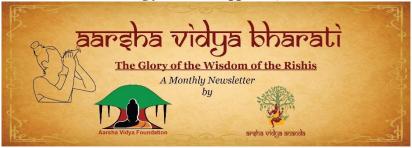
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A monthly newsletter that will bring you more happiness, more wisdom and more freedom



This is one of many articles from our monthly newsletter. Access the sep 2023 issue or read any of the articles.

Value of Values

Tattva-jñānārtha-darśanam

By Priya Gopie, Trinidad & Tobago

In Chapter 13 of the $Śr\bar{\imath}mad\ Bhagavad\ G\bar{\imath}t\bar{a}$, there are 5 verses (8.8 - 8.12) containing 20 values that $Bhagav\bar{a}n\ Śr\bar{\imath}\ Krsna\ refers$ to as $j\bar{n}\bar{a}nam$.



These values detail the principles of *Dharma*, and are the qualities to be cultivated so that *jñeyam*, that which is to be known, can take place in the prepared mind.

The last value that *Bhagavān* teaches us is *tattva-iñānārtha-darśanam*.

Tattva-jñānārtha-darśanam is seeing the value for the knowledge of the reality. There is a natural genesis of this value when one introspects on their life. When one looks

at the efforts made and the resultant gain from the pursuit of dharma, artha and $k\bar{a}ma$, there is the recognition that these did not bring the lasting joy and fulfillment that I thought they would bring. They did bring some joy and fulfillment, but they did not leave me feeling complete...I still felt that I had to do something to be complete.

In this way the achiever recognizes the limitations of the pursuit of dharma, artha and $k\bar{a}ma$, and one evolves into a seeker of mok sa. The one who seeks mok sa, desires freedom from seeking and that is why they come to $Ved\bar{a}nta$, and have value and trust in Guru and $S\bar{a}stra$. The pursuit of mok sa is different from any other pursuit that the achiever has previously engaged in, as one is not trying to gain something that is separate, or other than oneself. One is only trying to directly see what I am, what I always was all along.

So, I cannot get that which I already have. Then, what is the nature of this pursuit? It

is the journey from ignorance to knowledge. Therefore, one's seeking has to give way to one's knowing. After cultivating the prior values in sufficient measure, all one has to do is relax and expose the mind to *Śruti* with Guru's guidance.

So, this *tattva-jñānārtha-darśanam* is a commitment to self-knowledge after recognizing that *tattva-jñānām* is what I really want.

This article was written after reviewing Swaminiji Brahmaprajnanada's course on <u>Jnaanam – 20</u> values from the Bhagavad Gita.



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