

34 - Hari Om Everyone,

i hope this email finds everyone well...

The year i left for the Vedanta Course, *Batman Begins* was released. Before joining Sandeepany i watched the movie twice and very much enjoyed the movie each time. Recently i was in Washington DC where i had the chance to watch the movie twice, again. However, this time around **i watched the movie with 'Vedantic eyes'**. **Pre-Vedanta Course *Batman Begins* was enjoyable and post-Vedanta Course *Batman Begins* was enlightening.** Striving to understand the thoughts and actions of Batman is our E-Vichara/Electronic Reflections...

Special E-Vichara/Electronic Reflections on *Batman Begins* (February 8, 2010)

- The only person who knows what we want is ourselves - knowing this we should turn within for guidance on our quest, answers to our questions
- When our life is guided by an ideal we live an ideal life (Batman) - sans an ideal we can be good but never great (Bruce Wayne)
- Death waits for none - are we aware of the infinite value of each passing moment
- With every fall, every frustration, every failure, an opportunity to overcome these is presented (a young Bruce Wayne falls into the well) - aptitude does not enable us to do this, attitude does
- Just as a fire consumes a forest and all life within so too anger consumes a person and all life within - for anger, revenge is fuel and forgiveness is water
- Justice and revenge are as similar as selflessness and selfishness - compassion is what differentiates a hero from a villain (Batman vs. Ra's al Ghul)
- If the fortunate do not help the unfortunate they are just as unfortunate - relative success is win-lose (material) whereas real success is win-win (spiritual)
- What we do defines us (Bruce Wayne's father) - what would the world be like if the good did nothing
- To be a ninja one needs to mind one's surroundings, be patient, have confidence - to be a seeker one needs to mind one's surroundings, be patient, have confidence
- A visionary sacrifices the lesser for the greater - a fool compromises on the greater for the lesser
- A true server of society does so for the sake of service (changing oneself) not for the sake of society (changing others) - such a person is intrinsically inspired
- 'I never said say thank you.' (Commissioner Gordon) - 'And you'll never have to.' (Batman)

'If you learn, teach, if you get, give.' --- Maya Angelou

Inspire-Love-Be