

The Pandava brothers themselves bear testimony to the fact that the devotees of the Lord never get lost. All the five of them had unflinching devotion to Sri Krishna. They lost their empire; they were exposed to many dangers; untold trials and tribulations came upon them; the life of long exile in the forest was painful. But they did not falter in their faith in God. Adversity only increased their love of the Lord. They were blessed in the end with *sreyas*, the best in life.

The case of the mediocre is now taken into account:—

मां हि पार्थ व्यपाश्रित्य येऽपि स्युः पापयोनयः ।

स्त्रियो वैश्यास्तथा शूद्रास्तेऽपि यान्ति परां गतिम् ॥ ३२

माम् हि पार्थ वि-अप-आ-श्रित्य ये अपि स्युः पाप-योनयः ।

स्त्रियः वैश्याः तथा शूद्राः ते अपि या-अन्ति पराम् गम्-तिम् ॥

*mām hi pārtha vyapāśritya ye 'pi syuḥ pāpayonayaḥ ।*  
*striyo vaiśyās tathā śūdrās te 'pi yānti parām gatim ॥*

माम् *mām* me हि *hi* indeed पार्थ *pārtha* O Partha व्यपाश्रित्य *vyapāśritya* taking refuge in ये *ye* who अपि *api* even स्युः *syuḥ* may be पापयोनयः *pāpayonayaḥ* of mediocre birth स्त्रियः *striyaḥ* women वैश्याः *vaiśyāḥ* Vaisyas तथा *tathā* also शूद्राः *śūdrāḥ* Sudras ते *te* they अपि *api* also यान्ति *yānti* attain पराम् *parām* the supreme गतिम् *gatim* goal

For those who take refuge in Me, O Partha, though they be of inferior birth — women, Vaisyas and Sudras — even they attain the Supreme Goal. 32

पापयोनि - *pāpa yoni* ought not to be misconstrued as sinful birth or wicked birth. It simply means