

universal scripture; it is the Bible of Man, the Koran of Humanity, the dynamic scripture of the Hindus.

ABANDONING ALL DHARMA (*Sarva-Dharman Parityajya*) --- As we have said above, *Dharma* is "the law of being," and we have already noted that nothing can continue its existence when once it is divorced from its *Dharma*. And yet, Krishna says, "COME TO MY REFUGE, AFTER RENOUNCING ALL DHARMAS." Does it then mean that our definition of *Dharma* is wrong? Or is there a contradiction in this stanza? Let us see.

As a mortal, finite ego, the seeker is living, due to his identification with them, the *Dharmas* of his body, mind and intellect, and exists in life as a mere perceiver, feeler, and thinker. The perceiver-feeler-thinker personality in us is the "individuality" which expresses itself as the "ego." These are not our 'essential' *Dharmas*. And since these are the 'non-essentials,' "RENOUNCING ALL DHARMAS" means "ENDING THE EGO."

"To renounce" therefore means "not to allow ourselves to fall again and again into this state of identification with the outer envelopments of matter around us." Extrovert tendencies of the mind are to be renounced. "Develop introspection diligently" is the deep suggestion in the phrase "RENOUNCING ALL DHARMAS."

COME TO ME ALONE FOR SHELTER (*Mam-ekam Sharanam Vraja*) --- Self-withdrawal from our extrovert