

Bhagwat Geeta, Class 151 – Chapter 11 Viśvarūpa Darshana Yogaha, Verses 44 to 46

Lord Krishna pointed out that he is kala tattvam – time principle. Time and space are inseparable; when you appreciate lord as kalaha you also appreciate the lord as desaha. Then everything existing in time must also be Eeswara. We won't be able to answer questions like when the time was created or where was the space created or what was the object with which space created. Bagawan is time, space and objects. Then Bagawan includes events. And lord is the order or laws which govern all the events. Desa, kala, vasthu, sambavaha (events) and niyamaha (laws) are all Bagawan. Whenever I experience any one of these, I am experiencing Bagawan, but we are not aware of experiencing eeswara darshanam.

Madhyama bhakta asks for viśva roopa darśana not realizing that he is already experiencing visa roopa darśana when he looks at the universe or nature. Madhyama bhakta looks at the universe and appreciates it as Bagawan. Uthama bhakta looks at the universe as himself. At this point, Arjuna feels a deep guilt because he did not look at Lord Krishna as viśva roopa Eeswara.

Stages of appreciation of eeswara:

Stage 1: Bagawan creates the world. Nimitha kāraṇa eeswara or eka roopa eeswara.

Stage 2: Bagawan appears ass the world – Upadana kāraṇa eeswara or aneka roopa eeswara.

stage 3: Bagawan is the world. niverta kāraṇa eeswara or Aroopa eeswara.

Verse 44

Therefore, saluting and prostrating the body, I propitiate You, the adorable Lord. You should forgive my offences just as a father forgives those of the son, just as a friend forgives those of the friend, and just as a husband forgives those of the wife.

Arjuna feels that it is a great insult as a friend; in fact treating the Lord as friend is a form of bhakti and he offers prāyaścitta namaskara. He requests the Lord to forgive and forget the offenses just as:

1. The parents forgive offenses of children.
2. A husband forgiving the offenses of wife.
3. A friend forgiving the insults and offenses of a friend.

Verse 45

Seeing the universal form which has not been seen before. I am delighted. At the same time, my mind is afflicted with fear. Oh Lord! Show me that familiar form itself. Oh God of gods! Oh Lord, who is the abode of the universe! Be gracious.

One part of Arjuna's mind says he is one of the few luckiest persons as he received Dhivya Chakshu and this part makes him happy. At the same time, he is also seeing the Lord as a destroyer and that part makes him distressed with fear. Between these two, bhayam or fear is more. Because Dhivya Chakshu was an artificial one given by the Lord. We must get Dhivya Chakshu by practicing karma yoga. When it is naturally developed by the practice of karma yoga, then it won't be fearful. If we want to go from eka roopa bhakti to aneka roopa bhakti, we have to reduce raga dwesha tremendously; ahankāra and mamakara must be reduced. Then viśva roopa will be enjoyable.

Verse 46

I wish to see you in the same form as before with crown, with mace and with disc in your hand. Oh Lord, with a thousand arms! Oh Lord with universal form! Appear with that very same four-armed form.

The three stages Arjuna goes through are:

1. Acharya – Wonderment
2. Bhayam – Fear
3. Bhakti – Reverence

How does Arjuna say four hands? There had been many explanations. We can conclude that either Krishan had four hands or Arjuna is confused. There is no need for deep thinking. It just that Arjuna wants Krishna to appear as his friend.