

Satasloki

Sloka 10

यस्माद् यावत् सुखं स्यादिह हि विषयतस्तावदस्मिन्प्रियत्वं
यावद् दुःखं च यस्माद् भवति खलु ततस्तावदेवाप्रियत्वम्।
नैकस्मिन् सर्वकालेऽस्त्युभयमपि कदाप्यप्रियोऽपि प्रियः स्या-
त्प्रेयानप्यप्रियो वा सततमपि ततः प्रेय आत्माख्यवस्तु॥१०

10. An object (or a person) is liked only as long as it gives happiness. When the same object produces sorrow it is disliked. The same object cannot give happiness all the time, nor can it be always a cause of sorrow. What is liked earlier may become the object of dislike later and vice versa. Since (as stated in the previous verse) any object is liked only for the sake of the self, the self alone is always dear.

Note. We know from experience that an object which gives happiness at one time can cause unhappiness at another time. Warm clothing is comfortable in winter, but unbearable on a hot summer day. A son is ordinarily a source of joy for the parents, but if he neglects his studies or takes to bad ways he becomes a cause for worry. Such examples can be multiplied. It has been pointed out in the previous verse that any person or object is loved only for the sake of one's own happiness. It follows that what every one seeks is one's own happiness. One's own self is therefore always the object of one's love.