Sloka 18 (Chapter 5)

VIDYA VINAYA SAMPANNE BRAHMANE’ GAVI HASTINI
SHUNI CHAIVA SHWAPAKE’ PANDITAH SAMADARSHINAH.

The sage look with equal eye on a Brahmana endowed with knowledge and humility, a cow, an elephant, a dog and an outcaste who feeds on dog’s flesh.

The sage referred to in this sloka is the seeker who has put into practice the essence of the last verse and he is recognised as a true pandita. The doctrine of "Universal love" is the hallmark of Gita and stressed in this verse. It is not only the doctrine of brotherhood of man but love and compassion to all forms of life.

We learnt from the last sloka that the seekers by such practice would succeed in dispelling their sins by acquiring knowledge. The highest knowledge to be learnt is "Samatvam". "Equal vision" is "Samatvam." It is seeing the same "Atman" in all. It is the true knowledge and he who puts into practice this philosophy is a pandita.

*** will be continued ***