

Life After Death

*A commentary and personal interpretation of an excerpt
from The Upanishads*



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This poem is an excerpt from the Upanishads, which are sacred texts from Hindu scripture. It is part of the Vedas, and relates to philosophy regarding God, life and nature of all things. The Vedas are considered spiritual text, and are held with the same regard in the Hindu religion as that of the bible to Judeo-Christian based religions, which it predates.

Before death, life is a seeker.

After death, the same life becomes a dreamer.

Before death, life struggles and strives for Perfection.

After death, the same life rests

and enjoys the divine Bliss with the soul.

Before death, life is God's Promise.

After death, life is God's inner Assurance.

This Assurance of God's we notice while we fulfill God in our future incarnation.

The term “life” is undefined, though I interpret it simply as “the soul” or “the human conscious”. So quite literally, I read the word “life” as “a person”. As stated, before death a person is a seeker. We seek, as humans, for many things. Some of us search for happiness, some for peace, others for wisdom. There are those who even go through the entire course of life seeking nothing more than approval. Even more so, there are some who spend their time (arguably wasting) seeking for the meaning of life itself.

After death, the person essentially becomes a dream. Their preoccupation is no longer in seeking, because they no longer have anything to find. When the consciousness is floating in the void, it doesn't have many options other than to contemplate. However,

when your soul is detached from the person you are before, those thoughts merely become dreams within your new reality.

Before death, we struggle for perfection. Again, this relates to the first line, as we are seeking perfection. The perfect life, the perfect love, the perfect happiness, the perfect wisdom. The perfect revenge, if one so desires to make that their life's quest! Though nothing is perfect, it seems like something admirable of achieving.

After death, you no longer have the choice to push for perfection. You have no choice but to come to terms with floating in a stream of consciousness. The human body frets and struggles under the weight of the world. The soul, however, is not bothered by such material things. Hence, when you have no other options, you are finally forced (possibly for the first time in your life!) to relax and just let it be. In return, you finally experience "divine Bliss".

Before death, we all embody God's promise. It is, in fact, the promise of life. The promise of the experience, whether it be good or bad. It is not only a promise, but a gift. After death, after the cycle, we begin to realize that God was within us all along, and there was no reason to doubt him (or her, as you may desire). However, when we are plopped back into the physical realm, we are washed of this realization of divinity. While we carry within us the assurance of the divinity, our conscious is not fully aware of this.

Though slowly we begin to reach awareness, as part of our souls push us to do God's will, whether or not we realize that this will is not our own. All creatures are sent to do God's bidding, and one step at a time we get closer to listening to that divinity within us. We carry a piece of him inside of ourselves, and yet we still haven't figured out that we are all equally God's divine creatures. Each and every "life."