

love, approach the product of his art, to place a few more strokes with his brush; here Krishna, inspired by his own theme, is again and again choosing right words to add more light and shade to the picture-of-the-Perfect, the one which he was painting upon the heart-slab of his listener - -- Arjuna.

He who, without attachment, squarely meets life with all equanimity and poise, is one who is "established in Wisdom." Here also we have to understand the entire stanza as a whole, or else, there will be the danger of misinterpreting its true meaning. Mere detachment from the things of life is NOT the sign of perfection, nor of true discriminative understanding. But many unintelligent enthusiasts actually desert their duties in life and run away, hoping that, since they have developed perfect detachment from the sensuous world, they will gain their "goal" in the quietude of the jungle. Arjuna himself had earlier stated that he would renounce the call of duty and the field of activity. By thus retiring into quietude, the Pandava-hero hoped to reach Perfection and Peace. To dissuade Arjuna from taking this calamitous step, Krishna started his discourse with a serious note in the second chapter.

Detachment from suicidal affections and unintelligent tenderness cannot by itself take man to the higher realms of Divinity. Detachment from the world outside must equally be accompanied by a growing balance in ourselves to face all challenges in life --- 'auspicious'