

Vedanta Testimonial

Ram (James Swartz)

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Mary: Hi, James. You asked how I was doing. Self-inquiry in the day-to-day world is indeed the greatest teacher. Vedanta is ever-present, providing the means for that self-inquiry. My old friends see such a change in me and that piques their curiosity, but even though they are “spiritual” they are stuck in *samsara* and have no true interest in Vedanta or commitment to *moksa*. No desire arises to try to change them. I can accept them exactly as they are. I can see clearly the *gunas* as well as their values expressing through them, just as I can see the *gunas* and values expressing through me.

They are, they are – I am, I am. All beings follow their nature. And while I love them as the self I have no desire to spend any more time with them, no interest in exposing myself to their constant pendular oscillations – *rajas, tamas, rajas, tamas, rajas* – which disturb *sattva*. Silence accommodates amazingly well. And, James, I can honestly say my silence is more conscious accommodation and much less acquiescence as that “well, it’s just easier to reluctantly agree and be pissed off later” part of me is naturally dissolving, the ripening fruit of Vedanta.

James: This is a good sign. Acquiescence is *tamasic*, conscious accommodation is *sattvic*.

Mary: As the knowledge goes about its business, more and more layers of ignorance are just naturally being shed. Life is simplifying itself continually without me doing one thing. Even the desire to return to the *ashram* in India where I spent so much time has fallen away. However, my Vedanta *vasana* is vibrant and continually growing, and for this I am eternally grateful.

To paraphrase something you said, it seems less and less I spend my life searching for happiness and just enjoy life happily. And this by the grace of the knowledge of Vedanta, your unfoldment of it and the continuing, ongoing fructification of that knowledge.

~ Love, Mary