

CHAPTER - 10
THE OPULENCE OF THE ABSOLUTE

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.1

śrī-bhagavān uvāca
bhūya eva mahā-bāho
śṛṇu me paramam vacaḥ
yat te 'ham prīyamāṇāya
vakṣyāmi hita-kāmyayā

TRANSLATION

The Supreme Personality of Godhead said: Listen again, O mighty-armed Arjuna. Because you are My dear friend, for your benefit I shall speak to you further, giving knowledge that is better than what I have already explained.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.2

na me viduḥ sura-gaṇāḥ
prabhavam na maharṣayaḥ
aham ādir hi devānām
maharṣiṇām ca sarvaśaḥ

TRANSLATION

Neither the hosts of demigods nor the great sages know My origin or opulences, for, in every respect, I am the source of the demigods and sages.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.3

yo mām ajam anādim ca
vetti loka-maheśvaram
asammūḍhaḥ sa martyeṣu
sarva-pāpaiḥ pramucyate

TRANSLATION

He who knows Me as the unborn, as the beginningless, as the Supreme Lord of all the worlds - he only, undeluded among men, is freed from all sins.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.4

buddhir jñānam asammohaḥ
kṣamā satyaṁ damaḥ śamaḥ
sukhaṁ duḥkhaṁ bhavo 'bhāvo
bhayaṁ cābhayaṁ eva ca

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.5

ahimsā samatā tuṣṭis
tapo dānaṁ yaśo 'yaśaḥ
bhavanti bhāvā bhūtānām
matta eva pṛthag-vidhāḥ

TRANSLATION

Intelligence, knowledge, freedom from doubt and delusion, forgiveness, truthfulness, control of the senses, control of the mind, happiness and distress, birth, death, fear, fearlessness, nonviolence, equanimity, satisfaction, austerity, charity, fame and infamy — all these various qualities of living beings are created by Me alone.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.6

maharṣayaḥ sapta pūrve
catvāro manavas tathā
mad-bhāvā mānasā jātā
yeṣāṁ loka imāḥ prajāḥ

TRANSLATION

The seven great sages and before them the four other great sages and the Manus [progenitors of mankind] come from Me, born from My mind, and all the living beings populating the various planets descend from them.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.7

etāṁ vibhūtiṁ yogaṁ ca
mama yo vetti tattvataḥ
so 'vikalpena yogena
yujyate nātra saṁśayaḥ

TRANSLATION

One who is factually convinced of this opulence and mystic power of Mine engages in unalloyed devotional service; of this there is no doubt.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.8

aham sarvasya prabhavo
mattaḥ sarvaṁ pravartate
iti matvā bhajante mām
budhā bhāva-samanvitāḥ

TRANSLATION

I am the source of all spiritual and material worlds. Everything emanates from Me. The wise who perfectly know this engage in My devotional service and worship Me with all their hearts.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.9

mac-cittā mad-gata-prāṇā
bodhayantaḥ parasparam
kathayantaś ca mām nityam
tuṣyanti ca ramanti ca

TRANSLATION

The thoughts of My pure devotees dwell in Me, their lives are fully devoted to My service, and they derive great satisfaction and bliss from always enlightening one another and conversing about Me.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.10

teṣāṁ satata-yuktānām
bhajatām prīti-pūrvakam
dadāmi buddhi-yogaṁ taṁ
yena mām upayānti te

TRANSLATION

To those who are constantly devoted to serving Me with love, I give the understanding by which they can come to Me.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.11

ām evānukampārtham
aham ajñāna-jam tamaḥ
nāśayāmy ātma-bhāva-stho
jñāna-dīpena bhāsvatā

TRANSLATION

To show them special mercy, I, dwelling in their hearts, destroy with the shining lamp of knowledge the darkness born of ignorance.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.12

arjuna uvāca
param brahma param dhāma
pavitram paramam bhavān
puruṣam śāśvataṁ divyam
ādi-devam ajam vibhum

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.13

āhus tvām ṛṣayaḥ sarve
devarṣir nāradas tathā
asito devalo vyāsaḥ
svayaṁ caiva bravīṣi me

TRANSLATION

Arjuna said: You are the Supreme Personality of Godhead, the ultimate abode, the purest, the Absolute Truth. You are the eternal, transcendental, original person, the unborn, the greatest. All the great sages such as Nārada, Asita, Devala and Vyāsa confirm this truth about You, and now You Yourself are declaring it to me.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.14

sarvam etad ṛtaṁ manye
yan mām vadasi keśava
na hi te bhagavan vyaktim
vidur devā na dānavāḥ

TRANSLATION

O Kṛṣṇa, I totally accept as truth all that You have told me. Neither the demigods nor the demons, O Lord, can understand Your personality.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.15

svayam evātmanātmānaṁ
vettha tvaṁ puruṣottama
bhūta-bhāvana bhūteśa
deva-deva jagat-pate

TRANSLATION

Indeed, You alone know Yourself by Your own internal potency, O Supreme Person, origin of all, Lord of all beings, God of gods, Lord of the universe!

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.16

vaktum arhasy aśeṣeṇa
divyā hy ātma-vibhūtayaḥ
yābhir vibhūtibhir lokān
imāms tvaṁ vyāpya tiṣṭhasi

TRANSLATION

Please tell me in detail of Your divine opulences by which You pervade all these worlds.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.17

katham vidyām aham yoginś
tvām sadā paricintayan
keṣu keṣu ca bhāveṣu
cintyo 'si bhagavan mayā

TRANSLATION

O Kṣṇa, O supreme mystic, how shall I constantly think of You, and how shall I know You? In what various forms are You to be remembered, O Supreme Personality of Godhead?

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.18

vistareṇātmano yogam
vibhūtiṁ ca janārdana
bhūyaḥ kathaya tṛptir hi
śṛṇvato nāsti me 'mṛtam

TRANSLATION

O Janārdana, again please describe in detail the mystic power of Your opulences. I am never satiated in hearing about You, for the more I hear the more I want to taste the nectar of Your words.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.19

śrī-bhagavān uvāca
hanta te kathayiṣyāmi
divyā hy ātma-vibhūtayaḥ
prādhānyataḥ kuru-śreṣṭha
nāsty anto vistarasya me

TRANSLATION

The Supreme Personality of Godhead said: Yes, I will tell you of My splendid manifestations, but only of those which are prominent, O Arjuna, for My opulence is limitless.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.20

aham ātmā guḍākeśa
sarva-bhūtāsaya-sthitaḥ
aham ādiś ca madhyaṁ ca
bhūtānām anta eva ca

TRANSLATION

I am the Supersoul, O Arjuna, seated in the hearts of all living entities. I am the beginning, the middle and the end of all beings.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.21

ādityānām ahaṁ viṣṇur
jyotiṣāṁ ravir aṁśumān
marīcir marutām asmi
nakṣatrāṇām ahaṁ śaśī

TRANSLATION

Of the Ādityas I am Viṣṇu, of lights I am the radiant sun, of the Maruts I am Marīci, and among the stars I am the moon.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.22

vedānām sāma-vedo 'smi
devānām asmi vāsavaḥ
indriyāṇām manaś cāsmi
bhūtānām asmi cetanā

TRANSLATION

Of the Vedas I am the Sāma Veda; of the demigods I am Indra, the king of heaven; of the senses I am the mind; and in living beings I am the living force [consciousness].

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.23

rudrāṇām śaṅkaraś cāsmi
viteśo yakṣa-rakṣasām
vasūnām pāvakaś cāsmi
meruḥ śikhariṇām aham

TRANSLATION

Of all the Rudras I am Lord Śiva, of the Yakṣas and Rākṣasas I am the Lord of wealth [Kuvera], of the Vasus I am fire [Agni], and of mountains I am Meru.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.24

purodhasām ca mukhyaṁ mām
viddhi pārtha bṛhaspatim
senānīnām ahaṁ skandaḥ
sarasām asmi sāgaraḥ

TRANSLATION

Of priests, O Arjuna, know Me to be the chief, Bṛhaspati. Of generals I am Kārtikeya, and of bodies of water I am the ocean.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.25

maharṣīṇām bhṛgur ahaṁ
girām asmy ekam akṣaram
yajñānām japa-yajño 'smi
sthāvarāṇām himālayaḥ

TRANSLATION

Of the great sages I am Bṛghu; of vibrations I am the transcendental om. Of sacrifices I am the chanting of the holy names [japa], and of immovable things I am the Himālayas.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.26

aśvatthaḥ sarva-vṛkṣāṇām
devarṣīṇām ca nāradaḥ
gandharvāṇām citrarathaḥ
siddhānām kapilo muniḥ

TRANSLATION

Of all trees I am the banyan tree, and of the sages among the demigods I am Nārada. Of the Gandharvas I am Citraratha, and among perfected beings I am the sage Kapila.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.27

uccaiḥśravasam aśvānām
viddhi mām amṛtodbhavam
airāvataṁ gajendrāṇām
narāṇām ca narādhipam

TRANSLATION

Of horses know Me to be Uccāḥ śravā, produced during the churning of the ocean for nectar. Of lordly elephants I am Airāvata, and among men I am the monarch.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.28

āyudhānām ahaṁ vajraṁ
dhenūnām asmi kāmadhuk
prajānaś cāsmi kandarpaḥ
sarpāṇām asmi vāsukiḥ

TRANSLATION

Of weapons I am the thunderbolt; among cows I am the surabhi. Of causes for procreation I am Kandarpa, the god of love, and of serpents I am Vāsuki.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.29

anantaś cāsmi nāgānām
varuṇo yādasām aham
pitṛṇām aryamā cāsmi
yamaḥ saṁyamatām aham

TRANSLATION

Of the many-hooded Nāgas I am Ananta, and among the aquatics I am the demigod Varuṇ a. Of departed ancestors I am Aryamā, and among the dispensers of law I am Yama, the lord of death.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.30

prahlādaś cāsmi daityānām
kālaḥ kalayatām aham
mṛgāṇām ca mṛgendro 'ham
vainateyaś ca pakṣiṇām

TRANSLATION

Among the Daitya demons I am the devoted Prahlāda, among subduers I am time, among beasts I am the lion, and among birds I am Garuḍ a.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.31

pavanaḥ pavatām asmi
rāmaḥ śastra-bhṛtām aham
jhaṣāṇām makaraś cāsmi
srotasām asmi jāhnavī

TRANSLATION

Of purifiers I am the wind, of the wielders of weapons I am Rāma, of fishes I am the shark, and of flowing rivers I am the Ganges.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.32

sargāṇām ādir antaś ca
madhyaṁ caivāham arjuna
adhyātma-vidyā vidyānām
vādaḥ pravadatām aham

TRANSLATION

Of all creations I am the beginning and the end and also the middle, O Arjuna. Of all sciences I am the spiritual science of the self, and among logicians I am the conclusive truth.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.33

akṣarāṇām a-kāro 'smi
dvandvaḥ sāmāsikasya ca
aham evākṣayaḥ kālo
dhātāham viśvato-mukhaḥ

TRANSLATION

Of letters I am the letter A, and among compound words I am the dual compound. I am also inexhaustible time, and of creators I am Brahmā.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.34

mṛtyuḥ sarva-haraś cāham
udbhavaś ca bhaviṣyatām
kīrtiḥ śrīr vāk ca nārīṇām
smṛtir medhā dhṛtiḥ kṣamā

TRANSLATION

I am all-devouring death, and I am the generating principle of all that is yet to be. Among women I am fame, fortune, fine speech, memory, intelligence, steadfastness and patience.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.35

bṛhat-sāma tathā sāmnam
gāyatrī chandasām aham
māsānām mārga-sīrṣo 'ham
ṛtūnām kusumākaraḥ

TRANSLATION

Of the hymns in the Sāma Veda I am the Brhat-sāma, and of poetry I am the Gāyatrī. Of months I am Mārgaśīrsa [November-December], and of seasons I am flower-bearing spring.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.36

dyūtaṁ chalayatām asmi
tejas tejasvinām aham
jayo 'smi vyavasāyo 'smi
sattvaṁ sattvavatām aham

TRANSLATION

I am also the gambling of cheats, and of the splendid I am the splendor. I am victory, I am adventure, and I am the strength of the strong.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.37

vṛṣṇīnām vāsudevo 'smi
pāṇḍavānām dhanañjayaḥ
munīnām apy ahaṁ vyāsaḥ
kavīnām uśanā kaviḥ

TRANSLATION

Of the descendants of Vṛṣṇi I am Vāsudeva, and of the Pāṇḍavas I am Arjuna. Of the sages I am Vyāsa, and among great thinkers I am Uśanā.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.38

daṇḍo damayatām asmi
nītir asmi jigīṣatām
maunaṁ caivāsmi guhyānām
jñānaṁ jñānavatām aham

TRANSLATION

Among all means of suppressing lawlessness I am punishment, and of those who seek victory I am morality. Of secret things I am silence, and of the wise I am the wisdom.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.39

yac cāpi sarva-bhūtānām
bijaṁ tad aham arjuna
na tad asti vinā yat syān
mayā bhūtaṁ carācaram

TRANSLATION

Furthermore, O Arjuna, I am the generating seed of all existences. There is no being — moving or nonmoving — that can exist without Me.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.40

to 'sti mama divyānām
vibhūtīnām parantapa
eṣa tūddeśataḥ prokto
vibhūter vistaro mayā

TRANSLATION

O mighty conqueror of enemies, there is no end to My divine manifestations. What I have spoken to you is but a mere indication of My infinite opulences.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.41

yad yad vibhūtimat sattvaṁ
śrīmad ūrjitam eva vā
tat tad evāvagaccha tvaṁ
mama tejo-'mśa-sambhavam

TRANSLATION

Know that all opulent, beautiful and glorious creations spring from but a spark of My splendor.

BHAGAVAD-GITA 10.42

atha vā bahunaitena
kiṁ jñātena tavārjuna
viṣṭabhyāham idaṁ kṛtsnam
ekāmśena sthito jagat

TRANSLATION

But what need is there, Arjuna, for all this detailed knowledge? With a single fragment of Myself I pervade and support this entire universe.