

Bagawat Geeta, Class 57

Chapter 4 Sloka 10

freed from attachment, fear and anger, absorbed in Me, taking refuge in Me, purified by the fire of knowledge, many have attained to My Being. 4.10

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In Verse 10, Krishna talks about the spiritual disciplines followed by the people of the past. He talks about the various stages that one goes through.

Obsessed with the thought of Me (God). Keeping Godhood as the primary goal of life. It is an obsession born out of intense yearning; the obsession is Godhood – the primary goal. From the Vedantic angle, Godhood is nothing but our own higher, superior or healthy nature. Vedanta presents God as an external goal but ultimately Godhood is my own secure, healthy, full, contented self symbolized as God. So, that they are tired of their own mental sickness in the form of raga, dvesha, kama, krodha, that they want to convert that sick mind into a mind of compassion and a mind of love and security. This inner conversion is called attainment of Godhood.

This is not an easy task. No doubt your effort is a must, but it should also be backed by Ishvara anugraha. This is indicated in the words taking refuge in Me or surrendering unto Me. With determination, there is appropriate use of freewill. corresponds to our freewill and

work for knowledge. Krishna calls this `व्रतव्यवहारः` because this is a type of austerity. To come regularly to Gita class, to remember, study and progress, etc. requires austerity.

By the practice of `व्रतव्यवहारः` , `व्यवहारः` got completely purified. Handling the raga-dvesha is only partial purification. Handling the kama-krodha is also only partial purification. You have to remove the basic impurity of self-ignorance for complete purification. Krishna says that by the practice of jnaana yoga, they rid themselves of the final layer of impurity. Grosser method is used to remove the grosser impurity and subtler method for removing the subtler impurity and the subtlest method to remove the subtlest impurity. It has to follow the stages in order.

The grossest impurity is raga-dvesha, the first layer called malam.

The subtler impurity is extrovertedness, the second layer called vikshepa.

The finest impurity is ajnaanam, the third layer called aavaranam

Malam is likes and dislikes.

Vikshepa is the wandering mind which is subtler.

Self-ignorance is the subtlest one.

We have to use three processes in the appropriate order to remove the three different types of impurities.

Karma yoga removes malam.

Upaasanam removes vikshepa.

Jnaana yoga removes aavaranam.

Therefore, `व्रतव्यवहारः` `व्यवहारः` many people have totally purified themselves by finally practicing the jnaana yoga. By

or in attaining moksha. Krishna says "I suggest and recommend to you that moksha is a worthwhile goal". Krishna's philosophy is "As a person seeks, so I will bless him".

Let any seeker approach Me with any desire. Let a person seek anything and I will help him. The only condition is for the desires to be legitimate and the means of accomplishing them to also be legitimate. Enjoy life following the rule of dharma. In fact, enjoyment is part of life and then to finally grow out of it. Otherwise it can lead to suppression.

I will approach them only with the object they desire. As Vivekananda has said, to a hungry person, the Lord should approach with food. Let a poor person seek money. And for a moksha seeker, Bhagavan will give moksha.

Why do I bless them with all these goals?

Because all my devotees approach me through appropriate effort (like puja, karma, japa, upasana).

they have come in the proper method.

Chapter 4 Sloka 12

those who long for success of actions sacrifice in this world quickly because in the human world success is attained born of action.

In this world, those desiring success in material activities worship the celestial gods, since material rewards manifest quickly.

Krishna says I have presented two paths in the Vedic scriptures.

The first path is karma maarga – a life of activity; a life of effort where you go through certain processes. The second path of jnaana maarga is presented in the final part of the Veda (called Veda-anta).

Krishna presents both paths which produce the end. The difference in the result is that all the results of karma are finite in nature and it's full of defects.

Accomplishment is a pain, preservation is a greater pain, and the final loss is the greatest pain. Any amount of accomplishment will not give satisfaction; they will become more dependent on the external factors. These are all defects of karmaphalam.

Krishna says in this sloka, **कर्मफलं प्राप्नुयान्** many people are interested only in karma phalam, the finite results or dharmarthakaamaa. Both the finite and infinite are available for human beings but the intelligent ones choose the infinite whereas the unintelligent or mandaH chooses the finite. Krishna says **कर्मणो योनिर्लोकस्य** they seek finite results. And once you choose karma phalam, the Vedic rituals are elaborate. It specifies that you should go to that temple, you should offer this item and on certain days; numerous conditions and if you fulfill all these conditions, you may get the result (it's not definite).

कर्मणो योनिर्लोकस्य they go after varieties of Deities. Why?

कर्मणो योनिर्लोकस्य because the karma phalam is quicker compared to jnaana marga. In jnaana marga, jnaana phalam is quicker – the result of knowledge is very quick (getting knowledge is very easy) but preparation for knowledge is a tough job. Like a wedding which takes place in one day but the preparation for it starts months ahead. Similarly, jnaanam only requires one statement. "I am what I am seeking".

Drop seeking and own up your true nature. This alone is Vedanta. But for this statement to work, (Swamiji recites Chapter 6, Verse 45, 2nd line:

ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ६.४५.२ ॥

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you have to start from many janmas before.

Krishna says ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ६.४५.२ ॥ people are not interested in purification which takes a lot of time. They are interested only in the limited fruits of action.

ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय Chapter 4 Sloka 13

ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ४.१३ ॥

ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ४.१३ ॥

ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय the fourfold caste ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय Me ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय has been created ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय according to the differentiation of Guna and Karma ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय thereof ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय the author ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय also ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय Me ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय know ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय nondoer ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय immutable.

The four categories of occupations were created by me according to people's qualities and activities. Although I am the creator of this system, know me to be the non-doer and eternal.

Krishna says by following the prescribed lifestyle, a person can accomplish both material and spiritual end. Normally, spiritual and material ends are diagonally opposite but Bhagavan says the He has designed a unique lifestyle by which a person can accomplish both the spiritual end and material ends. This should be such a lifestyle that a person must be able to fulfill materialistic desires. Vedic lifestyle encourages one to fulfill their desires. While fulfilling these desires, it presents certain disciplines to be followed. If you fulfill your materialistic desires following the Vedic

discipline, the beauty is that you gradually grow out of these materialistic desires without suppression. And in that place, you discover the spiritual desire as the most natural one. And you discover this desire to such an extent that the pursuit of spiritual desire will not be considered as a denial of materialistic desires. So, when you come to spirituality, you will not miss anything in life. This gradual conversion must take place. Such a life design is the Vedic life design called varnaashrama dharma.