

Srimad-Bhagavad-Gita.

॥ पंचदशोऽध्यायः ॥

FIFTEENTH CHAPTER.

श्रीभगवानुवाच ॥

ऊर्ध्वमूलमधःशाखमश्वत्थं प्राहुरव्ययम् ॥

छन्दांसि यस्य पर्णानि यस्तं वेद स वेदवित् ॥१॥

XV. I.

श्रीभगवान् The Blessed Lord उवाच said :

ऊर्ध्वमूलं Rooted above अधःशाखं branching below
अव्ययं eternal अश्वत्थं Ashvattha प्राहुः they speak of
छन्दांसि the Vedas यस्य whose पर्णानि leaves तम् it
यः who वेद knows सः he वेदवित् (is) a Veda-
knower.

The Blessed Lord said :

They speak of an eternal Ashvattha rooted
above and branching below, whose leaves are
the Vedas ; he who knows it, is a Veda-
knower.

[*Ashvattha*: literally, that which does not endure
till to-morrow: the Samsāra, the ever-changing,
phenomenal world.

Brahman with Its unmanifested energy of Mâyâ
is meant by "Above," for It is supreme over all
things; and as such, the One above is the root of
this Tree of Samsāra. Mahat, Ahamkāra and the
Tanmâtrās are its branches evolving to grosser and