Shri Adi Sankaracharya's
Guru ashtakam
Sareeram suroopam thadha va kalathram,
Yasacharu chithram dhanam meru thulyam,
Gurorangri padme manaschenna lagnam,
Thatha kim Thatha Kim, Thatha kim Thatha kim. 1

The body is beautiful and also the consort. The glory is variegated and beautiful. The wealth is comparable to Mount Meru. But if there is no mental devotion in the lotus-feet of preceptor, then what, then what, then what, then what ?

Kalathram Dhanam puthrapothradhi sarvam,
Gruham Bandhavam Sarvamethadhi jatham,
Gurorangri padme manaschenna lagnam,
Thatha kim Thatha Kim, Thatha kim Thatha kim. 2

The consort, the wealth, the sons and grandsons, the home, the relatives, and all these are indeed coming into existence. But if there is no mental devotion in the lotus-feet of preceptor, then what, then what, then what, then what ?

Shadangadhi vedo Mukhe sasra vidhya ,
Kavithwadhi gadhyam , supadhyam karothi,
Gurorangri padme manaschenna lagnam,
Thatha kim Thatha Kim, Thatha kim Thatha kim. 3

The Veda with all six parts, the knowledge-treatise, and the state of poetic prowess resides in the mouth. One composes beautiful prose and poetry. But if there is no mental devotion in the lotus-feet of preceptor, then what, then what, then what, then what ?

Videseshu manya, swadeseshu danya,
Sadachara vrutheshu matho na cha anya,
Gurorangri padme manaschenna lagnam,
Thatha kim Thatha Kim, Thatha kim Thatha kim. 4

In foreign countries, one is respected. In own country, one is noble. One is always engrossed in the circle of righteous duties, and nothing else. But if there is no mental devotion in the lotus-feet of preceptor, then what, then what, then what, then what ?
Kshma mandale bhoopa bhoopala vrundai,
Sada sevitham yasya padaravindam,
Gurorangri padme manaschenna lagnam,
Thatha kim Thatha Kim, Thatha kim Thatha kim. 5

Ones lotus-feet may always be served by the group of kings in meeting halls. But if there is no mental devotion in the lotus-feet of preceptor, then what, then what, then what, then what?

Yaso me gatham bikshu dana prathapa,
Jagadwathu sarvam kare yah prasdath,
Gurorangri padme manaschenna lagnam,
Thatha kim Thatha Kim, Thatha kim Thatha kim. 6

In all directions, the glory of me can be gone by the power of donation. By the grace in my hands, all worldly objects are available. But if there is no mental devotion in the lotus-feet of preceptor, then what, then what, then what, then what?

Na Bhoge, na yoge, Na vaa vajirajou,
Na kantha sukhe naiva vitheshu chitham,
Gurorangri padme manaschenna lagnam,
Thatha kim Thatha Kim, Thatha kim Thatha kim. 7

The mind is not in pleasures, not in Yoga, not in knighthood, not in the face of beauties, and not even in the business. But if there is no mental devotion in the lotus-feet of preceptor, then what, then what, then what, then what?

Aranye na vaa swasya gehe na karye,
Na dehe mano varthathemath vanarghye,
Gurorangri padme manaschenna lagnam,
Thatha kim Thatha Kim, Thatha kim Thatha kim. 8.1

My mind is not present in forest, or in personal deeds, in duties, in body, or in trifle things. But if there is no mental devotion in the lotus-feet of preceptor, then what, then what, then what, then what?

Anarghani rathnani mukthani samyak,
Samalingitha kamini yamineeshu,
Gurorangri padme manaschenna lagnam,
Thatha kim Thatha Kim, Thatha kim Thatha kim. 8.2

Even if you have priceless jewel collection,
Even if you have an embracing passionate lover,
If your mind does not bow at the Guru’s feet,
What is the use? What is the use? And What is the use?
Phalasruthi:
Guror ashtakam ya padeth punya dehi,
Yathir bhoopathir , brahmacharee cha gehi,
Labeth vanchithartham padam brahma samgnam,
Guruor uktha vakye,mano yasya lagnam

Result of reading:
the one whose mind is devoted to the statements of preceptor is
that blessed one who reads this octet to the Guru,
Be he a virtuous one, king, bachelor or householder
If his mind gets attached to the words of the Guru,
He would get the great gift of attainment of Brahman.

Om Guru Om Guru Om
http://omshivam.wordpress.com/