Mandukya Upanishad, Class 72

When we ask is the world is real or

not, we should remember from which standpoint. From the standpoint of the

body, viswa, karma etc. world is real and capable of affecting the waker

also. From vyvakarika dhrishti world is born and is real. But in Vedanta,

we are trying to look at the world from the standpoint of thuriyum. From

thuriya dhrishti, or paramarthika dhrishti, we say the world did not

originate. Exactly like the dream world did not originate from the standpoint

of waker. This world of duality is very much there from the standpoint of

mithya vyavakaraha. From the vyvakarika dhrishti we do not naturally wake

up. Ignorance never end by itself. Every object in nature have a

natural death. Other than Brahman, avigyanam will not die naturally. We require sastra, guru and students for avidhya or ignorance

to end. Other systems of philosophy also do not have paramarthika

dhrishti. Vedanta use logic, but it is subservient; it is sastram.

For materialistc purposes thanka or logic may be required but not for vedantic

philosophy. From dwaida philosophy or vyavakarika dhrishti they will

never understand the teaching from paramarthika dhsrishti.

They also

misunderstand us. When we say world is unreal, it is from the standpoint

of thuriyum. But from another standpoint, the world is very real.

They get confused between vyavakarika and paramarthika dhrishti.

Verse 74

Up until now we are saying Brahman

is nondual and kariya karana vilakshanam. It is beyond time as cause and

effect are subject to time. Now Gowdapadha says, really speaking Brahman

can't be called nirvikaram also. The very name nirikaram is given only

from vyavakarika dhrishti. Because from vyavakaika dhrishti, speaking talk

about Brahman as karanam or savikaram subject change producing effect.

Since from vyakarika angle, they are looking up on Brahman, we are forced to

negate that notion by using the word nirivikaram. From paramarthika

dhrishti, since savikaram itself is not there, we need not use the word

nirvikaram also. Similarly, from vyavakirka dhrishti, they call Brahman

sagunam; because they use the word sagunam, advaidam uses word nirguranm.

Every definition of Brahman is given only from the standpoint of vyavakarika

misconception. Once the misconception is gone, we will withdraw all the definition

of Brahman. If we have negated vyavakarika prabanja, we will negate all

the words like sathyam, sagunam, vikaram, gyanam. From paramarthika

dhrishti, silence is the only definition of Brahman. Amathra

is the only

definition of thuriyum. Thuriyum is also not the correct word, since it

implies the fourth, but when you negate the first three padhas, thuriyum can't'

be called thuriyum. From paramarthika dhrishti, it can't even be called eternal. When

you negate the impermanent world, you can't call it eternal. This verse

is similar to 33rd verse of second chapter. After negating dwaidam, we

won't use the word advaidam.

Verse 75

With the previous verse, the

summarization of Upanishad is over for now. In 75 to 86, Gowdapadha talks

about problems of humans. What is the cause of sorrow when we are all Brahman?

I can never become a samsari, because becoming is a change. If this is

true, then why do you suffer. The reason is avidhya or agyaam The

unreal ignorance or Maya is alone is the cause of the problem. Why did we

get this ignorance? Ignorance never came, it is anadahi. Because of

this anadhi avidhya, I have fallen without falling. Because of ignorance,

we have fallen into viswa and taijasa. From this standpoint, the

individuality, the world becomes very real just like the dream world is real

from the dreamer's standpoint. The more I get involved in it, the more

real it becomes, just like a movie. Obsession with the mithya

prabanja is

the cause of samsara. Beginning with body mind complex, all the

relationships etc. we get absorbed to such an extent, we do not believe

when vedanta says it is mithya. It is not easy; one has to soak in

vedanta to get out of this mechanical life.

There is no duality born from

Brahman; There is only a very strong obsessive notion regarding a duality which

is really nonexistent. In vedanta, dwaidam is samsara. Duality

means time and space. In deep sleep, there is not duality; there is no

time. Once you accept duality, time comes; once time comes, decease, old

age etc. comes. After knowledge, there is no cause for samsara:

ignorance and obsession; once knowledge comes, ignorance goes away and then the

ignorance-based obsession goes away. That gyani is no more reborn because

the word reborn itself is not relevant when there is no birth; therefore he

gets liberated. Therefore, solution for samsara is gyanam.

Verse 76

Ignorance is the cause of samsara

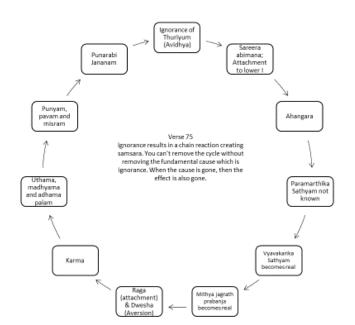
and knowledge is the only solution. Ignorance makes me think I am not

thuriyum. Because this fact was not known, then I mistake myself as viwa

or taijasa or pragya. From the standpoint of body, I become kartha and boktha;

As a kartha, I produce karma palam.

Agyanam causes dheha abimana; dheha abimana results in karma; karma results in karma palam. Karma palam can be uthama (punyam), madhyama (misram) and adhama (pavam). Higher karma palam will take me to higher lokas and lower karma palam will take me to lower lokas, Madhya karma palam will result in punarabi jananm and punarabi manam. Gyani does not have dheha abimana and because of that his actions do not produce karma. When the cause is not there, how can there be effect?



What is the cause of sorrow when we are all Brahman? The unreal ignorance or Maya is alone is the cause of the problem. The world becomes very real just like the dream world is real from the dreamer's standpoint. Obsession with the mithya prabanja is the cause of samsara. Dwaidam is samsara. Once you accept duality, time comes; once time comes, decease, old age etc. comes. After knowledge, there is no cause for samsara, Ignorance and obsession once knowledge comes, ignorance goes away and then the ignorance-based obsession goes away. That gyani is no more reborn because the word reborn itself is not relevant when there is no birth; therefore be gets liberated. Therefore solution for samsara is gyanam.

Dream World and Wakers World When waking up from dream world, dream world disappears. When the spiritual waking up, the physical world does not disappear. It but after gyanam I will continue to experience dwaid a grabanja but will not attribute reality to it. The difference is at the cognitive level. We know the earth is rotating. But we don't experience the earth rotating; we experience the stationery earth. Once you understand the rope snake, it will not threaten you. Similiarly, mitthy a prabania can't senerate at tackment.