

## Reflections from Shrimad Bhagavadgita– Part 101: Chapter 11, Verses 22-24

(April 8 –April 14, 2020)

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### ORIGINAL SANSKRIT DOCUMENT

### TRANSLITERATION

रुद्रादित्या वसवो ये च साध्या  
विश्वेऽश्विनौ मरुतश्चोष्मपाश्च ।

rudrādityā vasavo ye cha sādhyā  
viśhve 'śhvinau marutaśh choṣhmapāśh cha

गन्धर्वयक्षासुरसिद्धसङ्घा  
वीक्षन्ते त्वां विस्मिताश्चैव सर्वे ॥ ११-२२ ॥

gandharva-yakṣhāsura-siddha-saṅghā  
vīkṣhante tvām viśmitāśh chaiva sarve

रूपं महत्ते बहुवक्त्रनेत्रं  
महाबाहो बहुबाहूरुपादम् ।

rūpaṁ mahat te bahu-vaktra-netraṁ  
mahā-bāho bahu-bāhūru-pādam

बहूदरं बहुदंष्ट्रकरालं  
दृष्ट्वा लोकाः प्रव्यथितास्तथाहम् ॥ ११-२३ ॥

bahūdaraṁ bahu-danṣhṭrā-karālaṁ  
dṛiṣhṭvā lokāḥ pravyathitās tathāham

नभःस्पृशं दीप्तमनेकवर्णं  
व्यात्ताननं दीप्तविशालनेत्रम् ।

nabhaḥ-spṛiśhaṁ dīptam aneka-varṇaṁ  
vyāttānanaṁ dīpta-viśhāla-netraṁ

दृष्ट्वा हि त्वां प्रव्यथितान्तरात्मा  
धृतिं न विन्दामि शमं च विष्णो ॥ ११-२४ ॥

dṛiṣhṭvā hi tvām pravyathitāntar-ātmā  
dhṛitiṁ na viṇdāmi śhamaṁ cha viṣhṇo

## TRANSLATION

- (22) The Rudras, Adityas, Vasus, Sadhyas, Vishvadevas, Ashwini Kumars, Maruts, ancestors, Gandharvas, Yakshas, Asuras, and Siddhas are all beholding you in wonder.
- (23) O mighty Lord, seeing your magnificent form with its many mouths, eyes, arms, thighs, legs, stomachs, and terrifying teeth, all the worlds tremble in fear, and so do I.
- (24) O Lord Vishnu, seeing your form touching the sky, effulgent in many colors, with mouths wide open and enormous blazing eyes, my heart is trembling with fear. I have lost all courage and peace of mind.

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1b2XbL1oE65kbOOskb4Sr3oGIPLZcxXH6>

## Chapter 11

### Verse 22:

The Rudras, Adityas, Vasus, Sadhyas, Vishvadevas, Ashwini Kumaras, Maruts, Ancestors, Gandharvas, Yakshas, Asuras, and Siddhas are all looking aghast at the terrifying splendor of Lord Krishna's *Vishvarupa* or divine universal form. The word *ushmapash* refers to the group of forefathers known as *Pitris* or the deified (exalted to the rank of deities) ancestors.

### Verses 23:

Lord Krishna's almighty, omnipotent *vishvarupa* or divine universal form was so colossal that it extended beyond the sky into the spaces between the galaxies and even unto the universes. Having unlimited feet, legs, arms, heads, faces mouths and teeth, it was fierce to behold Lord's *vishvarupa* and caused great trepidation and fear to the beings of all worlds. The words *bahu-damstraa-karaalam* mean innumerable, ferocious teeth that were terrifying in appearance. So, it was no surprise that Arjuna was trembling in fright at the brutal sight of Lord Krishna's *vishvarupa*.

### Verses 24:

In here, Arjuna addresses Lord Krishna as Vishnu, which means all-pervading sustainer of worlds. Seeing Lord Krishna's *vishvarupa* or divine universal form pervading all visible directions in blazing and fierce splendor with gaping mouths emitting fire and large fiery eyes, a feeling of uncontrollable fright overcame Arjuna, who then confessed that he had completely lost his equilibrium and it was not possible for him to regain his composure in the presence of Lord's *vishvarupa*. The words *nabhah* means the firmament (sky) above and is in reference to the *parama-vyoma* which is the supreme region beyond even the heavenly planets and celestial spheres which are still subject to *prakriti* or the material substratum pervading physical existence. Several Vedic scriptures describe *Nabhah*, for example, *tad akshate parame vyoman* (*Maha Narayan Upanishad*), meaning high above in the imperishable firmament, and *aditya-varnam tamasah parastat* (*Purusha Suktam*) meaning the golden firmament beyond all ignorance. The Supreme Controller of all resides in the highest imperishable heaven. Because it is the spiritual abode of the Supreme Lord whose power is primordial, eternal and absolute, it is transcendental to *prakriti* the material substratum pervading physical existence and not subject to the modifications of the material creation.