

Gratitude for the Means of Self Knowledge

Dear Ram,

Spontaneously this morning a burst of gratitude arises and here comes a letter to you, thanking you so much for the teaching and the materials you are making available, especially the DVDs. Finally, all my questions are getting answered, all the doubts dropping one by one – and quickly! I had no idea how quickly this could all drop if I had the right information and the right mode of delivery of that information.

Somehow I did not figure out, even after being immersed in non-duality for the last five years (and I even had my own non-dual website!) that there was actually a comprehensive and structured teaching of Advaita Vedanta. Can you believe no one ever told me this? How could my so-called “gurus” not have directed me to the scriptures, to Shankara? I’m also floored that I never came across you in those five years, either. But, it all happened at the right time, since I would not have understood any of this five years ago anyway.

I wasn’t too thrown off by the “neo” people – I really saw through that bullshit of “there’s no one to do anything.” But still, without proper guidance, I was doing a lot of reinventing the wheel, and that was really exhausting and very, very slow going. I would get brilliant bits and pieces on my own, but that “*mandala* of existence” you talk about has a lot of spaces to fill in, and without help, it would never have been complete.

I first read your book about a month ago and knew I had hit pay dirt. In all those years, that was the first time I saw the big picture. What a relief! That made me interested in reading the source materials and Shankara, and really starting my Vedanta education for real. I was in chaotic non-dual Kindergarten before, not even realizing there was a higher, orderly teaching.

After reading the book I started on your DVDs – starting with the Self-Realization series, and now halfway through the Self-Inquiry series. I just have no words to express my gratitude for these wonderful lectures. It was immediately apparent that you are living this teaching, and that it is so ingrained in you that there is never a hiccup, never any fuzzy logic, never a doubt left lingering. As a teacher you are articulate, genuine, and compassionate. This is someone I can rely on, this is someone I can trust – I know this without a doubt.

I have no questions at all – every day more and more of the *mandala* is filled in and the “making sense of all of it so you can put it all to rest” is becoming a reality. It’s happening really quickly. Whenever questions arise, they seem to be answered immediately by the next lecture, or the next insight. But if I get stuck, I’ll give you a holler.

Thank you thank you thank you for taking the trouble of making these videos available and for offering this teaching. You’ve done a fantastic job of it. All the scriptural concepts that I had heard but didn’t understand what relevance they had, or where they fit in the big picture, are finally becoming clear, and finally the “*mandala*” that was lovingly given to humankind thousands of years ago is emerging in all its glory before my inner eyes. This is all thanks to you, Ram!

When will you be back in the States? I hope to meet you someday.

Love and gratitude,

Marilyn