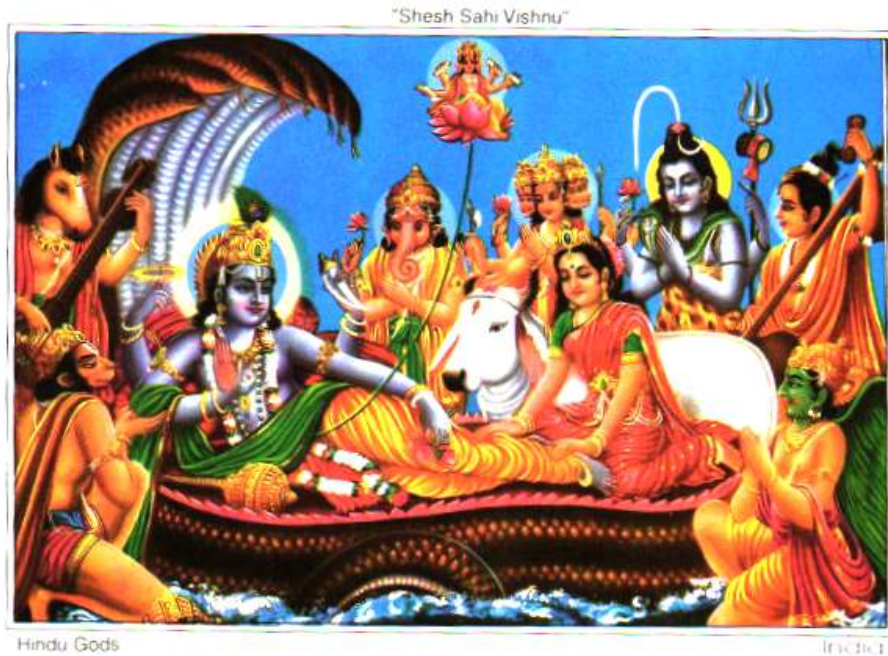


WHAT IS 'GOD'?

WHAT ARE 'GODS'?



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WHAT IS 'GOD'? WHAT ARE 'GODS'?

God does not have but IS awareness.
Not your awareness or mine, but an
Awareness universal, absolute and divine.
Awareness in turn – God – is everything.
Everything in turn IS an awareness,
A portion of that unbounded awareness
That is God, that is the Divine Awareness.
Since each and every thing is a distinct part,
Portion and expression of God, inseparable
From the Divine Awareness as a whole,
Each thing is not only a portion of that whole, but
IS that whole – God - manifest in a unique way.
In this sense each thing is both 'God' and 'a God'.

Thus thunder is a unique expression of God,
God's thundering - and yet, by the same token
Thunder is a unique God, the 'God of thunder' that
Is God's expression as thundering.

The major Gods of the different religions
Are not simply different but exchangeable
Names or symbols of the same God, but distinct
Expressions of it - each imbued with specific psychic
Qualities and imbuing their worshippers with them.
Behind each is a quite different God Concept.
Allah is not Brahman by another name.
The God of Jesus was not that of Moses.
Nor is Zeus Osiris, or Christ Kali or Krishna.

'Awareness is Everything' means that
'God is Everything' - God being that
Awareness of which all things are a portion.
'Everything is an Awareness' means both that
'Everything is God' and that at the same time
'Everything is a God' - being both a portion
And a unique expression of God as a whole.

'God' and 'the Gods' are thus distinct but inseparable,
Each God being both part and whole, a distinct
part of the whole that is God - thus 'a God' - and
An expression of God as a whole, and thus 'God'.
Understanding God in this way unites 'monistic theism',
The recognition of God as a singular all-pervading
Awareness, with a monistic pluralism or 'polytheism',
That recognises all things as Gods.

Behind all things and phenomena are the unique psychic
Portions, patterns, powers and qualities of awareness, of
'God', that give each and every thing its character as 'a God'.
The outward forms of things are but symbols of those
Unique portions of the Divine Awareness that make them
Both a part of God and yet also Gods in their own right.
All things or phenomena, of whatever shape or form
Are manifestations both of God, and of the particular
Patterns and powers of awareness that constitute
Their nature as distinct Gods in their own right.
All things then are the outward forms of Gods.

In recognising and revering them as Gods we amplify those
Unique patterns, powers and qualities of awareness
That constitute their God-nature in a dual sense,
Their nature as expressions of God and therefore
Also their nature as unique Gods in their own right.
A bicycle or brick is as much the outward form of a God
As a cat or tree, a religious text, or a sacred idol or icon.
Every particular cat or tree is 'a God', and yet so also are
'Cat-ness' and 'tree-ness' as such - these being particular
'Idea-shapes' or patterns of awareness, present as
Potentials within the Divine Awareness that is 'God'.
If you could really see a rose, you would behold the
'Spirit' behind it as a God – as a vast living idea-shape
Eternally present and resplendent in the Divine Awareness.

Only through our capacity to recognise, sense and feel
Any 'thing' or 'being' at all as a God – to worship it with
Our senses, do we truly recognise and worship 'God'.
Those who oppose the worship of Sky and Earth Gods,
Wind and Rain Gods, Rock and Tree Gods, Animal Gods
Or human-like, 'anthropomorphic' Gods to the worship of
A single and invisible 'One God' do not know the true nature of
The One God, for this is a God that finds expression as
Multiple Gods, in and as all things and all beings.
All dualisms of opposing '-theisms', such as
'Monotheism' and 'polytheism' are false dualisms.
For there is nothing that is not God – singular – and there are
No things or beings which are not Gods – plural.

Those who refuse to worship a natural phenomenon such as
A tree, being ignorant of its God-nature, are just as deluded as
Those who worship only trees, ignorant of the God-nature of
All things - whether natural or artificial, ancient or modern.
Only those who can worship all things as Gods know God.
Only those who can use their senses to sense the soul of any
Thing as 'a God' can also know it as an expression of 'God'.

Not all things are equally worthy of worship,
For some things are better than others and thus
Make better objects of worship and identification.
Many are those who worship the Gods of Money and
The Market, of Capital and Consumerism, The Media and
The Mobile Phone, the Motorway and The Automobile,
The Gods they make of celebrity icons and idols,
Of commodities, brand logos or stock values.
Such Gods as Profit and Fashion are not 'evil', but
Their worship, justified in the name of the 'One God',
Brings suffering to the worshippers and to all humanity.

There are named Gods and unnamed Gods,
Gods that human beings idolise and worship unawares.
And those they worship - as Gods - with awareness.
There are ancient Gods, personified or not personified
In human form, and there are modern Gods, personified
Or not personified in human form.
Many prefer the Gods of Old to the New Gods of
Global capitalism and technology, and to the
Monotheisms of Money and of The Market.

The Old Gods never die, thus they were called 'immortals'.
Insteady they live on, whether or not their names
Are recalled or forgotten, their rituals and places
Of worship destroyed or surviving as ruins.
Battles rage between the Old Gods and The New.
Odin fights the i-Pods, the Madonna fights Madonna.
Battles still rage between the Old Gods themselves.
The Judaeo-Christian God fights the God of Islam.
Pagan, Wiccan and Norse Gods still fight the Gods of
Judaeo-Christianity, and the Gods of Nature
Wreak destruction on the destructive Gods of Man.
So has it always been - the 'One' God fighting the
Other 'One', the many Gods fighting each other
Each counting on their worshippers as warriors.

There are The Old religions and The New.
Television is the new shrine to which people offer
Sacrifice of what is most precious of all, their time
Having forgotten how the old shrines worked.
The screen is an electronic substitute for
Long lost powers of inner clairvoyance.
The shopping mall is a grand temple
To the God of Consumption, yet work -
Production - is wage-slavery to the God of the Market,
Determining by its iron 'Law' the value of all things
And doing so only in terms of their profitability.
The computer workstation is a technical altar,
The 'virtual' simulacrum of a portal
To other worlds, once reached from within.

The world of telecommunications is a substitute for
Deep and wordless telepathic contact with others.
The USB stick replaces ancient memories,
Once evoked by the flicker of a fire.

Mankind remains a kindergarten of infantile souls,
In thrall now to New Gods who bestow ignorance
Rather than knowledge, and who disensoul
Human beings rather than ensouling them.
For the priests of the New Gods it is 'brands'
That have 'souls', whereas 'souls' are seen as
Mere manipulable brains stuck on a body.

To know yourself is to know your Gods.
Whether this God be a pop idol, sport or drug,
Tree or TV, church or business corporation.

To know God is to know all things
AS Gods, and to worship only those things -
Those Gods – most auspicious and beneficial
In coming to know that 'One God' of which
All things and beings - all Gods - are an expression.
Hence the importance of each individual
Finding their *Ishta Devata* – that God
They feel most personally attuned to, and that
In turn attunes them most to God as such.
To know God is to know yourself, both as God
And as a God in your own right - and to know other
People likewise, as both God and Gods.

Behind all people's inner 'psychology'
Lies their 'inner theology' - the Gods
They truly worship in deed, even if not in words
Or through religious prayer and meditation;
The things they idolise in mind and body -
Or with their wallets - even if ignorant of
That one God which is nothing but
Awareness itself in the manifold shapes of
All things and thoughts, all bodies and beings.

Your big toe feels itself as part of a
Larger whole - your foot - which is its God.
Your foot feels itself as part of a
Yet larger whole - your leg - its God.
So does any part of your body feel
Your body as a whole as 'God',
A whole from which it is inseparable
And yet at the same time a unique part.
Unlike their own toes and feet, fingers
And arms, stomachs and chests however,
Human beings tend no longer to feel
That larger whole of which they themselves
And their whole bodies are a part.
Yet unlike their bodily parts they
Can come to see and conceive that
Larger whole - God - in any way
They choose, in this way giving
Rise to countless images and ideas of
God - to countless Gods.

Yet a God is more than just an image or idea.
For any thing or thought, image or idea, to which
We sacrifice time and awareness,
Anything we put ourselves 'into',
We thereby turn into a God -
Endowing it with a portion of ourselves
That retains its own independent
Reality, identity and consciousness.

Every artist knows how in putting their time, awareness
And a portion of themselves into their creations
Those creations, like characters created in a novel,
Take on a life of their own, evolving in their own way and
Re-shaping not only the novel itself but its creator.
We are all creators – 'god-makers' whose every creation,
Whether a mere thought, mental image or material artefact,
Is no sooner created through a sacrifice of time and
Awareness, than it returns that sacrifice to us
Multiplied - whether as bountiful boons or burdens.

There is no thing and no thought, no being and
And no body which you have ever 'worshipped'
In any life, ever sacrificed time and awareness to,
That does not retain reality as an independent
Consciousness, one which is forever a part of you
And at the same time distinct from you – a God.
Every cell of our body retains memory traces of
The Gods we have dreamt up and created within our soul.

We are not composed of 'eternal genes' but of eternal Gods.
Our genes are but the biological imprint of those elements of
Our souls that are part of or have become autonomous Gods,
Created or sustained by sacrificing portion of ourselves to them.

Not all the Gods which we thus create are
Comfortable or in harmony with one another.
Battles also rage between our personal Gods, past and present,
Old and New – battles felt and fought out in our dreams, as in
The very flesh of our genes, as symptoms and sensations of dis-ease.

There are minor Gods, which are a part of our souls.
And there are greater Gods, great souls or *Mahatma*
Of which we ourselves are a part, as they are a part of God.

'Know thyself' means 'Know your Gods'.
It also means 'Know God', for God is
No supreme creator being, but the creativity
Constantly arising from Awareness as such,
A creativity by which God constantly
Gives birth to Gods, not just as us but also
Through us, through the divine Creativity of
The Divine Awareness of which we are a part.

There is 'No Religion Higher than Truth'
And the inner truth of religion is that
There is nothing outside God, that
Reality consists of nothing BUT 'God' and

'Gods' - nothing but GOD GODDING.

Thus there is no denying the Gods.

For our world and everything in it

Is a living pantheon of Gods,

Old and New - all emerged

From and dwelling in the

Awareness that is God.

You yourself ARE a God

Just you ARE God, even

Though God is more than

You are and can be.

Why then do people seek immortality,

God-like beauty, power, wealth,

Splendour and sensuous luxury?

Why do they wish to become 'like' Gods?

Because they are unable anymore

To see the beauty, feel the power, or

Sense the luxuriant wealth of the

Immortal Gods they already ARE,

The Gods that are a part of them,

The Gods of which they are a part,

And that God which is the source of all Gods.

Forever Godding Itself in countless forms.

The Gods, all of them, are alive,

As alive as you and me, and

As alive as all things and beings,

Which as portions of God, are

Themselves also Gods.

Odin lives, as do Thor and Loki.

Jesus lives, as do Peter, Paul and Mary.

Zeus lives, as do Athena and Aphrodite.

Krishna lives, as do Vishnu and Kali.

Their names speak of Gods, but

In doing so they also bespeak that

One Awareness that alone - 'All-One' -

Is God, transcendent of all Gods, yet

Immanent in them all, The All that

Is One and the One that is them All.

For what could embrace and create such

Infinite space for the fullness of all the countless

Gods that make up all things, except the

One God that Gods them all?