





# The Root of Unity

The Bhagavad Gita  
“The Song of the Lord”



**5:14** The Lord (the indweller) does not directly create forces that move in the world or anything that happens here.

Nor is He in any way affected by them.

Nature does all this.

In Sanskrit, “Nature” is called *Prakriti*

**5:15** The Lord, who is omnipresent, does not measure anyone's virtues or vices.

Because inner wisdom is veiled in ignorance, people therefore are misled and ere.

**5:16** When you know who you are, you are enlightened.

In that Self-realization, the darkness of ignorance disappears

in the light of true knowledge

that shines like the sun,

revealing the Supreme.

**5:17** Those who continuously think about the Self,

merge with it and settle into it.

Whoever holds this as his goal will no longer be subject to rebirth

because Self-realization dispels any remaining flaws.

**5:18** Those who have realized the Self

see that same Self equally

in a humble scholar,

a cow,

a dog

or a dog-eater.

# Commentary



- Such a person has that equal vision.
- Having equal vision means that you don't see anybody as low or high,  
  
good or bad.
- To you both thief and police officer are equal.

- You don't see the superficial.
- The Self of the thief is the same as that of the police officer.
- Something is playing the part of the thief,  
and that same something is playing the part of the police officer.

- Because the sage is rooted in the Self,  
he or she sees both thief and officer as Self.
- So, for the sage, they're equal.

- This explains the Biblical commandment,  
“Love your neighbor as your Self.”

- It doesn't say,
- “Love only your good neighbor as your Self,”
- or “Love your neighbor who has the same label:

If he's Catholic, love him.

If she's Protestant, throw stones at her.”

- No.

- No.
- It simply says, “your neighbor.”
- And who is your neighbor?
- The one sitting next to you now,  
or in the next room,  
the next house,  
or the next town.
- Everyone close to you is your neighbor.



- But how to love your neighbor as your own Self?
- You have to see your Self in that person,  
otherwise, you can't love him as your own Self.
- How can you see your Self in another if you don't know your Self?
- Sloka 5:13 reveals how to know your Self.

**5:13** By mentally renouncing the fruits of his action, the yogi's mind becomes disciplined.

Thus, he knows himself to be the *Atman*

(the Self)

happily abiding in the city of nine gates

(the body).

He knows that he is not the doer who acts or causes to act.

- Someone who has realized the Self  
will always have equal vision  
based on that Self or that spirit.
- A God-realized person will see nothing but God  
everywhere,  
even though that God may be clothed in  
different forms and using different names.

- That's why Lord Krishna says  
that whether it's a dog or an outcast  
or a great spiritual person,  
it's all the same to a person of wisdom.

- How can we truly come together in Oneness,  
in Unity?
- Only with this spiritual knowledge —  
not by mental knowledge,  
physical knowledge  
or financial knowledge.
- We can never find the Oneness in these areas.

- Nor can we find Oneness and Unity  
in the name of country,  
race,  
creed,  
community,  
money  
or education.



- The only way to see everybody equally  
is in that divine vision.
- Then we see the same truth  
colored in different ways. ...



**Om, Shanti**