Epistemology, Energy, Theology
Our senses are imperfect.
We are subject to illusion.
We are prone to making mistakes.
4 frailties

- We have imperfect senses.
- We fall into illusion.
- We make mistakes.
- We have cheating propensities.

[CC Adi 2.86, CC Adi 7.107]
Epistemology

- Ascending process
  - Direct perception
  - Logical inference
Vedic Epistemology

- Ascending process
  - Direct perception
  - Logical inference

- Descending process
  - Pratyaksa
  - Anumana
  - Shabda
Basis of shabda

I may be imperfect. But if I am repeating the words of the perfect, that is perfect knowledge.
Purpose of knowledge

- To know Krishna (God) [BG 15.15]
- To love Krishna (God) [BG 10.8]

Why should I accept?
Is it blind faith?

No.

Within shabda, pratyaksa and anumana have validity.
Is it theoretical knowledge?
What’s the process?

- **Hear** from authorized teachers.
- **Apply** what you have heard.

Practical knowledge
Is it mundane knowledge?
Reference point is outside the purview of material knowledge.
Qualifications

- Humility
- Austerity
- Gratitude

Key factor: Relationship with the teacher
“It’s a Fan!”

“It’s a Spear!”

“It’s a Snake!”

“It’s a Wall!”

“It’s a Tree!”

“It’s a Rope!”
Energies of Krsna (God)

- External energy (bahiranga shakti)
- Internal energy (antaranga shakti)
- Marginal energy (tatastha shakti)

Behind the laws of nature is the lawmaker.
External energy
→ Remote Control
5 basic material elements

Ether/Space
Air/Gas
Fire/Plasma
Water/Liquid
Earth/Solid

Sound
Sound
Sound
Sound
Sound

Touch
Touch
Touch
Touch
Touch

Form
Form
Form
Taste
Smell

Subtle
Gross
External energy
→ Remote Control

Covering potency

Throwing potency

Avaranatmika shakti

Praksepatmika shakti
Marginal energy
Internal energy

→ Direct Control

Eternality  Knowledge  Bliss
Boatman

Scientist
Where is my absorption?
Am I really serious?
Thank you very much!