



Arya Samaj Newsletter

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The Vedas say that there is only one GOD- *Eko Devah*

Vedas say GOD has created this world and is the sole controller. Vedas clearly say that God has no sexual entity- GODs neither male nor female. Just like our soul is neither masculine nor feminine, in the same way GOD too is genderless. Thus when GODs referred to as 'He' this is done merely for convenience in writing. Hinduism is supposed to be based on Vedic religion. The Vedas do not talk of various GODs. GOD creates this world and once it is created, GOD maintains it and so on. Similarly, GODs Omnipresent, Omnipotent, beginningless and endless and has a number of other qualities. These qualities and actions have been described through various names given to God. For example, as a Creator God is called Brahma, as a maintainer God is called Vishnu, as a Destroyer God is called Mahesh and as the giver of happiness and peace GODs called Shiv.

When you obey GOD you gain GOD's love, blessings, satisfaction, mental and spiritual strength, purity of the soul, freedom from darkness of ignorance and clear and correct vision and thought. These would always save one from the drawbacks of life and give peace of mind which is so important to lead a smooth life desired by everyone.

This peace cannot be achieved by worldly wealth and means. One cannot progress in this world without the support which one can have only when one obeys GOD without any reservation. One could compare the above by saying what do you gain when you obey your parents? The answer is one gains love and affection and progress and happiness through such obedience. However, one should not weigh the "gain" only in financial and worldly benefits. There are so many other things which are much more essential for the uplift of a person. One may ask why some people who do not believe in GOD seem to live without any problem. The position is that whatever one enjoys in the present life is the result of the deeds one did in his/her previous life. People who do not face any problems now are reaping the good harvest sown in the last birth. If they do not obey GOD now they are sinners and will receive the fruits in the next birth. Then again, it is also wrong to say that they do not have any problems, because there are a number of problems which do not show up in the open. According to the Vedas God has no beginning nor an end. GOD is never made, created or manufactured. There are two main arguments in this respect. Firstly, GOD is not material. GOD is a Supreme Power. Secondly, if we say that there is someone who made GOD, the next question will be "who made that maker?" In this way, there will be no end to the arguments. The argument will have to stop at some point. Therefore, the creator who created everything, but was not created by anybody and exists since eternity is called GOD AUM. GOD is not transformed from anything and as such the question of a human being becoming GOD after doing good deeds does not arise.

A person possesses a soul. He/ she can elevate it to the highest status by doing good work, but he/she will remain as a soul only. For example, a son will not become a father of his father even if he is educated more and earns more than him. He is son only. GOD and soul are two separate entities. GOD never becomes a soul and a soul never becomes GOD. A noble soul, however, may be a holy person if he/she possesses righteous qualities.

Even before this creation GOD exists pervading the whole universe. GOD does not move or die. Although GOD has prescribed that all humans should follow the path of righteousness at all times, GOD has at the same time given everyone the liberty to do whatever actions they wish to do. If one follows the righteous path in one's actions, the result will be good. However if one chooses to follow the evil path the results would be bad for that person. *Anonymous*

GOD-SAT CHIT ANAND

All religions hold that GOD is the repository of knowledge, truth and justice. Therefore GOD cannot be the prerogative of any one race or country nor does he find one more favourable than other. GOD cannot be limited to any particular time or place..

GOD is one and not many. He exists for all times; He is the source of all knowledge. He is the source of all bliss and happiness. He has made this world in which we live. He is kind to all. He is just and merciful. He has no form and no boundaries. Everything exists in him and he exists in everything. He is changeless and is above space and time. He is not born, nor would He ever cease to exist. He does not assume corporeal -physical forms. He is truth and ever unchanging.

In describing the characteristics, attributes and divine functions of GOD the VEDAS in several instances describe Him as Omniscient, Omnipresent and Omnipotent. He is responsible for the creation, sustenance and dissolution of the world. His main characteristic is: He is SAT (ever existence), CHIT (ever conscious) and ANAND (Bliss).

One of the best ways of loving GOD is to love our fellow creatures. Let us be friendly with everybody, down to the smallest creature in our surroundings. *Anonymous (to be continued later)*

Yogdarshan-8 important steps to realise GOD-Yam, Niyam, Asan, Pranayam, Pratyahar, Dharana, Dhyani, and Samadhi