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1. Episode Title: Episode 85 – Bhagavad Gita (Chapter 3, Episode 85)

2. Topics & Tags:

TOPICS: The nature of the divine force and its role in the universe, Understanding Krishna's omnipresence and indwelling nature, The concept of \*hrudayam\* as the operational center, The indestructible nature of the \*atma\* (soul) and its relationship with \*Paramatma\* (Supreme Soul), The importance of \*Adhyatma Jnanam\* (knowledge of the soul and God) for spiritual progress, The practice of surrendering actions and responsibility to the Supreme Being.

TAGS: HH Chinna Jeeyar Swami, Bhagavad Gita, Chapter 3, Episode 85, Adhyatma Jnanam, Daiva, God, Bhagavan, Krishna, Purushottama, Sastha, Sarveswara, Atma, Paramatma, Hrudayam, Prasa:sitha, Anu, Maya, Divine Will, Fate, Luck, Control, Indweller, Consciousness, Surrender, Knowledge, Wisdom, Mind, Soul, Supreme Soul, Mahabharata, Kali Yuga, Spiritual Guidance.

3. Main Content:

Jai Srimannarayana!

Priya Bhagavadbandhus (Dear devotees of the Lord),

First, an invocation:

`a:pada:m apahartha:ram da:tha:ram sarva sampada:m

lo:ka:bhi ra:mam sri:ra:mam bhu:yo: bhu:yo: nama:myaham`

(I bow again and again to Sri Rama, who removes all calamities, bestows all wealth, and delights the world.)

Of the many people surrounding us, a few are well-wishers. A few others wish to cause harm to us, while others simply ignore us. Those who wish good for us are positive people. Those who wish evil on us are negative. Those who ignore us, we call them passive. Hence, of those that surround us, there are some passive, positive, and negative people. We tend to gravitate towards those who wish us well and avoid those who try to hurt us. We ignore passive people sometimes and at times we don’t. That’s okay. While we are in this world, we have to coexist with all such types of people. It is required. We have to interact and have to work alongside them. Since this is a world, everything has a circular link with each other and is interconnected. We have to survive in such a world!

Regardless of how you survive and in which timeline, one must always be cognizant of the supreme being behind all of this! What force drives us or those around us? What is ‘it’ actually? To learn about ‘it’, we generally call it daiva (divine force), God! It means that it is hidden, yet, it is the main force behind all. It works effortlessly and operates very easily. While operating, it manages smoothly with hardly any effort. Can it be seen while it’s operating? No, it is hidden. Therefore ‘it’ is called daiva (divine force)! `div kri:da` (divine play) and `div praka:sam` (divine light) are the two `dha:tuvus` (roots) of the word. There are many more as well. Let’s learn these.

The driving force behind anything is surmised as daiva (divine force)! It is sometimes also known as “Luck.” Our conversations usually go, “Wow, luck is in his favor!” or “it was my luck” or “it was my [bad] luck that this happened.” The terms “luck” or “fate” or “daiva” (divine force), they all represent the same thing. We also say, “This happened unexpectedly” or “This happened by coincidence.” Whatever we call `yadruccha` (random) or `ka:kata:li:yam` (coincidence)… Any such word means ‘a hidden divine energy behind the scenes.’ That energy is what we call “Bhagavan” (God)!

By its own volition, sometimes It descends into this world. When It comes down, It undertakes the task to uplift and protect this world. It tries to re-establish the degraded nature of humanity back to its intended state. It also tries to restore a destabilized societal system to its original state. It once did it during the great war of Mahabharata, just prior to the advent of Kali Yuga, which is around 5,500 years ago. That energy is called “Krishna” as it had an amazing form and appeared like an epitome of bliss. Also called as “Krishnudu.” He is also called “Bhagavan” (God) due to His divine qualities. Though He appeared to have descended to earth at our behest, He is different from us. He is therefore called “Purushottama” (Supreme Person). He is known as “Sastha” (Controller) and “Sarveswara” (Lord of all) as He can command anything from anywhere.

Where does He live and how does He look? History speaks of His pastimes in Gokulam, Mathura, or Dwaraka. However, He claimed He is omnipresent. Vedas wrote about Him as someone who is the indweller of all and surrounds everything. It proclaimed thus - `anthar bahischa tath sarvam vya:pyasthithaha` (He exists pervading everything, inside and out). He also shared detailed guidance called “Bhagavad Gita” that is part of Mahabharata. In it, He says…

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SLOKA WORD -

sarva bhu:thana:m hruddese: thishtathi:

bhra:mayan sarva bhu:ta:ni yantra a:rudha:ni ma:yaya: ||

SLOKA MEANING -

‘I reside in the heart area of every being! Making all beings revolve as if mounted on a machine, by My divine power.’

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Heart means the focal point of operations. Don’t ask where it is! Whether it is here, there, or somewhere else. He said, ‘I exist at the most critical place.’ For an airplane, the pilot cabin is in its nose area, close to its engine and other parts. The nose of the plane is tiny, while its body is large. However, the pilot sits in its nose area to guide it. In a roller coaster which rotates with its large circular body, the operator is tucked away in a corner. Some might have the operating cabin in the center of it. ‘I exist in the key operating area for anything.’ He called it `hruddesam` (the heart area). The operator inside is therefore called `hrudayaha` or `hrudayam` (heart). `Hrudayam` (heart) doesn’t mean the fist-sized heart. It is not the heart that palpitates with sound lub dub lub dub. `Hrudayam` (heart) is the name given to the indwelling central key area that operates.

… `hruddese: thishtathi:` (He resides in the heart area) … `bhra:mayan` (making them move)

I will dwell in a way to operate all of these as per its nature. Everything functions in their own way. Our ways are different from a bird’s or an animal’s or something else’s. Everyone has their own way. [Krishna said,] ‘I ensure the functioning of anything depending on their nature.’ How? Without their influence - `yanthra a:ru:dha:ni` (mounted on a machine)… One who rides a roller coaster has nothing in his control. He can only sit there in his seat as he is fixed to the chair. He can only scream ‘ho…ho’ and bounce in his chair. However, he doesn’t have the liberty to free himself. He can only get down when the ride operator stops the ride and permits him to leave. Instead, if he tries to free himself, it can be dangerous to himself and others. [Sri Krishna said,] “I am the One who ensures everything works properly.”

`sarva bhu:thani yanthra a:ru:dha:ni ma:yaya` (all beings are mounted on a machine by My divine power)

`ma:yaya` (by My divine power), He said, ‘with my incredible and divine resolve and with a unique and powerful trait.’ Vedas also claim the same.

`Anthar pravistu sa:stha: jana:na:gum sarva:thma:` (He is the indweller of all beings, the controller, the soul of all)

He is `anthar pravistaha` (the indweller of all). In whom? `jana:na:m` (of beings), anything that takes birth by nature. It means, ‘I am an indweller for every being that takes birth and death by nature.’ He exists in other objects too, however, they do not need to be mentioned. These live beings must be enlightened though. Because they feel they are functioning out of their own volition. However, that is not true. ‘I am the in-dwelling One.’ What do you do seated inside? `sa:stha:` (controller), ‘I stay inside to instruct.’ For whom? Only me? `Viswa:thma` (the soul of the universe), I am there inside for all. He is called `prasa:sitha` (supreme controller). There is no better controller than He. `prasa:sitha:ram sarve:sha:m` (the supreme controller of all).

[Some might ask] Isn’t `a:thma` (soul) said to be `anu` (sub-atomic, indivisible)? An `anu` (sub-atomic particle) means that which is puny, the subtlest particle of this universe or probably in this universe. Science used to call it something very small. Earlier, it was called atom. Later a smaller sub-atomic particle is called a substrate. Then smaller particles called quarks and many others were discovered. Now the smallest of all particles attained by dividing further and further… so far, by imagination, it cannot be seen with the naked eye, the smallest hypothetical particle they could divide to is called preon! P-R-E-O-N. They called it the smallest. We do not know how small it is. Smaller than this, according to our scriptures, is called `anu` (sub-atomic particle). Isn’t `a:thma` (soul) smallest of all? In that it cannot be destroyed! Now you say He [Sri Krishna] is its indweller. Only when it has sub-components, that something can penetrate it. If there are sub-components, then it can disintegrate. If He is inside, then the substance can be destroyed. If so, can `a:thma` (soul) be destroyed? Then [the answer is] No! He already alluded to it as, `ajaha` (unborn), `nithyaha` (eternal), `sa:svathaha` (ever-existing), `pura:naha` (ancient). Then how can He exist inside? That is because `a:thma` (soul) is engulfed with knowledge. Just like the light of a lamp entering the glow area of another lamp does not soak up one another… when `parama:thma` (Supreme Soul) permeates into `a:tma` (soul), His nature does not destroy it in any way. Vedas proclaimed this as well.

`ani:ya:msam ani:yasa:m` (subtler than the subtlest).

`Ani:yasa:m ji:va:thmana:m` (of individual souls), He exists inside the `a:thmas` (souls) as well! `Ani:ya:msam` (subtler than the subtlest), He is the subtler than the subtlest! He is smaller than the smallest of all! He is the indweller of `a:thmas` (souls). Why? `prasa:sitha:ram sarve:sha:m` (the supreme controller of all) so that He may wield his control on them to run the operations.

Since He owns wisdom, at times there is a risk of a person (in whom He indwells) feeling the doer-ship of an activity. That threat is real today! He therefore shares wisdom to counter that threat. While sharing the wisdom in chapter 3, He says… ‘Make up your mind on something.’ What is that? “Leave responsibility with Me.” What should be the state of `manas` (mind)? It should have clear knowledge on the subject of `a:thma` (soul). Not just of `a:thma` (soul), it should also have a clear knowledge on the subject of `parama:thma` (Supreme Soul). If you let your intelligence dwell properly on this, it is known as `adhyatma jna:nam` (knowledge of the soul and God). It is the knowledge associated with `a:thma` (soul) or `parama:thma` (Supreme Soul). Mind should be engrossed in this knowledge. Then it becomes `adhyatma che:thas` (mind engrossed in the knowledge of the soul and God). We had mentioned earlier that `a:thma` (soul) can mean mind as well. Similarly `a:thma` (soul) can be `jiva:thma` (individual soul) or `parama:thma` (Supreme Soul) or can imply many other things. However, when this was said in chapter 3 verse 30…

`sannyasy a:dhya:thma che:thasa:` (renouncing all actions to Me, with your mind fixed on the Self)

Sri Krishna said, ‘If you put your faith in Me… with the mind engrossed in clear knowledge related to `a:thma` (soul) or `parama:thma` (Supreme Soul)… you will have no hardships, nor face any challenges. You will be able to smoothly progress in life.’ What does ‘knowledge related to `a:thma` (soul) or `parama:thma` (Supreme Soul)’ mean? Let us move ahead trying to learn this.

`Vande: guru parampara:m` (I bow to the lineage of teachers)

Jai Srimannarayana!

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