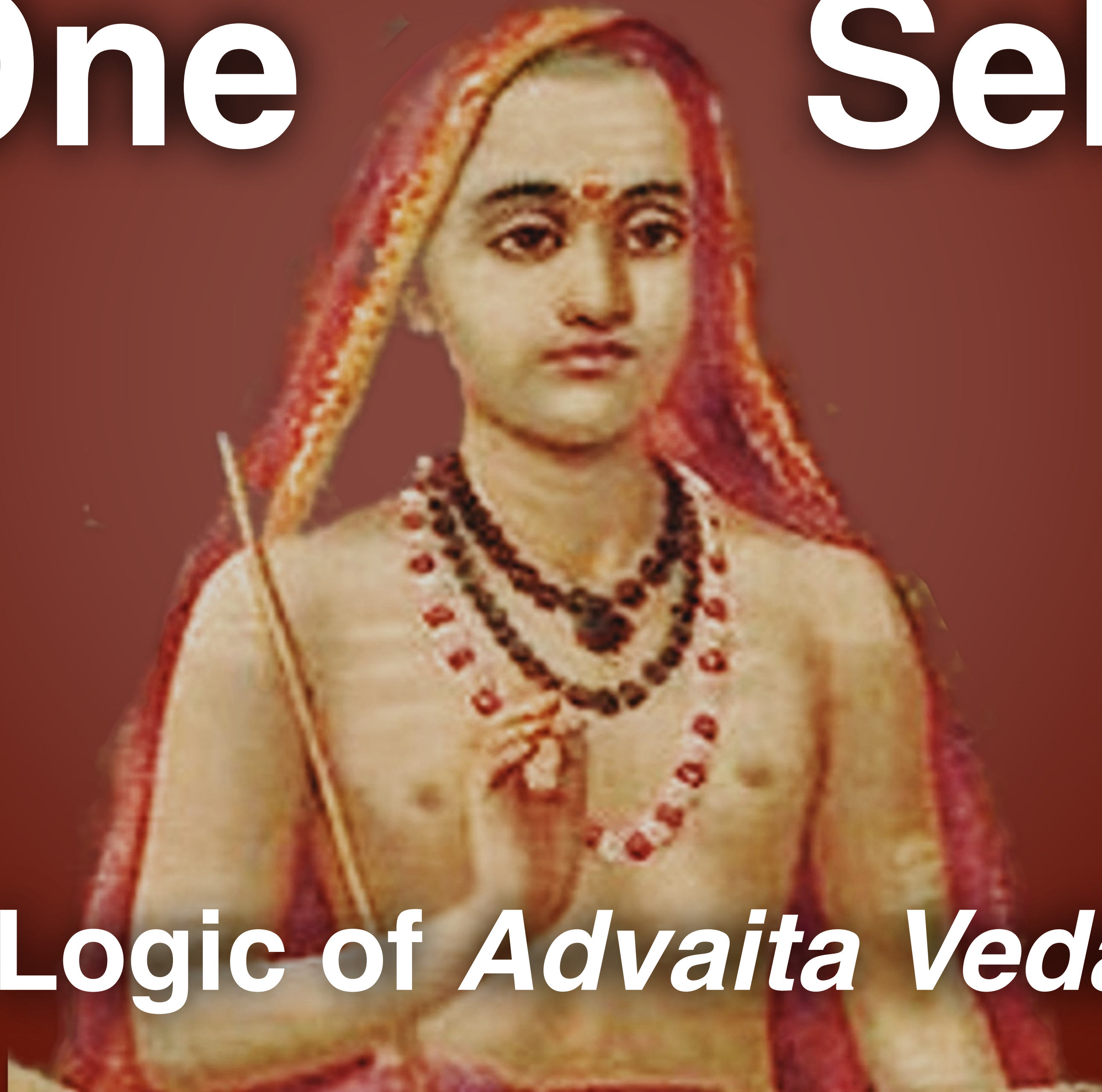


One Self



The Logic of *Advaita Vedānta*

One Self

What is this Video About?

- Proof that Śaṅkarācārya's *Advaita Vedānta* is a fully logically consistent system
- What this means and why it is important
- Later videos in this series will give means and methods for realizing it yourself

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There exists exactly one Self—you—which:

- Is not the ego
- Witnesses all phenomena
- Appears as all phenomena
- Is not any of the bodily sheaths
- Is the only thing that really exists
- Transcends the *guṇas* (qualities of nature)
- Was never born, will never die, never changes
- Is knower, known, and knowing (nondual knowledge)
- Has no phenomenal properties (time, space, qualities)

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What is Only One?

- Developed by Advaita Researcher Matthew Scherf
- Verification of the logical consistency of *Advaita Vedānta*
- The first complete machine-verified formalization of a major non-Western philosophical system

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What did Matthew do?

- **Formalized** the complete metaphysical system of *Advaita Vedānta*
- **Encoded** it in Higher-Order Logic symbols
- **Verified** it using the powerful **Isabelle/HOL** proof assistant software

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How did Matthew do it?

- **Logic System:** Classical Higher-Order Logic (HOL)—the same logical encoding used in formal mathematics.
- **Proof Assistant:** Isabelle/HOL 2025—an industrial-strength automated theorem prover used for verifying operating system kernels, compilers, and cryptographic protocols.

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What did Matthew prove?

- **Using 40+ axioms and proving 30+ theorems, he established Core Identity:**
 - You are the unique Absolute (Brahman = Ātman)
 - You are the only thing that really exists
 - Everything else is conditioned appearance

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What did Matthew prove?

- **Timelessness:**
 - You were never born
 - You will never die
 - You never change

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What did Matthew prove?

- **Consciousness:**
 - You witness all phenomena
 - You appear as all phenomena
 - You are not distinct from what you perceive

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What did Matthew prove?

- **Unreality of Multiplicity:**
 - Causation doesn't exist—events are spontaneous, not caused
 - Space and time are unreal—they are conditioned appearances
 - Subject and object are non-different

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What did Matthew prove?

- **What You Are Not:**
 - Not the body (physical sheath)
 - Not the mind (mental sheath)
 - Not the ego (false identification)
 - Not anything phenomenal

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What did Matthew prove?

- **The ultimate logical theorem,**
`tat_tvam_as_i_ultimate`
proves all of this in a single formal statement.

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What is the meaning of all this?

- **Matthew Verified:**
 - **Logical consistency:** The axioms don't contradict each other
 - **Theorem validity:** Each theorem necessarily follows from the axioms
 - **Structural coherence:** The system holds together logically

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What is the meaning of all this?

- **What Matthew Didn't Verify:**
 - **Empirical truth:** Whether these claims match physical reality
 - **Experiential truth:** Whether this corresponds to direct experience
 - **Metaphysical reality:** Whether the Absolute actually exists

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Why is this important?

- Removes Cultural Barriers
- Makes *Vedānta* Accessible to Analytical Minds
- Preserves the Teaching Permanently
- Enables Precise Comparison
- Shows Rigor of Ancient Insight

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Technical Details

- **Axioms:** 40+ across 8 domains (core, sheaths, *vivarta*, *guṇas*, causation, ego, consciousness, ontology)
- **Theorems:** 30+ proven, including:
 - Exactly one Absolute exists
 - You are the only real existent
 - Timelessness
 - Denial of Causation
 - Spacetime unreality
 - Complete non-dual structure
 - Master Theorem (`tat_tvam_as_i_ultimate`)

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Conclusions

- Matthew encoded the non-dual metaphysics of *Advaita Vedānta* in formal logic notation.
- Software verified every theorem. The system is consistent.
- The core claim: **You, the Self, are the only reality that exists.**
- This is not a belief, wish, or speculation.
- It's a formal logical structure, proven coherent.
- Is it true? **Look and see.**

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The Invitation

- This formal logical analysis proves that Advaita is logically coherent.
- But logic alone can't tell you if it's true.
- For that, you have to look directly.
- The **logic** shows the **structure**; your **experience** shows the **truth**.
- The formalization answers: "Does this work logically?" **Yes. Verified.**
- The question remaining: "Is this true in your direct experience?"
- **Only you can answer that.**

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Next Steps

- Visit the source repository:
<https://github.com/matthew-scherf/Only-One>
- Download the documentation:
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1TppXnROyn0zJA4P_LmThPH-0Syc0OOiO?usp=share_link
- Subsequent videos in this series will explain more about the logic of Advaita.
- We will provide exercises and meditations that will help you verify Advaita **in your own experience.**