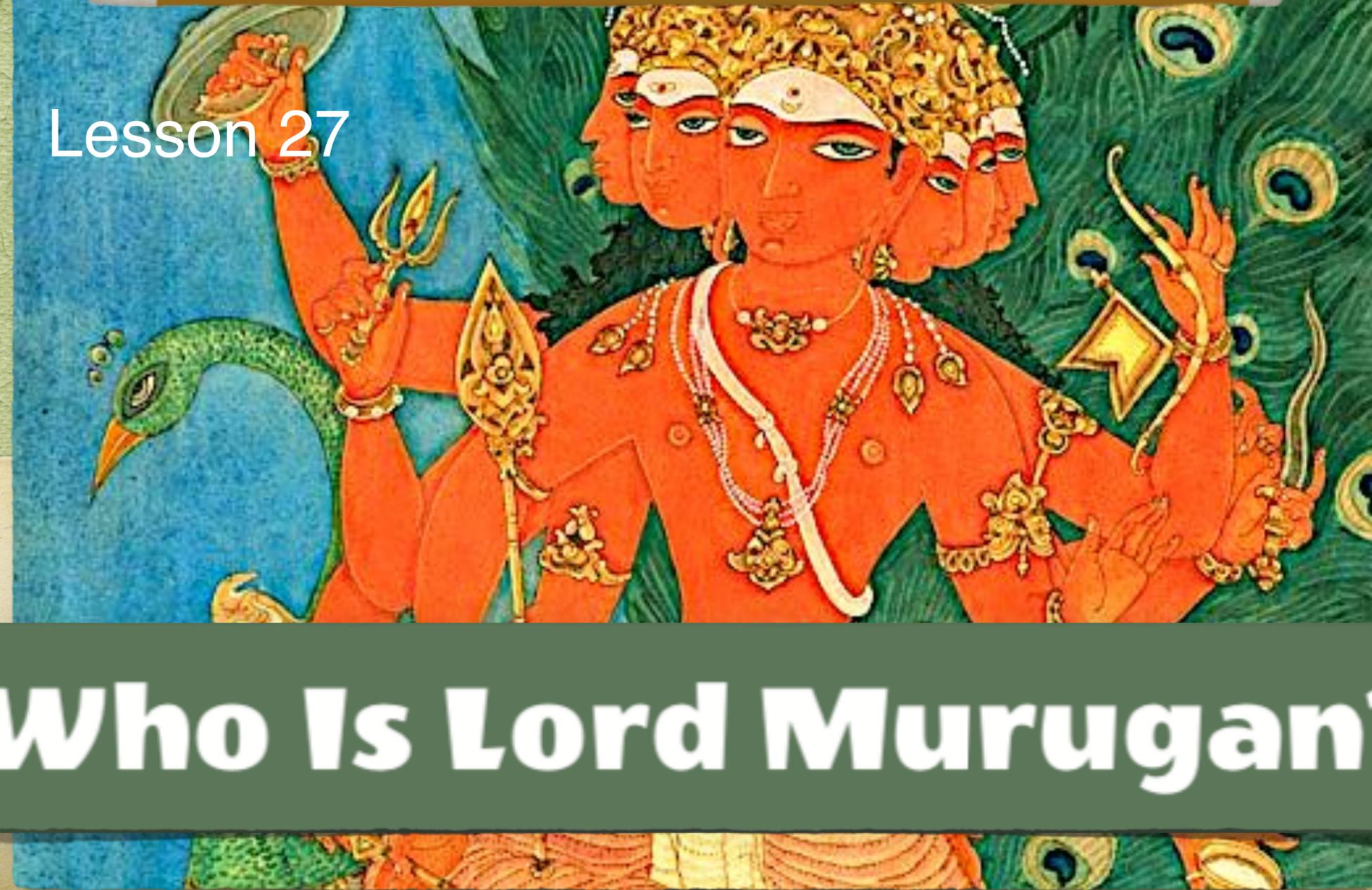


Path to Siva

A Catechism for Youth

Satguru Bodhinatha Veylanswami

Lesson 27



Who Is Lord Murugan?

Murugan, the God of religion and yoga.

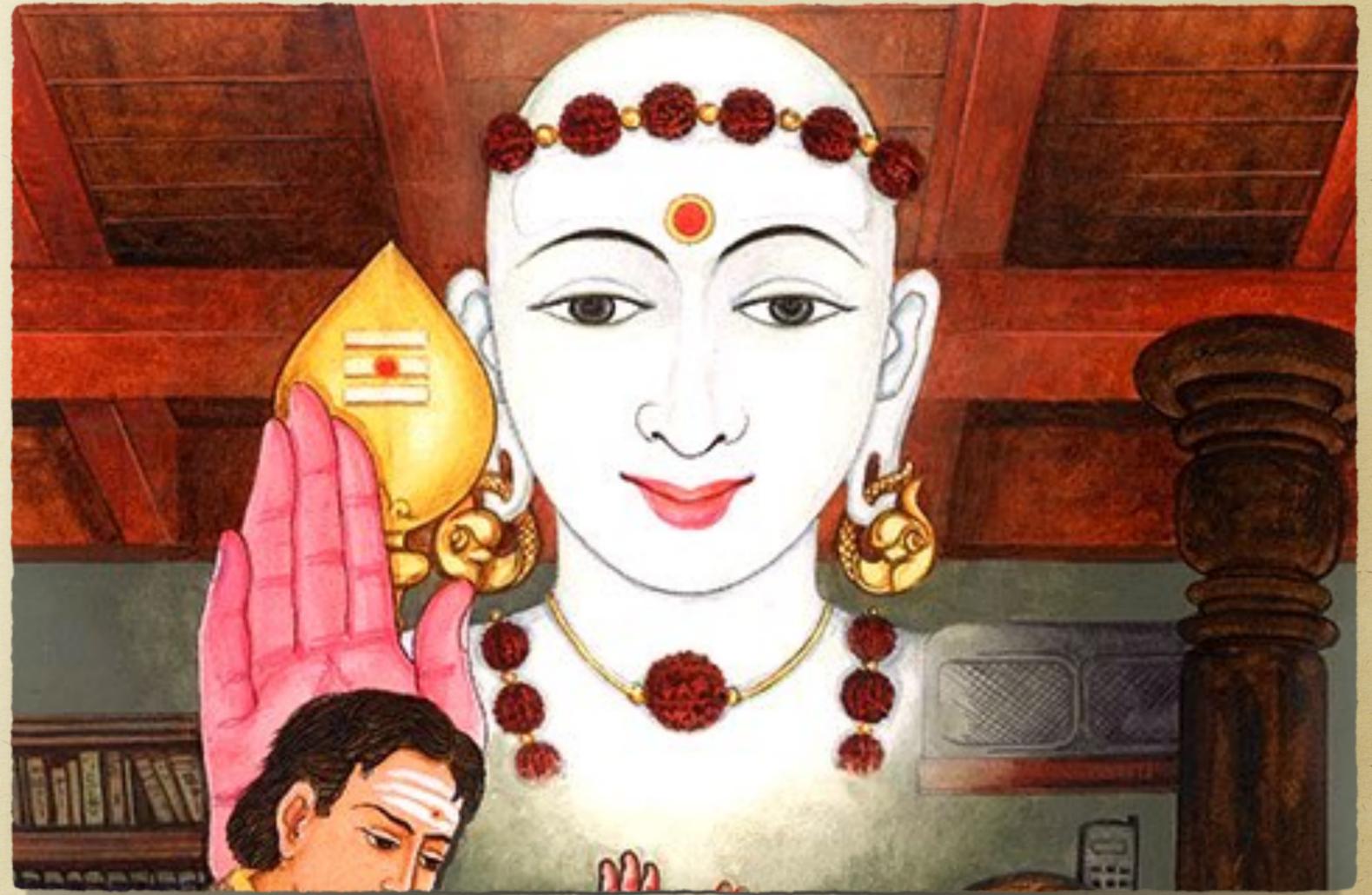


He is the second son of Lord Siva, born of his divine mind.

His electric power awakens spiritual wisdom to propel souls onward in their evolution to Siva's feet.

Lord Murugan has many names.

Also known as Karttikeya, Kumara, Skanda, Shanmukhanatha and Subrahmanya, He is worshiped not only by Hindus but by Buddhists as well, in China, Japan and other countries.



Lord Murugan and Meditation

Majestically seated on the manipura chakra, this red-hued God blesses mankind and strengthens our will when we rise to higher consciousness through sadhana and yoga.

He brings detachment, willpower and contentment, and His blessings strengthen our meditations.



The Vel of Lord Murugan

Lord Murugan carries a *vel*, or spear, representing the power to overcome darkness and ignorance.

He is the authority behind the king (nowadays, any government which rules the people), there to see that justice is done and peace prevails.



Tamil Saivites

Murugan is especially loved by Tamil Saivites, who believe He guides their culture and history.

Devotees look to Him for healing of the body and mind, and for strength to face life's challenges.



Lord Muruga vahana

He is said to love bamboo groves and hilltops, and His vahana is the proud and beautiful peacock.



The dynamic energy of Lord Murugan

When we connect with Murugan, we have to be ready to change, for He brings a dynamic energy.

He inspires penance, such as carrying kavadi during Thai Pusam, which softens karmas and purifies the mind.



Murugan's blessings in our life

When Murugan's blessings come into our life, we become a better person, more kind, disciplined and spiritual.

Many saints and devotees have had visions of Murugan and other Gods.

But more often we just sense their presence, as we feel the warm rays of the sun when our eyes are closed.



Gurudeva says...

Pray to Lord Murugan to unravel the great mysteries of the universe.

Pray to Lord Murugan to make you a spiritual person.

Pray to Lord Murugan to release you into the arms of Lord Siva by teaching you more about your Saivite religion.



QUESTIONS for Lesson 27



27.1 Lord Murugan is the God of religion and dancing.

- True
- False

27.2 His electric power
(Check the incorrect answer)

- A. Awakens spiritual wisdom
- B. Propels souls onward in their evolution to Siva's feet
- C. Removes obstacles

27.3 His Vel, or spear, represents the power to overcome darkness and ignorance.

- True
- False

27.4 Devotees look to Him for
(Check the incorrect answer)

- A. Wealth
- B. Healing of the body and mind
- C. Strength to face life's challenges

27.5 Lord Murugan
(Check the incorrect answer)

- A. Can never be experienced
- B. Has been seen in visions
- C. Can be sensed as can the warm rays of the sun