Radiant Immortal Atman! Beloved seekers! Beloved and blessed children of the Divine! Knowledge is the knowing of the things. Wisdom is the understanding and experiencing of things. Wisdom is to knowledge what a fully ripened fruit would be to a fruit in the beginning stage – without juice, sweetness or fragrance. Knowledge enables you to know many things, but it does not itself make you wise. Knowledge is an intellectual process, but it lacks depth, a quality to impel the knower to be what he knows. That subtle factor which makes knowing into being is a gradual ripening of that knowledge into experience. When knowledge rises above a certain point, it matures into wisdom and gains loftiness, and turns into intuition. Then intuition replaces knowledge and knowing turns into being, and life becomes infused by wisdom.

Live in the light of this knowledge; bring this knowledge into your thoughts, feelings, attitudes and reaction to daily life around you. Apply your knowledge. Unless you make it a point to bring knowledge into active manifestation in every step, every breath, every moment of your life, your knowledge will ever remain a sterile, unproductive burden upon you. In spite of knowing, we still get caught and held prisoner in the net woven by our failure to recognise that it is meant for me not only to know, but also to be and to do. Knowing, being and doing must fuse into one harmonious unitary process.

Shankaracharya did concede a relative reality to everything as long as our body, the mind thoughts and intellectual processes are real to us. We live every moment of our life guided by thoughts, reason and desires. That alone is the reality to us, whereas the existence of a higher reality is only an item of information to us. If this stage of relative reality is to gradually become the stairway to reach a transcendental state of non-dual Consciousness, then every moment has to be utilised to this end. Then only knowledge can gradually transform itself into Sadhana, Yoga, Upasana, Abhyasa. Unremitting practice, abhyasa is the essence of this process.

“Yo Mam Pasyati Sarvatra Sarvam Ca Mayi Pasyati” | - He who sees Me everywhere and sees everything in Me, he never becomes separated from me.”[Gita 6.30] Know that Reality behind all perceived appearances, and day by day ascend to that ultimate state of illumination and become liberated. Gurudev’s choicest blessings be upon you in this process!

God Bless You All!

Swami Chidananda