

Neither the hosts of Devas nor the great Rishis know My origin; for in every respect I am the source of the Devas and the great Rishis. 2

The birth of the son and his progress in life is known to the father, but the birth and boyhood of the father ever remains beyond the ken of the son. Analogously Brahman is the Source and Witness of the universe that comes from Him and merges into Him. This Eternal Brahman is to some extent cognized by the perfected beings like the great Rishis. But His glory in its entirety can never be known by the hosts of saints and sages. He only remains partially revealed even when He embodies as an Incarnation like Rama or Krishna.

The divine breeze blowing from the ocean of *Sat-cit-ananda Brahman* transports people into ecstasy. Sanaka, Sanantana and other ancient Rishis got themselves perfected by this divine breeze. A mere glimpse of this ocean sent Narada into raptures. Suka the born *Brahma-Jnani* touched this water but once and got himself filled with *Brahmavastha* and wandered the world as a divine lad. Siva the Cosmic Teacher took only three sips from this Great Ocean and became dazed with transcendental Bliss. Indeed, who can measure the depth or the characteristics of the Infinite Ocean of Brahman

—Sri Ramakrishna

How then does Brahman serve us, the ordinary aspirants? The clarification comes:—

यो मामजमनादिं च वेत्ति लोकमहेश्वरम् ।

असंमूढः स मर्त्येषु सर्वपापैः प्रमुच्यते ॥ ३

य. माम् अ-जम् अन्-आदिम् च वेद्-ति लोक-महा-ईश्वरम् ।

अ-स-मुद् त सः मर्त्येषु सर्व-पापैः प्र मुच्-यते ॥