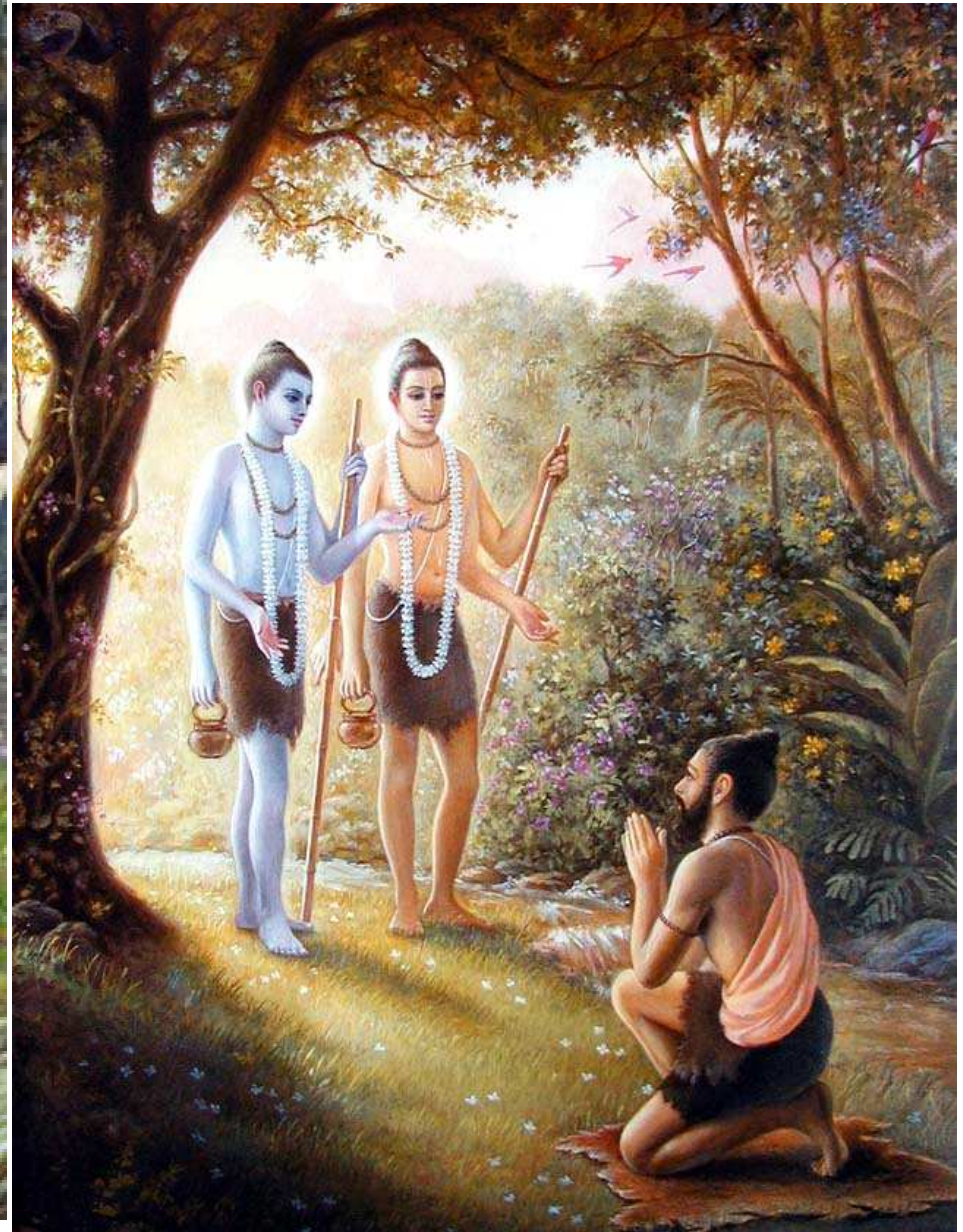


**Markandeya Rishi was a great devotee of Lord Sri Hari.
He worshiped Lord Hari for six lifetimes of Manu.**



King Indra being envious of the Rishi, sent Kamadeva and his associates to interrupt Markandeya Rishi's austerities. But the Rishi defeated them by the potency generated from his penance.

Pleased with Markandeya Rishi, Lord Hari appeared before him in the form of Nara-Narayana.



Lord Hari granted Markandeya Rishi's desire to see the Lord's illusory energy.

One day, the water of devastation suddenly flooded the three worlds.

With great difficulty Markandeya Rishi moved about for a long time in this water, until he came upon a banyan tree.

Inside the boy's body, Markandeya Rishi was amazed to see the entire universe just as it had been before the annihilation.

After a moment the sage was carried out by the force of the child's exhalation and hurled back into the ocean of annihilation.

Then, seeing that the child on the leaf was actually Sri Hari, Markandeya Rishi tried to embrace Him. But at that moment Lord Hari disappeared.

Then the waters of annihilation disappeared and Markandeya Rishi found himself in his own ashrama, just as before.



Lying upon a leaf of that tree was an infant boy glowing with a charming effulgence. As Markandeya Rishi moved toward the leaf, he was pulled by the boy's inhalation.

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Once, as Lord Shiva saw Markandeya Rishi, merged in meditation and appeared before the sage to grant him the result of his austerities.



Markandeya Rishi begged for unflinching devotion to the Supreme Lord, Sri Hari. Satisfied with the Rishi, Lord Shiva awarded him many boons.



Once upon a time, King Satyavrata, was performing austerity on the bank of the Krtamala River. While offering oblations of water with the palm of his hand, he found a small fish.



The fish grew bigger and bigger, so the the King put the fish into the sea.



In due course of time, annihilation took place, and the King saw a large golden fish appeared in the ocean of inundation.



The King and the learned brahmanas and saintly persons saw a boat coming near and they all boarded it.



The King anchored the boat to the horn of the fish and offered prayers to the Lord. The Supreme Lord taught them all about Vedic knowledge from the core of the heart.