**HH – BG – 03**

**PREACHINGS -**

**Bhagavad Gita!** For whom did **Bhagavan** (**Sri Krishna**), bestow it? Where was it imparted? How did **Bhagavad Gita** originate? To reveal this, our elders said...

**SANSKRIT WORD =** sarathyam arjunasya:jou: kurvan gi:thamrutam dadau:

**SANSKRIT WORD MEANING =** He imparted it in the battlefield as **Arjuna**ʼs charioteer

For whom did He deliver **Bhagavad Gita**? We think it is for **Arjuna**. However, **Arjuna** was only an excuse. Then, whom was it intended for?

**SANSKRIT WORD =** lokathrayo:paka:ra:ya: thasmai krushnathmane: namaha:

**SANSKRIT WORD MEANING =** not only for **Arjuna**, for the entire world

Not only for people in this world...

**SANSKRIT WORD =** lokathrayopaka:ra:ya:

**SANSKRIT WORD MEANING =** for beings of the higher upper and lower world as well for everyone in this human plane

**SANSKRIT WORD =** thasmai krushnaswarupa:ya namaha: krushna:thmane: namaha:

**SANSKRIT WORD MEANING =** for this purpose, He came to us in a heavenly, most beautiful form

He appeared in this wonderful form with an ever-cheerful face. To preach precisely and pleasantly, He says ‘**prahasanniva bharatha**’.

**SANSKRIT WORD =** prahasan

**SANSKRIT WORD MEANING =** how friends interact – sociable and smiling

Friends converse seriously when discussing serious issues. Otherwise, they laugh, beam and talk cheerfully with happiness. **Sri Krishna** spoke in the same way, without sternness. Not to scare **Arjuna**, to make him at ease, encourage **Arjuna** to raise doubts, without hesitation.

**SANSKRIT WORD =** arjunasya:jou: kurvan gi:thamrutam dadau:

**SANSKRIT WORD MEANING =** why in a battlefield, surprising

Are people able to comprehend deep philosophical messages just when they are about to sit down for a meal? Similarly, with everyone ready for battle, eager to fight... ...no one will be able to comprehend spiritual topics about soul and God. So, when should this material be taught? In fact, the reason for **Sri Krishna avatara** (incarnation) was to give this message. He came to benefit **lokathraya** (all three worlds). However, valuable topics should not be disclosed unless asked for. If shared without being asked, the speaker will be called crazy. Thus, someone should ask. By explaining to the seeker, the same message can benefit everyone. Nothing valuable should be revealed without being asked. Imagine a policeman at a crossroad. If someone asks for directions, then his advice holds value. Otherwise, if he gives various directions to different destinations throughout the day while on duty without being asked... ...people will think he has gone insane and question what happened to him. People will call him crazy. Why? Nothing is incorrect with his information. However, because he is sharing without being asked, the value is not recognized. This goes for any information... Even if it's simply ordinary information, revealing it when not asked is considered an insane act. Who will recognize the value of such an important message like **Bhagavad Gita**, if disclosed, without being asked? That's why someone must ask. However, people were not in a position to do so. He found only one person. **janmaniki oka sivarathri la** (once in a blue moon), He waited for a long time, approximately 90 years. He found one, and only person to simply express, “**Sri Krishna**, all I need is you and you alone.”

Everyone else was always requesting one thing or another. He did not find even one who could say, “I need you, I have no other means.” Everyone was simply in his own world. When He chose to go as a peace ambassador, **Kauravas** did not compromise. Ultimately, both parties assembled armies. Let’s recall the events... Both **Duryodhana** and **Arjuna** simultaneously went to **Sri Krishna** for help. **Duryodhana** reached slightly earlier, and because of his ego, sat near **Sri Krishna**ʼs head. **Arjuna** came later and sat near **Sri Krishna**ʼs feet. With folded hands and head bowed, he paid his respects. Although **Sri Krishna** was lying down as if sleeping, he would have known what was happening. Pretending to wake up, he first noticed **Arjuna** and greeted him. Immediately afterward, the proud king, **Duryodhana**, said, “I arrived first.” Realizing both came to seek help in the upcoming war, He made a proposal to treat both fairly. “I have ten thousand supreme, well-armed, warriors. They will be given to one party and I will join the other party.” “With one condition - I will not hold a weapon. I will not fight in the war. I will simply advise when needed.” “You can choose one - me or the ten thousand great warriors. **Arjuna**, as the junior, can choose first.” **Duryodhana** was anxious! Why? He was nervous **Arjuna** might choose the 10,000 supreme warriors! A lone **Sri Krishna**, would not fight and would only offer advice. “I already have more than enough war-time counselors,” thought **Duryodhana**. “Why would I need another advisor for the same?” However, **Arjuna** was given the first choice. What to do? “**Arjuna**, pick one option. Choose whom you want,” said **Sri Krishna**. **Arjuna** said, “**Sri Krishna**, I want you.” **Sri Krishna** said, “I won’t fight in the war.” **Arjuna** said, “Itʼs not needed.” **Sri Krishna** said, “I wonʼt even hold a weapon.” **Arjuna** said, “Itʼs not needed, your presence is enough. Simply be with me.” **Duryodhana** was jumping with joy. He won the ten thousand-warrior army! With delight, He went to his grandfather, **Bhishma Pithamaha**. **Bhishma** was happy as well. Finally, at least once in his life, he saw **Duryodhana**ʼs face beaming with happiness. **Bhishma** checked, “did **Sri Krishna** really say He will not touch any weapon?” “Yes, He said so,” said **Duryodhana**. **Bhishma** then made an oath of his own, “**Sri Krishna** made an oath not to touch any weapons, right? I will make him use a weapon in the war!” **Duryodhana** was overwhelmed with happiness to hear this. He thought his grandfather always favored **Pandavas**, in all matters. However, now, **Bhishma** took an oath to outweigh the very oath **Sri Krishna** took.! With his grandfather directly opposing **Sri Krishna**ʼs oath, **Duryodhana**ʼs happiness knew no bounds.

Only **Arjuna** had the thought, “**Sri Krishna**, whether you fight or not, being with me is enough.” When the war was to begin, now that **Sri Krishna** felt **Arjuna** was favorable... ...intending to use **Arjuna** as a medium for the divine message, with everyone assembled in the battlefield...

**SANSKRIT WORD =** sarathyam:ajau kurvan

**SANSKRIT WORD MEANING =** acting as **Arjuna**ʼs charioteer in the battlefield

**SANSKRIT WORD =** pravruthe: sasthra sampa:the:

**SANSKRIT WORD MEANING =** when everyone was literally ready to release their arrow

He thought that at least now **Arjuna** would seek good advice. However, since **Arjuna** still did not ask... ...**Sri Krishna** transformed **Arjuna**ʼs heroism and enhanced his feelings of grief and misery. He influenced **Arjuna** to ask an appropriate question.

**SANSKRIT WORD =** na:aprushtaha: kasyachith bhru:ya:th

**SANSKRIT WORD MEANING =** following the scriptural rule that nothing should be disclosed without being asked for

As if preaching solely to **Arjuna**...

**SANSKRIT WORD =** lo:kathrayo:pakara:ya:

**SANSKRIT WORD MEANING =** benefitting all three worlds

...with great compassion, **Sri Krishna** delivered this **Srimad Bhagavad Gita**. It was vital not only then, but also has equal value today. In addition, to withstand current dangerous situation and to make us mentally strong... ...everyone benefits by understanding **Bhagavad Gita**, the divine elixir given by **Sri Krishna**. Thus, letʼs start **Bhagavad Gita**. Letʼs begin to grasp this message one **sloka** (verse) at a time. With this in mind, letʼs also learn verses to chant and meditate upon before beginning **Bhagavad Gita**. This is also our duty. While recollecting this, we just discussed a **sloka** (verse). As discussed, acting as a charioteer in the battlefield, encouraging **Arjuna** to fight, **Sri Krishna** delivered this **Bhagavad Gita** benefiting all three worlds (higher, lower and earthly plane). Remembering this great deed, we will recite a few prayers given to us by our noble Seers. We can indulge in this **githagangodaka snanam** (divine bath in the Ganga River that is Gita). Actually, **Bhagavad Gita** is a collection of 700 **slokas** (verses). In that, approximately, 574 and a half **slokas** (verses) were uttered by **Sri Krishna** - the rest, by others. Once we know the backdrop, we can truly enjoy its beauty. For that, letʼs all prepare. Letʼs pray that the essence of **Sri Krishna**ʼs blessing becomes instilled in our hearts.

Jai **Srimannarayana!**