

that प्रेत्य *pretya* hereafter (after death) न *na* not इह *iha* here

Whatever is sacrificed, given or performed and whatever austerity is practised without *Sraddha*, it is called *Asat*, O Partha. It is of no account here or hereafter. 28

*Yajna*, *dāna* and *tapas* when performed well lead the *sadhaka* into God-consciousness. Correspondingly his individualistic consciousness is eliminated. But if these good acts be done with selfish motive, the man's individualism develops, promoting his enjoyment of earthly pleasures. *Sraddhā* is indispensable for the enjoyment of either the divine plenitude or the earthly joys. But he who lacks in *Sraddhā* enjoys neither the here nor the hereafter.

Machines make no progress for themselves through their working; they merely wear out. The man without *Sraddhā* becomes an automaton or machine. But he alone progresses in life who is full of *Sraddhā*. Getting educated and earning money are among the earthly activities of man. If he be devoid of *Sraddhā* he remains alien to these accomplishments. If wealth be placed at the disposal of a man bereft of *Sraddhā* he would squander it in no time. Hence *Sraddhā* is the one divine gift endowed with which man makes progress both in his earthly life and in his spiritual pilgrimage. Whatever duty falls to his lot in his endeavours to gain the here and hereafter, he is to execute it with *Sraddhā*. Defective as each duty is with one blemish or another, it may