

P

B

WHAT DID WE LEARN FROM CHAPTER-3 OF BHAGAVADGITA?



H

M

A Brief Pravachan

By

Dr. Ram

Sunday, December 2, 2018

P

B

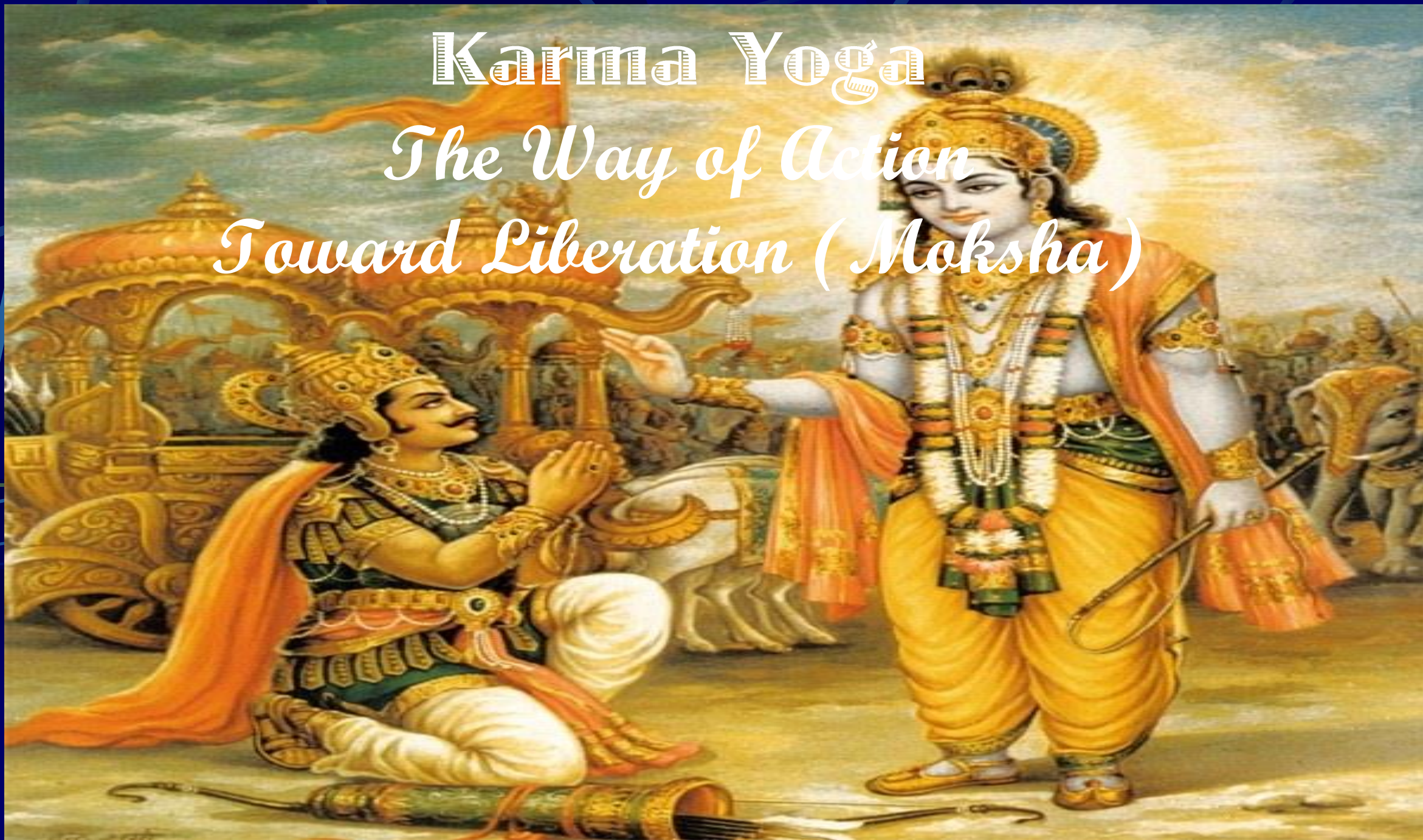


H

M

Karma Yoga

*The Way of Action
Toward Liberation (Moksha)*



P

B



H

M

1-Line SUMMARY OF CHAPTER-3

The appropriate course of action in Karma Yoga is to perform one's duties prescribed in Vedas without any attachment to results

P

B



H

M

1-PARAGRAPH SUMMARY OF CHAPTER-3

Everyone must engage in some sort of activity in this material world. But actions can either bind one to this world or liberate one from it. By acting for the pleasure of the Supreme, without selfish motives, one can be liberated from the law of karma (action and reaction) and attain transcendental knowledge of the self and the Supreme.

ARJUNA'S CONFUSION

Arjuna asks—“Oh Lord! You confuse me by your contradictory statements. You told me before (Ch. 2, V 11, 21 & 46) that only self-realization through knowledge will lead one to Moksha. Yet, now you preach me that I should perform my own duties to achieve Moksha. Please tell me clearly what path I should follow—whether the path of knowledge (Jnana Yoga) or the path of karma (Karma Yoga)—that would lead me to Mokṣa’ (Ch.3, V 1, 2).

P

B



H

M

P

B



H

M

LORD KRISHNA CLEARS ARJUNA'S CONFUSION

Lord Krishna Replies:

1. *There is no preference between Jnana Yoga and Karma Yoga to attain Moksha!*
2. *Different people are naturally inclined for different Yogas!*

P

B



H

M

LORD KRISHNA CLEARS ARJUNA'S CONFUSION (CONTD.)

3. Both Jnana Yoga and Karma Yoga lead to Self-Realization, a stepping stone for Moksha!

4. Lord Krishna Specifically Recommends Karma Yoga to Arjuna for two reasons:

P

B



H

M

LORD KRISHNA CLEARS ARJUNA'S CONFUSION (CONTD.)

4a. Arjuna is more suited to Karma Yoga than Jnana Yoga since he is a warrior by birth & training (Kshatriya) and so, action to fight for the right cause is part of his Dharma, and

4b. Being a valiant warrior who commands universal respect from the community, Arjuna would set a good example for others to follow.

P

B



H

M

LORD KRISHNA EXPLAINS HOW KARMA YOGA MUST BE PERFORMED

- 1. Prescribed duties are to be performed without any attachment, instead as an offering to God. This is necessary for purifying mind.*
- 2. The persons who have reached the stage of self-realization are not obliged to perform worldly duties as their mind is pure, and are totally engaged in pure spiritual deeds.*

P

B



H

M

What Are The Most Important Verses of Chapter-3?

1. Verse 7
2. Verse 20
3. Verse 35
4. Verse 41

P

B



H

M

1. Verse 7:

यस्त्विन्द्रियाणि मनसा नियम्यारभतेऽर्जन ।
कर्मेन्द्रियैः कर्मयोगमसक्तः स विशिष्यते ॥

“He who restrains his senses with his mind and directs his organs of action to work with no feeling of attachment, he is indeed superior.”

P

B



H

M

Verse 20:

कर्मणैव हि संसिद्धिमास्थिता जनकादयः ।
लोकसंग्रहमेवापि सम्पश्यन्कर्तुमर्हसि ॥

“By action alone, wise men such as King Janak attained perfection. You should perform work with a view to guiding people along the right path.”

P

B



H

M

Verse 35:

श्रेयान्स्वधर्मो विगुणः परधर्मात्स्वनुष्ठितात् ।
स्वधर्मे निधनं श्रेयः परधर्मो भयावहः ॥

It is far better to perform one's natural prescribed duty, though tinged with faults, than to perform another's prescribed duty, though perfect. In fact, it is preferable to die in the discharge of one's duty, than to follow the path of another, which is often fraught with danger.

P

B



H

M

Verse 41:

तस्मात्त्वमिन्द्रियाण्यादौ नियम्य भरतर्षभ ।
पाप्मानं प्रजहि ह्येनं ज्ञानविज्ञाननाशनम् ॥

Therefore, O best of the Bharatas, in the very beginning bring the senses under control and slay this enemy called desire, which is the embodiment of sin and destroys knowledge and realization.

P

B



H

M

THE END