

Though the word *kṛpā* is translated as compassion, Arjuna is not really endowed with this divine quality. He alone who is the master of his mind can extend compassion to the distressed and seek to allay their sorrows. But now Arjuna himself is in dire need of redemption from distress; the question, therefore, of his showing mercy to others does not arise.

### The Message of Strength—2-3

श्री भगवानुवाच

कुतस्त्वा कश्मलमिदं विषमे समुपस्थितम् ।

अनार्यजुष्टमस्वर्ग्यम् अकीर्तिकरमर्जुन ॥ २

कुत त्वा कश्मलम् इदम् वि-षमे स उप-स्थितम् ।

अन्-आर्य-जुष्टम् अ-स्वर्ग्यम् अ-कीर्ति-करम् अर्जुन ॥

*śrī bhagavān uvāca*

*kutas tvā kasmalam idam visame samupasthitam ।*

*anāryajustam asvargyam akīrtikaram arjuna ॥*

श्री भगवानुवाच *śrī bhagavān uvāca* Sri Bhagavan said:

कुतः *kutah* 'whence' त्वा *tvā* upon thee कश्मलम् *kasmalam* dejection इदम् *idam* this विषमे *visame* in perilous strait समुपस्थितम् *samupasthitam* comes अनार्यजुष्टम् *anāryajustam* unworthy (unaryanlike) अस्वर्ग्यम् *asvargyam* heaven excluding अकीर्तिकरम् *akīrtikaram* disgraceful अर्जुन *arjuna* O Arjuna

The Blessed Lord said.

Whence has this unmanly, heaven-barring and shameful dejection come upon you, at this juncture, O Arjuna ?

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The Lord who was silent all this while now deigns to speak. The Gita proper, therefore, com-