

Hi Ram,

I call you Ram because the searching stopped thanks to your direct and clear teaching. I consider you my Guru and my friend. I have your latest book, How to Attain Enlightenment, and I love it. When I found your teaching immediately there was a recognition of it as the true expression of the letter and spirit of Vedanta. And in your answering all kind of difficult questions from your students and readers I noted clarity, honesty and understanding in action. I am looking forward to meeting you too somewhere to say thank you in person.

Gratitude and thankfulness for all that you did for me.

Your devoted student,
Douglas

Yes, Vedanta is gradual systematic clear and direct time-tested teaching, what you call the "science of self inquiry." I can testify to that. Since I realized the truth of the teachings I have no more mental suffering, no hate, enmity, or thirst for revenge. I do not get involved in superficial and vain worldly affairs. I feel a sense of gratitude and astonishment for everything. There are no longer questions arising about metaphysical stuff. There is only functional psychological thinking. There is no sense of an autonomous or volitional separate entity. About the psychosomatic vehicle, I jog every day for about 45 minutes and do some strength work with dumb bells. All this takes an hour. I rest on Saturdays and Sundays. I do not take junk food or beverages. I'm close to the 60 and look like and feel like 40. That doesn't mean that life is easier, but it is simple because there are no mental preoccupations. Ethics and universal values play an important role in my life. It is liberation working out through the understanding of who I am. It is not personal.

Before learning from you I studied Western philosophy, theology, logic, exegesis, and critical thinking in the university and I have been studying traditional Vedanta for more 25 years. Before the computer era I was in communication by letters

with all the "big guns" in the Neo Advaita and Neo Vedanta circles (Klein, Harding, Parsons, Nathan Gill, Balsekar, Goode). When I found your teaching there was a recognition as the true expression of the letter and spirit of Vedanta. And in your answering all kind of difficult questions from your students and readers I noted the clarity, honesty and understanding in action. Let me see if I can find the notes on free will this week but don't count on it as my car has bent valves and I am trying to do the repair job myself. It is not an easy task.

Om and Prem,

Douglas