

# OCEAN OF NECTAR: ISSUE 225

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## 1. BHAGAVAD GITA AS IT IS



Chapter 8 describes attaining the Supreme. By remembering Lord Krishna in devotion throughout one's life, and especially at the time of death, one can attain to His supreme abode, beyond the material world. Actually the thought that comes to the mind at the time of death accordingly one gets his next life. The thought at the time of death leads us to our next birth. Therefore Krishna is saying if at the time of death we can remember Him then we will go back to Him. The best way to go back to Krishna is to remember Krishna at the time of death. The best way therefore is to remember Krishna all the time so that at the time of death you will remember Him. If you do not practise remembering Krishna during your lifetime then how can you ever think that you will remember Krishna at the time of death? A person who never thinks of Krishna will he be able to think of Krishna at the time of death? Never! Then unless and until we remember Krishna at the time of death we will not be able to go back to Godhead. So what must we do? While we are alive just think of Krishna all the time. So if you can think of Krishna then maybe we will be able to remember Krishna at the time if death. Actually if we practise sincerely then Krishna will help. Prabhupada said that those who are rendering service very nicely Caitanya Mahaprabhu will come at the time of their death and take them back to Godhead. So Caitanya Mahaprabhu, Lord Nityananda and Srila Prabhupada will help us go back to Godhead.

### CONTENTS:

- Bhagavad Gita as it is,
- Srila Prabhupada Appreciation; and
- Guru Maharaja's instructions.

Chapter 9 The most confidential knowledge. Lord Krishna is the Supreme Godhead and the supreme object of worship. The soul is eternally related to Him through transcendental devotional service (bhakti). By reviving one's pure devotion one returns to Krishna in the spiritual realm. This is the sum and substance of the Bhagavad Gita. As I mentioned earlier, Krishna is not only God but the Supreme Personality of Godhead and we all are His parts and parcels. If we become connected to Krishna through loving devotional service or bhakti, by reviving our pure devotion we can enter and go back to the spiritual sky.

Chapter 10 The opulence of the Absolute. Krishna speaks about His opulence and this chapter is very important it's just that Srimad Bhagavatam originated from 4 verses. Bhagavad Gita also has 4 essential verses that summarises the teachings of Bhagavad Gita and they are the 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, these 4 verses of Chapter 10. These 4 verses are very important.

#### **BG 10.8**

**aham sarvasya prabhavo  
mattah arvam pravartate  
iti matva bhajanta mam  
bhudha bhava samanvitah**

#### **TRANSLATION**

**I am the source of all spiritual and material worlds. Everything emanates from Me. The wise who perfectly know this engage in My devotional service and worship Me with all their hearts.**

This is one very important consideration who is Krishna? God is the person who is the origin of everything and who is the shelter of everything, everything is resting on Him. The next point is the surrender and characteristics of a devotee

Krishna is describing who He is. The most important subject of Bhagavad Gita is the Supreme Personality of Godhead. The most important purpose of Bhagavad Gita is to understand God. Who is God? Definition of God is here. There are many other definitions in Vedic scriptures but this is a precise definition.

#### **BG 10.9**

**mac-citta mad gata prana  
bodhayantah parasparam  
kathayantas ca mam nityam  
tusyanti ca ramanti ca**

#### **TRANSLATION**

**The thoughts of My pure devotees' dwell in Me, their lives are fully devoted to My service, and they derive great satisfaction and bliss from always enlightening one another and conversing about Me.**

So these are the characteristics of a devotee. Then Krishna says how He favours His devotees.

#### **BG 10.10**

**tesam satata yuktanam  
bhajatam priti purvakam  
dadami buddhi yogam tam  
yena mam upayanti te**

#### **TRANSLATION**

**To those who are constantly devoted to serving Me with love, I give the understanding by which they can come to Me.**

So what happens when we become engaged in rendering devotional service unto Krishna? Krishna favours us with the understanding, Krishna reveals Himself to those who are constantly engaged in rendering service unto Him.

**BG 10.11**

**tesam evanukampartham  
aham ajnana jam tamah  
nasayamy atma bhava stho  
jnana dipena bhasvata**

**TRANSLATION**

**To show them special mercy, I, dwelling in their hearts, destroy with the shining lamp of knowledge the darkness born of ignorance.**

The living entities are in ignorance but when one becomes engaged in rendering devotional service unto Krishna wholeheartedly then Krishna out of His causeless mercy dispels the darkness by the light of knowledge. Krishna enlightens the devotee from within and thus the darkness of ignorance is removed and He gets to know the Supreme Personality of Godhead. In this way the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter is very very important.

In the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter Krishna reveals His universal form to Arjuna,

He shows how He is the centre, source and origin of everything. Krishna told Arjuna who He was but now Krishna is practically demonstrating. Krishna's words are not empty words. There are many people who claim that they are gods. There are so many babas and mas who claim that they are bhagavan but Krishna although He claimed here that He is God and now Krishna shows Arjuna. When someone comes and claims to be God then our first question to him is show us your universal form. Those cheaters will immediately be exposed. Most of the cheaters are intelligent, in order to cheat you have to be intelligent, unfortunately there intelligent is perverted. They may say in order to see the universal form you need special vision but the devotees can never be cheated and the devotees reply is Arjuna also needed the special vision and our Krishna gave Arjuna the special vision so you give us that special vision so that we can see your universal form. Krishna is God and can show the universal form, not only the universal form but every single action of Krishna is superhuman, wonderful and unique. Only He can do these things like when He was only 3 days old He killed the witch Putana, lifted Govardhan hill when he was only 7 years old and that also in His left hand on his little finger and kept it for 7 days.

People want to become Krishna or God so that they can dance with the Gopis. Gopi jana vallabha. These cheaters want to exploit. Prabhupada mentioned that everyone wants to be Gopi jana vallabha but they should first become Girivaradhari, lift the Govardhan hill first and then they can dance with the Gopis. Also when Krishna danced He didn't only dance with 1 or 2 gopis he danced with 16000 gopis, in Upanishads it was described that Krishna was dancing with millions of gopis 16000 being principle.

Krishna reveals His universal form so who can do that? Only the Supreme Personality of Godhead. All actions of Krishna were extremely wonderful and inconceivable. Prabhupada mentioned that Bhagavad Gita does not speak very much about the Supreme Personality of Godhead, why? Krishna feels ashamed to speak so much about Himself, like naturally a gentleman feels bad to blow his own trumpet so Krishna is feeling bad and is hesitating to say but still in order to give us benefit Krishna had to tell us, I am this and I am that. Sometimes He

hesitates to say and says *isvare sarva bhutanam* He doesn't say I am situated in everyone's heart; He says the Supreme Personality of Godhead is situated in everyone's heart. In the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter Krishna actually spoke a lot about Himself I am this and I am that in order to establish His position as Supreme Personality of Godhead and then Krishna is telling Arjuna, "I am telling you all of this because you are My devotee and My friend. A non-devotee would have not understood and I also feel very embarrassed to tell these things to a non-devotee but I am telling you because you are My friend." At the same time Krishna knew that this Bhagavad Gita is given for the benefit of mankind. Many people may question Krishna's identity as God therefore Krishna showed His universal form. Arjuna didn't want to see the universal form, we see in the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter Arjuna tells Krishna, "I don't want to see this form please, and this frightening form is very unpleasant to me." Krishna then transforms Himself into His 4-armed form and then His 2-armed form.

Chapter 12 describes devotional service. Bhakti-yoga, pure devotional service to Lord Krishna, is the highest and most expedient means for attaining pure love for Krishna, which is the highest end of spiritual existence. Those who follow this supreme path develop divine qualities.

Chapter 13 is jnana; knowledge and it is actually quite relevant like after one understood the process of devotional service then there is this relevant knowledge on how to situate himself firmly on the path of devotion. 13<sup>th</sup> chapter describes Nature, the Enjoyer, and Consciousness. One who understands the difference between the body, the soul and the Supersoul beyond them both attains liberation from this material world.

Chapter 14 The Three Modes of Material Nature. All embodied souls are under the control of the three modes, or qualities, of material nature: goodness, passion, and ignorance. Lord Krsna explains what these modes are, how they act upon us, how one transcends them, and the symptoms of one who has attained the transcendental state.

#### Chapter 15 The Yoga of the Supreme Person

The ultimate purpose of Vedic knowledge is to detach oneself from the entanglement of the material world and to understand Lord Krishna as the Supreme Personality of Godhead. One who understands Krishna's supreme identity surrenders unto Him and engages in His devotional service.

In order to become engaged in devotional service it's very important to understand Krishna's Supreme position.

#### Chapter 16 The Divine and Demoniatic Natures

It is very interesting one can immediately see what is divine and what is demoniac and we can see certain tendencies and characteristics within us how some are divine and some are completely demoniac. Actually divine and demoniac exists side by side within us but what we have to do is remove the demoniac and establish the divine.

#### Chapter 17 The Divisions of Faith

There are three types of faith, corresponding to and evolving from the three modes of material nature. Acts performed by those whose faith is in passion and ignorance yield only impermanent, material results, whereas acts performed in goodness, in accord with scriptural injunctions, purify the heart and lead to pure faith in Lord Krishna and devotion to Him.

Chapter 18 last chapter the conclusion of the Bhagavad Gita The Perfection of Renunciation

Arjuna actually asked in the beginning of that chapter, Krishna what is renunciation please explain?

Krishna explains there are 2 types of renunciation one is false renunciation and the other is real renunciation. False renunciation is to reject things which could be used in Krishna's service and helpful in our spiritual advancement therefore one should reject only what is detrimental to one's spiritual progress. Renunciation does not mean renouncing everything. You have to renounce whatever is bad and detrimental to our spiritual progress. Then we must learn to renounce the fruits of our activities and we must do so for the sake of pleasing the Supreme Personality of Godhead.

The last few verses of the 18<sup>th</sup> chapter are very nice you all know these verses.

**BG 18.66**

**sarva dharman parityajya  
mam ekam saranam vraja  
aham tvam sarva papebhyo  
moksaisyami ma sucah  
But here I am getting into  
BG 18.69**

**na ca tasman manusyesu  
kascin me Priya krttamah  
bhavita na ca me tasmad  
anyah priyataro bhuv**

**TRANSLATION**

**There is no servant in this world more dear to Me than he, nor will there ever be one more dear.**

Who is that? For one who explains the Supreme secret to the devotees, pure devotional service is guaranteed and at the end he will come back to Me. So those who preach this message of Bhagavad Gita to the devotees they are most dear to Krishna and Krishna guarantees that they will attain pure devotional service.

The last thing that Krishna tells in Bhagavad Gita is O son of Prtha, O conqueror of wealth have you heard this with an attentive mind? Is your ignorance and illusions now dispelled? So that is the last question that Krishna asks Arjuna and then what did Arjuna say?

**BG 18.73**

**Arjuna uvaca  
nasto mohah smrtir labdha  
tvat prasadan mayacyuta  
sthito smi gata sandehah  
karisye vacanamtava**

**TRANSLATION**

**Arjuna said: My dear Krishna, O infallible one, my illusion is now gone. I have regained my memory by Your mercy. I am now firm and free from doubt and am prepared to act according to Your instructions.**

Then Sanjaya is announcing the last words of Bhagavad Gita that is very very important:

**BG 18.78**

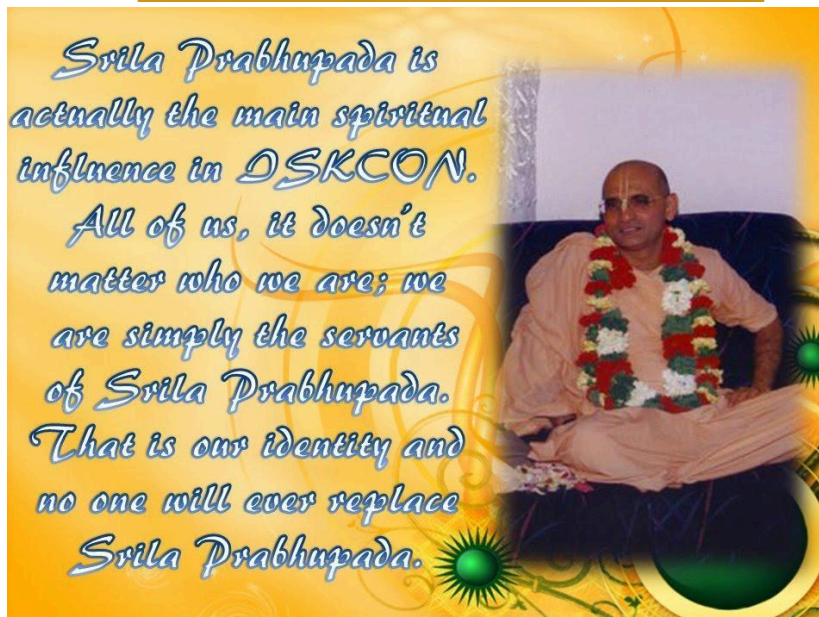
**yatra yogesvarah krsno  
yatra partho dhanur dharah  
tatra srir vijayo bhutir  
dhruva nitir matir mama**

## TRANSLATION

Wherever there is Krishna, the master of all mystics, and wherever there is Arjuna, the supreme archer, there will also certainly be opulence, victory, extraordinary power, and morality. That is my opinion.

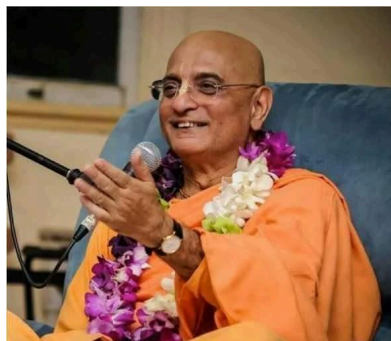
So wherever there is Krishna, the Supreme Personality of Godhead and there is Arjuna, His devotee there is bound to opulence; victory; extraordinary power; and morality. So this means wherever there is Supreme Personality of Godhead and His devotee these 4 things are bound to be there. There is bound to be opulence and a devotee will always be victorious, devotees will never be defeated, extraordinary power and morality. So, wherever there is the devotee of the Lord and the Supreme Personality of Godhead these 4 things are bound to be there. We can see that this Bhagavad Gita As it is, is the most important scripture we have and I wish you all the best in learning the Bhagavad Gita. Thank you all very much. Jai Srila Prabhupada.

## 2. SRILA PRABHUPADA APPRECIATION



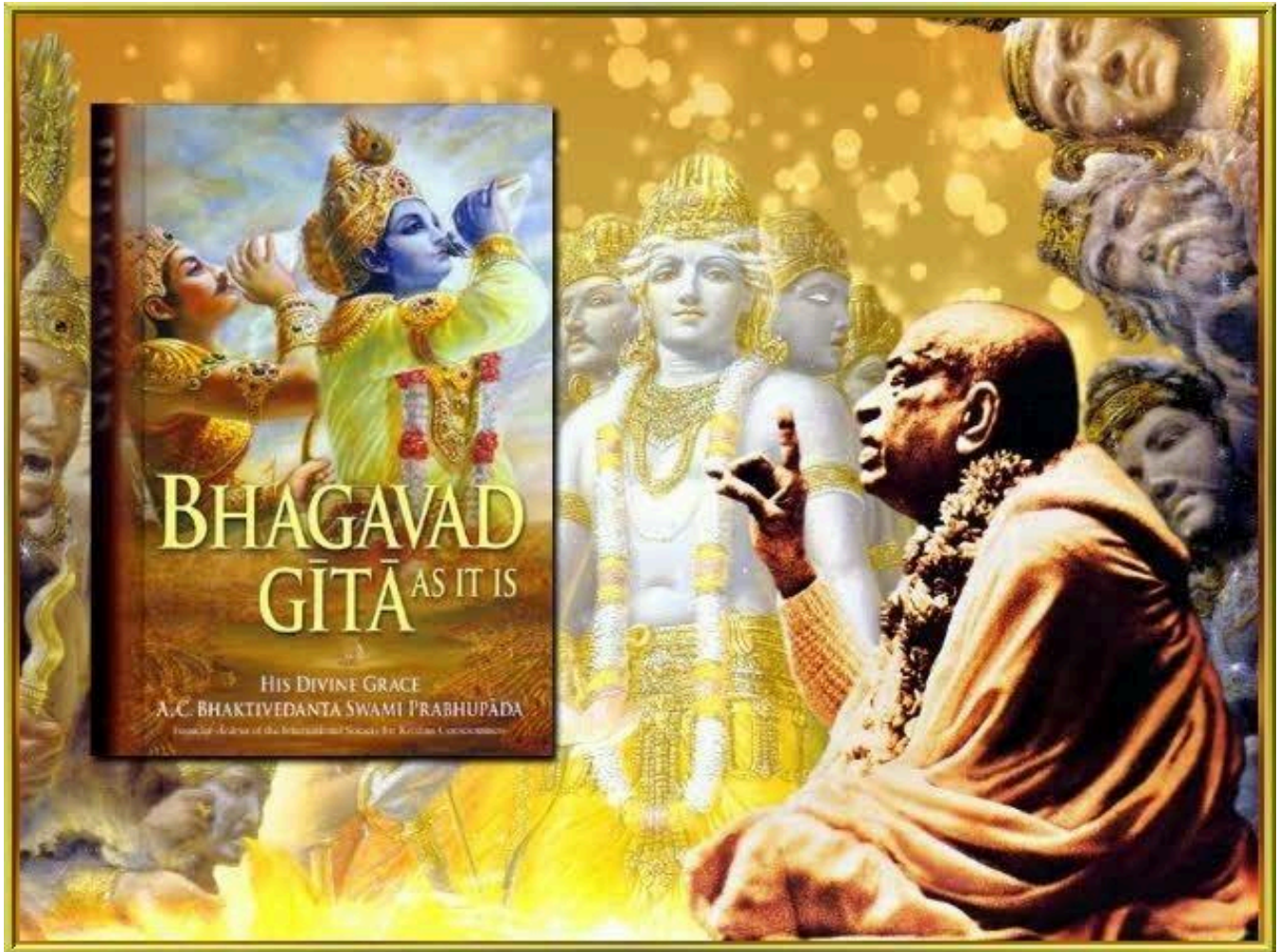
(Guru Maharaja quotes)

## 3. GURU MAHARAJA'S INSTRUCTIONS





We can see that this Bhagavad Gita As it is, is the most important scripture we have and I wish you all the best in learning the Bhagavad Gita.



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