

Reflections from Shrimad Bhagavadgita– Part 98: Chapter 11, Verses 13-15

(March 18 –March 24, 2020)

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ORIGINAL SANSKRIT DOCUMENT

TRANSLITERATION

तत्रैकस्थं जगत्कृत्स्नं प्रविभक्तमनेकधा ।

*tatraika-stham jagat kṛitsnam pravibhaktam
anekadhā*

अपश्यद्देवदेवस्य शरीरे पाण्डवस्तदा ॥ ११-१३ ॥

apaśhyad deva-devasya śharīre pāṇḍavas tadā

ततः स विस्मयाविष्टो हृष्टरोमा धनञ्जयः ।

tataḥ sa vismayāviṣṭo hṛiṣṭa-romā dhanañjayaḥ

प्रणम्य शिरसा देवं कृताञ्जलिरभाषत ॥ ११-१४ ॥

praṇamya śhirasā devam kṛitāñjalir abhāṣhata

अर्जुन उवाच ।

arjuna uvācha

पश्यामि देवांस्तव देव देहे

paśhyāmi devāns tava deva dehe

सर्वास्तथा भूतविशेषसङ्घान् ।

sarvāns tathā bhūta-viśheṣha-saṅghān

ब्रह्माणमीशं कमलासनस्थं

brahmāṇam īśham kamalāsana-stham

ऋषींश्च सर्वानुरगांश्च दिव्यान् ॥ ११-१५ ॥

ṛiṣhīnśh cha sarvān uragānśh cha divyān

TRANSLATION

- (13)** There Arjun could see the totality of the entire universe established in one place, in that body of the God of gods.
- (14)** Then, Arjun, full of wonder and with hair standing on end, bowed his head with folded hands before the Lord and addressed him thus.
- (15)** Arjun said: O Shree Krishna, I behold within your body all the gods and hosts of different beings. I see Brahma seated on the lotus flower; I see Shiv, all the sages, and the celestial serpents.

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1fZXc69EQXvoKYBxPUQjAVKuNTM4154XF>

Chapter 11

Verse 13:

Now Arjuna, bequeathed with divine vision, sees in Lord Krishna's *vishvarupa* or divine universal form all the things He had previously described as His *vibhuti* or divine, transcendental opulence. The *vishvarupa* was infinitely high and unfathomably wide with splendid effulgence and unlimited faces, heads, eyes and bodies, with unlimited celestial weapons and unlimited celestial ornaments, divine garlands and raiments. Manifested in a single location within the universal form, Arjuna could clearly see all of creation with its unlimited, multifarious and variegated details, from the greatly powerful Brahma and all the demigods down to a humble blade of grass. He could see the complete animal, vegetable and mineral kingdoms and all the diverse planetary systems all composed of *prakriti* or the material substratum pervading material existence with all its varying inhabitants and habitats. He could also perceive the *brahman* or the spiritual substratum pervading all existence with its sublimely subtle, transcendental presence imperceptible to normal eyes. The words *jagat krtsnam*, meaning the whole creation, confirms that in the incomparable *vishvarupa* could be seen all things, animate and inanimate, moving and stationary.

Verses 14:

What happened after seeing Lord Krishna's *vishvarupa* or divine universal form is explained in this verse. Perceiving the entire cosmos with unlimited wonders and marvels within just a part of Lord Krishna's *vishvarupa* or divine universal form which contained innumerable glorious qualities and attributes such as omniscience and omnipotence, Arjuna with the hair on his head standing on end became petrified with astonishment in rapturous exultation, and like an inanimate rod fell prostrate upon the earth prostrating himself with head bowed and hands folded in reverence.

Verses 15:

What was seen in the Supreme Lord Krishna's *vishvarupa* or divine universal form is being described in this verse and the next 16 verses. Arjuna saw all species of life, denizens from all over creation, all sentient beings born from wombs, from eggs, from seeds as well as from fermentation. The four-faced Brahma, seated upon the lotus flower, emanating from the navel of Garbodakshayi Vishnu, was seen along with Shiva sitting upon His lap, and all the demigods, like Indra and Surya, as well as all great sages and rishis, like Vasishtha and Vishvamitra, could be seen occupying different parts of His body.