

III. 35.

स्वनुष्ठितान् From the well-performed परधर्मान् Dharma of another विगुणः imperfect स्वधर्मः one's own Dharma श्रेयान् better स्वधर्मे in one's own Dharma निधनं death श्रेयः better परधर्मः Dharma of another भयावहः fraught with fear.

Better is one's own Dharma, (though) imperfect, than the Dharma of another well-performed. Better is death in one's own Dharma : the Dharma of another is fraught with fear.

[The implication is that Arjuna's thought of desisting from fight and going in for the calm and peaceful life of the Brāhmaṇa is prompted by man's natural desire to shun what is disagreeable and embrace what is agreeable to the senses. He should on no account yield to this weakness.]

अर्जुन उवाच ॥

अथ केन प्रयुक्तोऽयं पापं चरति पूरुषः ॥

अनिच्छन्नपि बाष्णोय वलादिव नियोजितः ॥३६॥

III. 36.

अर्जुन उवाच Arjuna said :

वाष्णोय Vârshneya ! अथ now अनिच्छन् not wishing अपि even अयं this पुरुषः Purusha केन by what प्रयुक्तः impelled वलात् by force इव as it were नियोजितः constrained पापं sin चरति commits.

Arjuna said :

But by what impelled does man commit sin, though against his wishes, O Vârshneya, constrained as it were, by force ?

[Vârshneya : a descendant of the race of Vrishni.]