

Reflections from Shrimad Bhagavadgita– Part 104: Chapter 11, Verses 32-34

(April 29 –May 5, 2020)

Please Note: Click Anywhere on The Dark Area Below to Listen to the Above Verses

ORIGINAL SANSKRIT DOCUMENT

TRANSLITERATION

श्रीभगवानुवाच ।

śhrī-bhagavān uvācha

कालोऽस्मि लोकक्षयकृत्प्रवृद्धो

kālo 'smi loka-kṣhaya-kṛit pravṛiddho

लोकान्समाहर्तुमिह प्रवृत्तः ।

lokān samāhartum iha pravṛittah

ऋतेऽपि त्वां न भविष्यन्ति सर्वे

ṛite 'pi tvām na bhaviṣhyanti sarve

येऽवस्थिताः प्रत्यनीकेषु योधाः ॥ ११-३२ ॥

ye 'vasthitāḥ pratyaniṣṭhu yodhāḥ

तस्मात्त्वमुत्तिष्ठ यशो लभस्व

tasmāt tvam uttiṣṭha yaśho labhasva

जित्वा शत्रून् भुङ्क्ष्व राज्यं समृद्धम् ।

jitvā śhatrūn bhuṅkṣhva rājyaṁ samṛiddham

मयैवैते निहताः पूर्वमेव

mayaivaite nihatāḥ pūrvam eva

निमित्तमात्रं भव सव्यसाचिन् ॥ ११-३३ ॥

nimitta-mātraṁ bhava savya-sāchin

द्रोणं च भीष्मं च जयद्रथं च

droṇaṁ cha bhīṣhmaṁ cha jayadrathaṁ cha

कर्णं तथान्यानपि योधवीरान् ।

karṇaṁ tathānyān api yodha-vīrān

मया हतांस्त्वं जहि मव्यथिष्ठा

mayā hatāṁs tvam jahi mā vyathiṣṭhā

युध्यस्व जेतासि रणे सपत्नान् ॥ ११-३४ ॥

yudhyasva jetāsi raṇe sapatnān

TRANSLATION

- (32) The Supreme Lord said: I am mighty Time, the source of destruction that comes forth to annihilate the worlds. Even without your participation, the warriors arrayed in the opposing army shall cease to exist.
- (33) Therefore, arise and attain honor! Conquer your foes and enjoy prosperous rulership. These warriors stand already slain by me, and you will only be an instrument of my work, O expert archer.
- (34) Dronacharya, Bheeshma, Jayadratha, Karn, and other brave warriors have already been killed by me. So slay them without being disturbed. Just fight and you will be victorious over your enemies in battle.

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1ZXSnnV2rwJPobgN-wJR0DTJeCvPjEvFT>

Chapter 11

Verse 32:

The Supreme Lord Krishna, having been asked by Arjuna to explain the reason for manifesting such a frightening aspect of His *vishvarupa* or divine universal form, says *kalo'smi loka-kshaya-krit pravradhho*, meaning armies arrayed in battle, even without Arjuna's participation in the fight. He is the all powerful Time, which controls the life span of all living entities in all the worlds. By Lord Krishna's desire, imbued with His power and might, Time itself will destroy all these The Kaurava army, along with their commanders such as Duryodhana, Bhishma and Drona, will not survive and will all be slain. Lord Krishna uses the word *pravritah*, meaning He is directly engaged to complete the activity of their destruction.

Verses 33:

In this verse, Lord Krishna reiterates that it is His will that the Kauravas are to perish and that Arjuna should arise for the battle and attain honor by conquering Bhishma, Drona and Karna who are invincible even to the demigods. Vanquishing his mighty foes, Arjuna and his brothers can abundantly enjoy the flourishing kingdom of Earth. Lord Krishna further elaborates that the Kauravas and their armies have already been slain before the battle has even commenced. This is because of the desire of Lord Krishna through His potency known

as *kaala* or Time and He informs Arjuna that he is *nimitta-matram* or merely the instrument for accomplishing this. Lord Krishna addresses Arjuna as *savyasachin* meaning Arjuna is skillful in shooting arrows either with his left hand or the right with equal ease.

Verses 34:

Lord Krishna here confirms that Drona, Bhishma, Karna, along with innumerable warriors, have already been slain by Him, so Arjuna should not hesitate or feel remorse for slaying his enemies, be they superiors, preceptors, relatives or friends in battle for they fighting for the unrighteous Duryodhana have already been marked for destruction by Lord Krishna. In this verse Arjuna is assured of victory over his enemies on the battlefield and he should not feel even the slightest doubt about this or think he is performing sins by slaying his enemies. Arjuna is certainly not doubting the words of Lord Krishna but with such a powerful array of mighty warriors against him, he was wondering how he will be able to defeat them all. For example, Arjuna is hesitant to slay Drona, his revered teacher, who had taught him so well the science of archery making him the greatest archer in the world. Likewise, Arjuna knows that the grandsire Bhishma has the boon that he can die at the time of his choosing, and having been educated by Brihaspati, the guru of the demigods, Bhishma was invincible. Jayadratha has the boon that whoever takes his head off at the neck with any weapon will have their own head burst into pieces. Karna, the son of the Surya, has a boon from Indra in the form of a weapon that will slay whoever he launches it at.