

the Bharatas पाप्मानम् *pāpmānam* the sinful प्रजहि *prajahi* kill हि *hi* surely एनम् *enam* this ज्ञानविज्ञाननाशनम् *jñāna-vijñāna nāśanam* the destroyer of the knowledge and realization

Therefore, O eminent of the Bharatas, mastering first the senses, slay it — the sinful, the destroyer of knowledge and realization. 41

When the protecting fort is taken by storm, the enemy's position becomes vulnerable. It is easy to subdue him then. Lay hold of the senses, mind and intellect using them for divine causes and desire is thereby done away with.

A clear grasp of the teachings of the scriptures is classified here as knowledge. Intuiting the Reality is realization. Both of these become impossible to a man of worldly desires. The splendour of Atman gets smothered by desire, which is therefore condemned as sinful. The conqueror of desire is indeed a hero. Lord Siva's burning Cupid to ashes is a mythological exposition of the conquest of desire.

What is *maya*? It is none other than the desire that obstructs the spiritual growth of the aspirant.

— Sri Ramakrishna

The strategic positions to be taken up for uprooting desire are now delineated:—

इन्द्रियाणि पराण्याहुरिन्द्रियेभ्यः परं मनः ।

मनसस्तु परा बुद्धिर्यो बुद्धेः परतस्तु सः ॥ ४२

इन्द्रियाणि पराणि आहुः इन्द्रियेभ्यः परम् मनः ।

मनसः तु परा बुद्धिः यः बुद्धेः परतः तु सः ॥

indriyāṇi parāṇy āhur indriyebhyaḥ param manaḥ ।
manasas tu parā buddhir yo buddheḥ paratas tu saḥ ॥