Holy Geeta by Swami Chinmayananda

In his discourse so far, the Lord has emphasized that a perfect-Master is one who has complete control over his sense-appetites. In India, a mere philosophical idea, in itself, is not considered anything more than a poetic ideology, and it is not accepted as a spiritual thesis unless it is followed by a complete technique by which the seeker can come to live it, in his own subjective experience. True to this traditional Aryan faith, in the Geeta too, the Lord indicates to Arjuna the practical method, by which he should struggle hard, in order to reach the eminence of perfection in all men-of-steady-Wisdom.

The ignorance of the Spiritual Reality functions in any individual in three distinct aspects: "Unactivity" (*Sattwa*) "Activity" (*Rajas*); and "Inactivity" (*Tamas*). When the *Sattwa* aspect in us is molested by the "veiling of the intellect" (*Avarana*) and the "lack of tranquillity" of the mind (*Vikshepa*), then we come to the sorrows caused by their endless roamings through the sense-organs. Unless these are well-controlled, they will drag the mind to the field of the sense-objects, and thus create a chaotic condition within, which is experienced as sorrow.

That this happens even to a highly evolved seeker, is here accepted by the statement of the Lord. With this assertion, he is warning the seeker in Arjuna, that he should not on any score let his "objective-mind" take hold of, and enslave his "subjective-intellect." This warning is quite appropriate and timely in the scheme of thought in this chapter.