

BHAGAVAD GITA- FIVE DAYS COURSE
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*Hare Krishna Hare Krishna, Krishna Krishna Hare Hare
Hare Rama Hare Rama, Rama Rama Hare Hare.*

Today the subject matter of Ishwara/God will be elucidated:-

Various mis-conceptions of God in Society

Many types of convictions related to the conception of God are prevalent in society. Lord Krishna in Bhagavad Gita has clarified such convictions.

Some sect of people believe that God is nirakaar(formless), nirguna (divine consciousness), jyoti swaroop (luminant effulgence) or an energy.

Some people think that God doesn't exist anymore, He died when He became fatigued of handling the matters of this creation.

Some sect of people believe that all living species on Earth are Gods and due to an illusion (maya) we have forgotten our true identity. Therefore, one must perceive knowledge by studying Holy Scriptures to recall & apprehend that we all are Gods.

Some people think that there are many God and Goddesses.

They have their own faith in particular God to whom they worship. But ultimately all paths will lead to the same goal & same destination.

In this session, the subject of discussion is based on these mis-conceptions which are problem statements of society.

Who can be called as God?

Meaning of the term Bhagavan(God)

The word **Bhagavan** is divided into two words:-
Bhaga (aiswarya/ opulence) + vaan (to possess something)

The person who has all the opulences in complete form is called as Bhagavaan.

Example in hindi language :-

People who have intelligence are called Buddhimaan,

people with riches are called Dhanvaan,

Those who have qualities are called Gunavaan.

DEFINATION OF GOD.

In Vishnu Purana, ascetic Parashara muni (father of sage VyasDeva) gave us the definition of God:-

***aiśvaryasya samagrasya vīryasya yaśasaḥ śriyaḥ
jñāna-vairāgyayoś caiva śaṇṇām itī bhaga ganā
[Viṣṇu Purāṇa 6.5.47]***

The possessor of all the six opulence in absolute/complete quantities (rather than in abundant quantity) is called Bhagavan.

Aisvaryasya means opulence; samagrasya means complete.

Six opulence of the Supreme Lord also known as Shad Aishwarya are:-

1. Wealthy
2. Very powerful
3. Strength
4. Very famous
5. Very beautiful
6. Renunciation

Bhagavan claims that all wealth in the entire universe belongs to Him.

Example:-

The richest person on the earth cannot claim that- all the wealth on the planet belongs to him.

People might say so & so dwelling is registered on my name. But the Supreme Lord claims that He has given us this house and body on rent. At some point of time one will be forced to vacate it. On death, the person leaves and all his claimed possessions remains.

This way a person behaves as the security guard to maintain some places. After his retirement he is replaced by a new security guard. Usually people allot this position to their sons. On death nobody can take away their homes along with them. In course of life, if the security guard imagines himself to be the owner then eventually real landlord will tell him to vacate it.

A builder won't be able to erect a building unless the materials are provided and sanctioned to him. All these materials are provided by the God.

Another example of the carpenter;-

A carpenter after fabricating all the furniture can't claim any of piece of furniture to be his, because all the gross materials are provided by the home-owner. He is just the helper on the daily wages.

The Supreme Lord is the ultimate Proprietor of all the products manufacture as all the material ingredients required for its production are sanctioned by the lord.

Since ages many kings had claimed their regions/kingdoms.

Examples from scriptures:-

- Hiranyakashyapu claimed to be the owner of all three lokas. Lord showed his nihility and killed him.
- Similarly, Ravana claimed too, but again God killed him and his Lanka remains.
- In Dwapara yuga, Kansa claimed Mathura, He too was killed by the Lord

Conclusion:-

Hence many mighty powerful capable kings before us had attempted to claim the possess this planet, but till today the ultimate proprietor remains same - the Supreme Lord.

All the riches in this universe belongs to the Supreme Lord.

RENUNCIATION (VAIRAGYA)

This opulence is difficult to understand. Being the possessor of all other five opulences, He remains in renounced position. Like:- He is the most beautiful and still remains renounced.

Only the magnificent person can possess such a combination of opulence's all at the same time. He is all powerful, beautiful, knowledgeable, most wealthy but remains detached. Such combination of the opulence's in their complete form is possible only in Bhagavan.

If any person is awarded with a bit of any opulence he starts flying in the air. They fixate themselves in that position.

IS EVERYBODY GOD ?

People start thinking themselves as God. How can everybody become God? On what principles it can proved that they are not Gods?

One rushes to the dentist on toothaches. One is helplessly controlled by all the factors of material problems like toothache, so how can one become the Lord.

Bhagavan/ Ishvara means Controller. One cannot control his own body and mind, hence how can one becomes the controller of the entire creation.

In today's world it's difficult to strive for the post of M.P., but becoming God is an easy task. One has to shed his wealth to become a M.P. but becoming God is the 100% profitable business right from the start.

Example:-

If one hires few persons using some means(money) to inflate him as a God (showcasing the performance similar to the activities performed before a deity). Some people gather and offer few bucks. So, one gains more by shedding the little amount in such gatherings which becomes the most profitable business.

God is not a position that can be attained by performing severe austerities or by gaining supernatural power (siddhi). The Supreme Lord will remain Supreme Lord and Living entities will remain in their position and cannot become God. soul can never become the Super Soul.

In context to the Lord people often commit two mistakes with the turnout mindset.

It's quite astonishing that even a learned people start worshipping any mundane person thinking him to be God. (like an IAS officer visiting any mundane Baba).

Similarly,

One must offer their obeisances to their spiritual master but should not consider him to be the Lord. Srila Prabhupad quoted in his lectures: "one who claims to be a God, He is dog."

Example from the scriptures:-

After Krishna took birth from the womb of Devaki, He never went to perform austerity on the Himalayas. He remained as an infant of six days when He sucked out the life from the Demon Putana. He was not effected by the poison on her breasts and later He was found playing on her breasts. To kill the demons like Putana. Krishna never performed any austerities to become the Lord but since His birth He is the Lord.

Lord Krishna was not born bare, but was born with blue garments and complete paraphernalia of his embellishments.

Like his hair and crown. Unlike ordinary child just after His divine birth He spoke to Devaki and Vasudeva,: "I have fulfilled your desire by taking birth from your womb third

time, as per the blessing given to you in your previous birth.”

Therefore, one must never conceive the idea of becoming God.

Conception of God by impersonalists

Impersonalists are those people who think that the Supreme Lord is nirakaarvadi(formless), nirgunavadi (divine consciousness), nirviseshvadi (with no personal quality), jyoti swaroop (luminant effulgence) or an energy.

These impersonalists have misconceptions that The lord can be influenced by Maya (material energy) and Maya is more powerful to envelop the Lord making Him forget that He is the Supreme Lord.

But our acharyas had refuted such statements with an explanation that if Maya is so powerful than the Lord, then maya must be considered as the Supreme Lord.

***In Sri brahma samhita 5.44
sr̥ṣṭi-sthiti-pralaya-sādhana-śaktir ekā
chāyeva yasya bhuvanāni bibharti durgā
icchānurūpam api yasya ca ceṣṭate sā
govindam ādi-puruṣaṁ tam ahaṁ bhajāmi***

This material energy (Maya or Durga) is the shadow of the Supreme Lord and hence Lord can never get enveloped by His own energy.

***In Bhagavad Gita verse 9.11
avajānanti mām mūḍhā mānuṣīm tanum āśritam
paraṁ bhāvam ajānanto mama bhūta-maheśvaram***

Here Lord Krishna explains by quoting Mudha(means foolish people / asses), thinks that God descended on this planet as an ordinary Human Being. They don't consider Lord-Rama and Lord Krishna as the powerful Historical personalities.

Lord Rama and Lord Krishna are the Supreme personality of Godhead. He is the ultimate controller and maintainer of the entire creation.

But people being ignorant of such facts consider Him as an ordinary being.

Example :- P.M. Modi appears like us with the same features of the body but he is not ordinary like us. He is influential and powerful. According to any mundane person's opinion, starts considering someone else at the position of P.M. then it's untrue.

Reality is above all opinions.

Scriptures (Ramayana, Bhagavad Gita, Srimad Bhagavatam) reveals the ultimate truth and actual reality, that nobody can become The Supreme Personality Of Godhead and He is the only Supreme Lord.

Worshiping many Gods and Goddesses

People have faith in many Gods. They follow their family traditions by worshiping their favourite God (Ish deva).

Sanatana dharma is considered polytheism - as the religion of gods and goddesses.

Ultimate reality and Absolute truth is that there is only one Supreme Personality of Godhead, and there's no conception of the existence of multiple Gods.

In the Vedas (Svetasvatara Upanisad 6.8) there is this statement about the Supreme Personality of Godhead: na tasya karyam karanam ca vidyate, na tat samas cabhyadhikas ca drsyate, parasya saktir vividhaiva sruyate, svabhaviki jnana-bala-kriya ca

This verse clarifies that the Supreme Personality of Godhead is the person who doesn't have to work and there's no need for Him to work. **Nobody is equivalent or greater than the Supreme Lord. Supreme lord is only one.**

Who is the supreme personality of Godhead among so many Gods?

Supreme Personality of Godhead is that person who has enlighten the entire creation with his effulgence. He is the possessor of all the qualities, which are ascribed as the

Symptoms of the Supreme Lord :-

- He is the ultimate original creator of all the existence.
- He is the ultimate proprietor of the creation.
- He is the absolute controller and maintainer of the entire universe.
- He is ultimate enjoyer as everything in the universe belongs to Him.
- He is the ultimate destroyer.

In Bhagavad Gita the features of the Supreme personality of Godhead is mentioned. One must refer Bhagavad Gita as the essence of all the scriptures.

In Bhagavad Gita verse 10.8

***ahaṁ sarvasya prabhavo mattaḥ sarvaṁ pravartate
iti matvā bhajante mām budhā bhāva-samanvitāḥ***

Lord Krishna says:- “I am the original creator of everything. I am the source of everything.”

In brahma Samhita 5.1, Brahmaji says:-

***īśvaraḥ paramaḥ kṛṣṇaḥ sac-cid-ānanda-vigrahaḥ
anādir ādir govindaḥ sarva-kāraṇa-kāraṇam***

Brahmaji says that the ultimate controller is lord Krishna. He is the cause of all the causes of the entire universe.

Srimad Bhagavatam gives us the insight that

Entire creation is manifested in two ways:-

Sarga:- the real creation generated by the Supreme persoanlity of Godhead.

Visarga:- secondary creation as the manifestation of the original creation disseminated by Brahmaji.

Example:-

An engineer, after being supplied with all the gross construction material, he can erect the building. His creation of the building will be called secondary creation. Primary creation is the creation of the basic ingredients of the construction materials like cement etc.

Therefore the primary creator and source of all the things in the universe is Lord Krishna.

Who is the ultimate proprietor of the universe?

In Bhagavad Gita verse 5.29:-

***bhoktāraṁ yajña-tapasāṁ sarva-loka-maheśvaram
suhṛdaṁ sarva-bhūtānāṁ jñātvā māṁ śāntim ṛcchati***

Lord Krishna says that He is the supreme proprietor of all the planets in the universe. He is the source of all the living entities.

Supreme Controller:-

People says that everything is coming from the nature:-
But in Bhagavad Gita its clarified that there is the source of prakriti (nature) as well.

In Bhagavad Gita 9.10

***mayādhyakṣeṇa prakṛtiḥ sūyate sa-carācaram
hetunānena kaunteya jagad viparivartate***

Lord Krishna says that under His direction all this material nature works.

In Brahma Samhita 5.44 its mentioned that

**icchanurupam api yasya che cheshtate sa
icchanurupam api yasya che cheshtate sa
govindam adi-purusham tam aham bhajami**

Brahmajī said :- This material nature works in accordance to the desires of Lord Krishna, I am praying to such supreme personality of godhead - Govinda

In Isopanishad mantra 1:-

***īśāvāsyam idaṁ sarvaṁ yat kiñca jagatyāṁ jagat
tena tyaktena bhuñjīthā mā gṛdhaḥ kasya svid
dhanam***

Means :-

Everything within the universe, is owned, pervaded and controlled by the Supreme Lord (Krishna).

In brahma samhita 5.1

***īśvaraḥ paramaḥ kṛṣṇaḥ sac-cid-ānanda-vigrahaḥ
anādir ādir govindaḥ sarva-kāraṇa-kāraṇam***

Brahmajī says: Lord Krishna (Isvarah) is the ultimate supreme (paramah) controller.

Supreme maintainer of the entire universe

In Bhagavad Gita verse 9.17

***pitāham asya jagato mātā dhātā pitāmahaḥ
vedyaṁ pavitram oṁ-kāra ṛk sāma yajur eva ca***

Lord Krishna says :-

“I am the father, mother of the whole universe and I am the maintainer (pati) ultimate shelter of the entire creation.” . He is the supplier of all our basic needs for sustenance and maintenance.

The constituents of the material universe were supplied by the Supreme lord.

In Bhagavad Gita verse 7.4:-

***bhūmir āpo 'nalo vāyuḥ khaṁ mano buddhir eva ca
ahaṁkāra itīyaṁ me bhinnā prakṛtir aṣṭadhā***

Lord Krishna says:-

All Material world is created from

five gross elements:-Earth, water, fire, air and ether(sky).

Three subtle elements :- mind, intelligence, and false ego

All these elements constitute His material energies.

Since The supreme Personality of godhead is the source of all elements and hence he is ultimate controller.

Supreme Destroyer

In Bhagavad Gita 9.18

***gatir bhartā prabhuḥ sākṣhī nivāsaḥ śharaṇaṁ suhṛit
prabhavaḥ pralayaḥ sthānaṁ nidhānaṁ bījam avyayam***

Lord Krishna says that He is the complete destroyer (pralaya nidhanam) is Himself the Lord.

Why Lord Krishna explicate about himself so much?

Example:-

A child was very very stubborn to get a bicycle in spite that he didn't knew to ride. Parents fulfilled his wish. Later the child met an accident and went in coma. Parents were in extreme agony. Doctors told the parents that they can do nothing much unless the child comes out of coma within a day. Overwhelming father of that child made an attempt by recalling the old memories. Slowly that child regained his consciousness.

Here the question arises:-

Did father had an ego while he was recalling that how he took care and taught his child ? but here it's not the ego of the father but it's a reflection of his concern and love.

Similarly,

The Supreme Personality of Godhead is not displaying his egoistic exhibition but it is His love and concern to bring us back to Godhead.

We living entities are living in an illusion. And The Supreme Lord is showing his mercy by reminding His ultimate qualities to make us understand that we are living in an illusion. If the Supreme lord doesn't explicate about Himself, then living entities will remain ignorant. Then we will be able to understand the ultimate position of the lord.

In Bhagavad Gita verse 7.7:-

***mattaḥ parataraṁ nānyat kiñcid asti dhanañ-jaya
mayi sarvam idaṁ protaṁ sūtre maṇi-gaṇā iva***

Lord Krishna says:-

**There is no truth (no one) superior to Me.
And everything rests on Him.**

Analogy:-

just as pearls are strung on a thread in a garland. The thread is invisible but is the basis of the garland, similarly everything in the universe rest on the supreme lord , and yet He remains unrecognized.

Foolish people are unaware of the fact that the all the existence is dependent on Krishna. All the pearls are placed solely. So, no one is the controller of all the planets too have an independent existence.

Example :-

It takes lot of research to place a satellite in its orbit, but sometimes the attempts become unsuccessful.

It takes immense energy to float the satellite in space, hence one can decipher How the Supreme Lord is making these planets float in their orbits.

Sun planet is 24thousandth times the size of the earth. And it is moving at the speed of 16thousand miles per second. One can imagine such a big fireball with so high temperature moving at so much speed. Speed of the sun never slows down. Planet Earth is taking the same amount of time to rotate and revolve at the same speed for billions of years.

Whole universe is working with so much precision.
Only foolish people can deny the existence of God.

On the context of the existence of many gods and
Goddesses, ***in Bhagavad Gita verse 7.20 :-***
kāmais tais tair hr̥ta-jñānāḥ prapadyante 'nya-
devatāḥ

taṁ taṁ niyamam āsthāya prakṛtyā niyatāḥ svayā
Those whose intelligence is stolen by material desires
surrender Demi Gods. And whose heart is filled with
humility and have faith and devotion in the Supreme lord
achieves the Lord.

Some people have a misconception that all paths of
meditation leads to the same goal .

Example :- One will reach that destination only for which
the train ticket is purchased. One cannot reach the same
destination with all kinds of tickets.

In Bhagavad Gita verse 9.25:-
yanti deva-vrata devan pitṛn yanti pitṛ-vrataḥ
bhūtāni yanti bhūtejya yanti mad-yajino 'pi mam
Different types of worship leads to different destinations.

Those who worship demigods go to the planets of DemiGods.

Those who worship ancestors go to the ancestors. Those who worship ghosts will take birth among ghosts, and those who worship The supreme Lord will attain Him.

In Bhagavad gita verse 8.16:-

***ā-brahma-bhuvanāl lokāḥ punar āvartino 'rjuna
mām upetya tu kaunteya punar janma na vidyate***

If anyone attains the higher planets upto brahma loka with his pious activities, one has to return back on earth once their fruits of the pious deeds gets over.

***Kingdom of God is described in Bhagavad gita in
verse 15.6:-***

yad gatvā na nivartante tad dhāma paramaṁ mama

But one who attains the abode of the Supreme Lord never returns back to the material world. therefore one must strive to return back to the abode of Godhead.

In Bhagavad Gita it's recommended that instead of praying Demigods one must worship the Supreme Personality of Godhead.

Example :- Bribing an officer to get the work done is illegal. Hence, lord directly instructs us that worshipping Demi Gods for material gains is avidhi (incorrect method). One must approach the Supreme Lord directly for their requirements.

Hare Krishna!