

## Reflections from Shrimad Bhagavadgita– Part 145: Chapter 16, Verses 01-04

(February 10 – February 16, 2021)

*Please Note: Click Anywhere on The Dark Area Below to Listen to the Above Verses*

### ORIGINAL SANSKRIT DOCUMENT

### TRANSLITERATION

अथ षोडशोऽध्यायः

ATHA SHODASHODHYAYAH

श्रीभगवानुवाच ।

*śhrī-bhagavān uvācha*

अभयं सत्त्वसंशुद्धिर्ज्ञानयोगव्यवस्थितिः ।

*abhayaṁ sattva-sanśhuddhir jñānayogavyavasthitih*

दानं दमश्च यज्ञश्च स्वाध्यायस्तप आर्जवम् ॥ १६-१ ॥

*dānaṁ damaśh cha yajñāśh cha svādhyāyas tapa ārjavam*

अहिंसा सत्यमक्रोधस्त्यागः शान्तिरपैशुनम् ।

*ahinsā satyam akrodhas tyāgaḥ śhāntir apaiśhunam*

दया भूतेष्वलोलुप्त्वं मार्दवं हीरचापलम् ॥ १६-२ ॥

*dayā bhūteṣhv aloluptvaṁ mārdayaṁ hrīr achāpalam*

तेजः क्षमा धृतिः शौचमद्रोहो नातिमानिता ।

*tejaḥ kṣhamā dhṛtiḥ śhaucham adroho nāti-mānitā*

भवन्ति सम्पदं दैवीमभिजातस्य भारत ॥ १६-३ ॥

*bhavanti sampadam daivīm abhijātasya bhārata*

दम्भो दर्पोऽभिमानश्च क्रोधः पारुष्यमेव च ।

*dambho darpo 'bhimānaśh cha krodhaḥ pāruṣhyam eva cha*

अज्ञानं चाभिजातस्य पार्थ सम्पदमासुरीम् ॥ १६-४ ॥

*ajñānaṁ chābhijātasya pārtha sampadam āsurīm*

## TRANSLATION

- (01) Lord Krishna, the Supreme Divine Personality, said: O scion of Bharat, these are the saintly virtues of those endowed with a divine nature—fearlessness, purity of mind, steadfastness in spiritual knowledge, charity, control of the senses, performance of sacrifice, study of the sacred books, austerity, and straightforwardness; non-violence, truthfulness, absence of anger, renunciation, peacefulness, restraint from fault-finding, compassion toward all living beings, absence of greed, gentleness, modesty, and lack of fickleness; vigor, forgiveness, fortitude, cleanliness, bearing enmity toward none, and absence of vanity.
- (02) +
- (03) +
- (04) O Partha, the qualities of those who possess a demoniac nature are hypocrisy, arrogance, conceit, anger, harshness, and ignorance.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bOl4SwgTJpyzD2b UR6KdR4 OcILSfXA/view?usp=sharing>

## Chapter 16

### Verse 01 + Verse 02: + Verse 03:

In these three verses, Lord Krishna substantiates the reality of what has been declared in previous three chapters, including 13, 14, and 15, according to the ordinances and injunctions of the Vedic scriptures which are the absolute authority. This is done by initiating a comparison between the *divine nature* and the *demoniac nature* as it is verified throughout creation. *The divine nature* expresses complete allegiance to righteousness and adherence to the authority of the Vedic scriptures. *The demoniac nature* does not follow righteousness, neither does it accept the absolute authority of the Vedic scriptures, contrarily adopting inauspicious activities befitting impure concoctions and unrighteous conceptions. Lord Krishna begins by describing the 26 divine qualities: 1) *abhayam* is fearlessness due to the absence of anxiety which arises from the dread of harm to the physical body or the prospect of losing what is precious. 2) *sattva-samsuddhih* is purification of one's existence and denotes purity of heart consisting of pure goodness undefiled with the taint of passion and ignorance. 3) *jnana-yoga-vyavasthitih* means situated in the knowledge of devotion resulting from discriminating the *atma* or immortal soul from physical matter as the individual consciousness attains communion with the ultimate consciousness. 4) *daanam* is the charity given to worthy recipients from what one legitimately owns. 5) *damah* is self restraint, controlling the mind to be uninfluenced

by sense objects. **6) yajna** is Vedicly authorized ritualistic ceremonies in propitiation and devotion to the Supreme Lord Krishna exclusively for His satisfaction without any self interests. This also applies to His authorized incarnations and expansions. **7) svaadhyayah** is devoted study of Vedic scriptures, knowing that they alone teach the glories of the Supreme Lord and are the quintessence of all that is spiritual. **8) tapas** is austerity and penance. Performing expiatory activities is a duty for all human beings such as Ekadashi which is mandatory fasting from all grains on the 11th day of the waxing and waning moons. As well, there are occasional expiatory activities such as chandrayana which are fasts synchronized with the cycles of the moon and also kricchra which is extreme ascetic penance performed under very hot or very cold conditions and prajapatya and santapana. Such activity purifies an aspirant and prepares and qualifies them for devotion to the Supreme Lord. **9) arjavam** is simplicity, straight forwardness to others in thought, word and deeds. **10) ahimsa** is non-violence to all living entities by thought, word and deed. **11) satyam** is truthfulness verily speaking what is true that is beneficial to all beings. **12) akrodah** is freedom from anger due to absence of resentment for others. **13) tyagah** is renunciation of whatever is opposed to atma-tattva or soul realization. **14) shaantih** is tranquility, keeping the senses peaceful and impervious to agitation. **15) apaishunam** is aversion to fault finding and slandering others even if warranted. **16) daya** is mercy, sympathy for life, empathy for the distress and misery of others. **17) aloluptvam** is absence of greed for sense gratification. **18) maardavam** is gentleness and humility which is appropriate for saintly association. **19) hrih** is modesty, the feeling of shame at the thought of anything inappropriate. **20) achaapalam** is determination to remain firm against temptations presented to one. **21) tejas** is radiance, luster. The illustrious proof of the efficacy of spiritual practice. **22) kshama** is forgiveness. The absence of vengeful feelings against those harmed by. **23) dhritih** is fortitude. The capacity for righteousness while enduring great duress. **24) shaucham** is cleanliness both internally and externally to be spiritually worthy. **25) adrohah** is the absence of envy, non-interference in the interests of others. **26) naatimanita** absence of false ego, lack of desire for honor and prestige. Those who embrace and follow the instructions and injunctions of the Vedic scriptures are naturally endowed with these qualities as they are adhering to the Supreme Lord's decrees and thus, every action they perform is in propitiation to the Lord Krishna. The conclusive understanding is that those possessing divine qualities will undoubtedly achieve the Supreme state because they are born endowed with these qualities.

#### Verse 04:

Having revealed **26 divine qualities** in verses 1-3 above, the Supreme Lord Krishna discloses the **6 demoniac properties** which are to be rejected and abandoned in all situations. **1) Dambhah** is ostentation or hypocrisy by pretentiously parodying righteousness. **2) Darpah** is pride caused by exaggerated egotism. **3) Abhinamah** is arrogance due to education, position and wealth. **4) Krodhah** is anger resulting from frustration of greed and lust and causes one to give the burning pain one feels to others. **5) Paarushyam** is

harshness, lack of kindness and merciless opposition to that which is righteous. **6)**  
**Ajnanam** is ignorance in determining what is eternal and what is temporal and subsequently the inability to discriminate between what is righteous and beneficial and what is unrighteous and harmful to one's own existence. Thus, the demoniac people oppose even the injunctions and prohibitions of the eternal Vedic scriptures while concocting, hypothecating and engaging in heinous activities that erode the eternal values of righteousness for all living beings in their fiendish attempt to degrade and degenerate all creation.