

Bhagavān is known. The idea is that nobody's duties become fulfilled in any other way. And it has been said, 'O son of Prthā, all actions in their totality culminate in Knowledge' (4.33). There is also a saying from Manu:

'This, verily, is the fulfilment of a Brāhmaṇa in particular. For, by getting this, a twice-born has his duties fulfilled; not otherwise' (Ma. Sm. 12.93).

Since you have heard from Me this truth about the supreme Reality, therefore, O scion of the Bharata dynasty, you have achieved your Goal!

FOOTNOTES AND REFERENCES

- [153] Ā.G. takes the word *viśākha* (boughs) in the sense of *stambha*, perhaps meaning the aerial roots.—Tr.
- [154] Or, *etat brahma-vanam* means: This Tree has Brahman as its object of adoration, its support. For, the world has nothing but Brahman as its support.
- [155] See under 7.4.—Tr.
- [156] According to Ā.G. and M.S. *manusya-loke* means a body distinguished by Brāhminhood etc.
- [157] According to Ā.G. 'human beings' stands for the world of human beings, and 'Brahmā' for the 'world of Brahmā' (Satvaloka). So Dharma may mean the 'world of Death' (Pitr-loka).—Tr.
- [158] Hatred and love arising from association with foes and friends.
- [159] Engrossed in hearing, reflecting and meditating on the Self.
- [160] Here Aṣṭ. adds '*nārāyanasya*, of Nārāyana'.—Tr.
- [161] When the Ātman leaves the body, then it draws the organs (see previous verses) from that body. In this way, the second