



ईशोपनिषद्

Īśa Upaniṣad

(This whole universe is pervaded by supreme.)

2019-06-30

By Dr. Suryanarayna Nanda
for Arya Samaj Greater Houston

अग्ने नय सुपथा रायेऽस्मान् विश्वानि देव वयुनानि विद्वान् ।
युयोध्यस्मज्जुहुराणमेनो भूयिष्ठां ते नम उक्तिं विधेम ॥

Agne naya supathā rāye--smān
viśvāni deva vayunāni vidvān,
Yuyodhyasmaj-juhurāṇameno

bhuyiṣṭhām te nama uktiṃ vidhema.

O, Agni. Lead us on to prosperity through the righteous path; O, Lord! You are the knower of all acts. Remove from us all deceitful sins. We offer you salutations again and again.

Īśa-upaniṣad-18

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Water flows down.
Its nature is to go down and down.



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Rising upwards is the path of fire.



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- For those seeking an upward path, fire is the ideal.
- When an individual begins to travel **upwards**, simultaneously he begins to journey **within**.
- It is exactly the opposite of the journey which is simultaneously **downwards** and **outwards**.



- ❖ Fire remains visible for a short distance and then disappears - lost in the void, in nothingness.
- ❖ **One who makes an upward journey will vanish.**
- ❖ As he goes up and up he is vanishing every moment; soon he will lose his ego and cease to be. He will be one with the sky.



अग्ने नय सुपथा रायेऽस्मान्

O God, Lead us on to prosperity through the right path.

विश्वानि देव वयुनानि विद्वान् ।

O, Lord! You are the knower of all acts.



It is interesting to note that nobody has ever prayed to God to lead him to an unrighteous path.

Here God is not required; man himself is strong and capable enough to follow an unrighteous path.



TO BE DISHONEST REQUIRES COURAGE AND DARING.



Those, who see happiness in dishonesty, cannot be honest from the depths of their hearts.

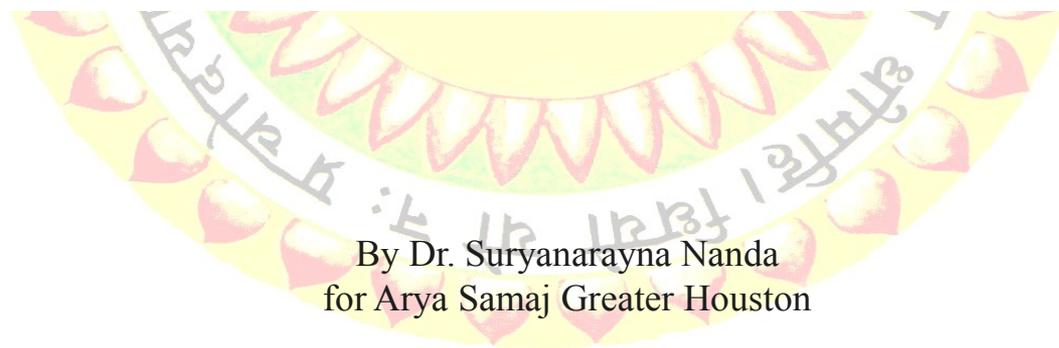
If they appear honest it is out of fear.

Their belief that the treacherous are becoming happy and prosperous reveals the truth - the voice of their desires is warning them that they are making a mistake in being honest.



युयोध्यस्मज्जुहुराणमेनो

Remove from us all deceitful sins.





- Desires and passions of a man draw him downwards, and there is no such passion endowed by nature to lift him upwards.
- There is a whole system of arrangements to help you to descend, but there is none to help you go up.
- And there is no bliss, no peace, without rising upwards.



Prayer



When man realizes the helplessness in his condition, he prays to God. So the sage prays, "O God, lead me to the righteous path."



- This does not mean that some God will take you to that path; *this sort of interpretation has created many false beliefs.*
- No God will help you.
- You yourself will have to go to that path; but this prayer will give you strength, will encourage you, to go on.



Prayer is transformation



- Always remember, no one will come to fulfill your prayer.
- You yourself will have to go to that path; but this prayer will give you strength to go on, because where we deeply yearn to go, we go.



PRAYER IS AN INTENSE THOUGHT AND IT CHANGES THE STATE OF MIND.



If any prayer becomes so concentrated that it thrills every particle of your life, stirs your heart to throbbing and becomes the obsession of your life, then the prayer is answered.

**It is a great achievement
to pray in the right spirit.**



भूयिष्ठां ते नम उक्तिं विधेम ॥

We offer you salutations again and again.