

Sample questions for Srimad Bhagavatam Canto 8

8.1

When is monarchy effective. List the characteristics of an ideal leader with reference to 8.1.7 Discuss relevance of these qualities for iskcon preachers and leaders.

Explain with reference to 8.1.10, how the principles of spiritual communism can contribute to ISKCON and society in general.

“This is the sum and substance of our Krishna consciousness movement. We are simply requesting human society to follow in the footsteps of the teacher of Bhagavad Gita. Follow the instructions of Bhagavad Gita As It Is and your life will be successful” Discuss how this statement reflects Srila Prabhupada’s mood.

Srila Prabhupada writes in the purport to 8.1.29 “Therefore, it is the duty of the demigods, as well as kings and aides of governments to give full protection to the Vedic authority; otherwise human society will be in a chaotic condition in which there cannot be peace or prosperity.” Comment on the duties of leaders with regard to the above statement and the reasons why
Discuss how this statement reflects Srila Prabhupada’s mood and mission and give reference to verses from Cantos 1 to 6 and Bhakti Shastri material.

“Wherever a speaker holds discourses from these books and an audience hears him, this will create a good and auspicious situation”.
Discuss principles for personal application from the above statement.

8.2

From the purports in 8.2.4-6, comment on Srila Prabhupada’s statements with respect to accepting the right authority to gain perfect knowledge.

"Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam presents the total knowledge of the affairs of the universe. It not only describes this universe, but also takes into account the spiritual world beyond the universe. No one can challenge the Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam's descriptions of the material and spiritual worlds. " (14-19)
Give more examples about the superiority of the Srimad Bhagavatam as compared to other textbooks with respect to knowledge about the material and spiritual worlds.

"Our Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement has actually declared war against the illusory energy, in which all the living entities are rotting in a false understanding of civilization. The soldiers in this Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement must always possess physical strength, enthusiasm and sensual power. To keep themselves fit, they must therefore place

themselves in a normal condition of life. What constitutes a normal condition will not be the same for everyone, and therefore there are divisions of varṇāśrama." (30)

Explain Srila Prabhupada's mood through this statement. How is this statement relevant in your personal practice of Krishna consciousness.

8.3

"It is imperative, therefore, that all devotees in Kṛṣṇa consciousness practice chanting some mantra. Certainly, one should chant the Hare Kṛṣṇa mantra, which is the mahā-mantra, or great mantra, and also one should practice chanting cintāmaṇi-prakara-sadmasu or the Nṛsimha strotra (ito nṛsimhaḥ parato nṛsimho yato yato yāmi tato nṛsimhaḥ). Every devotee should practice in order to chant some mantra perfectly so that even though he may be imperfect in spiritual consciousness in this life, in his next life he will not forget Kṛṣṇa consciousness, even if he becomes an animal." (1)

Discuss the impact that this statement has on your personal practice of Krishna consciousness. Give reference to canto 8 chapters 1-4 and the bhakti shastras.

Explain with examples from the previous cantos and specifically with reference to the chapter, the following statement by Srila Prabhupada; "Sometimes, when there is no alternative, a pure devotee, being fully dependent on the mercy of the Supreme Lord, prays for some benediction. But in such a prayer there is also regret." (20- 21)

Reflect on your own experience on getting direction from the Lord giving reference from Srila Prabhupada's purport in 8.3.28

"A devotee does not consider a dangerous position to be dangerous, for in such a dangerous position he can fervently pray to the Lord in great ecstasy. Thus a devotee regards danger as a good opportunity."

Discuss a devotee's attitude towards danger, with reference to the response of Gajendra (SB 8.3.32). How can you personally apply these principles?

8.4

With reference to 8.4.11-13 and previous cantos and bhakti shastras, explain what is the mood of a devotee with respect to facing reversals in life?

With reference to 8.4.13, explain the difference between salvation for a devotee and an impersonalist

"After initiation, therefore, a disciple should be extremely careful not to commit again any sinful act that might cause difficulties for himself and

the spiritual master. Before the Deity, before the fire, before the spiritual master and before the Vaiṣṇavas, the honest disciple promises to refrain from all sinful activity. Therefore he must not again commit sinful acts and thus create a troublesome situation."

Discuss the relevance of this statement for your personal practice of Krishna consciousness from 8.4.15.

Chapter 8.5

What general principles can we derive from the incident of Indra's disrespecting Durvasa Muni? Respond to reference with 8.5.16

"Srila Rupa Gosvami, for example, left his ministership and went to Vrindavana for the benefit of the entire world (lokanam hita-karinau). This is the nature of a saintly person or demigod."

Discuss the relevance of this statement for your personal practice of Krishna consciousness from 8.5.19-20.

"When Kṛṣṇa appeared, He gave His orders, and when Kṛṣṇa Himself appeared as a devotee, as śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu, He showed us the path by which to cross the ocean of Kali-yuga... Our duty, therefore, is to follow the instructions of śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu and preach the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement all over the world very sincerely."

Discuss how this statement reflects Srila Prabhupada's mood and mission and give reference to verses from Cantos 1 to 6 and Bhakti Shastri material. (8.5.23)

What general principles from this verse in regard seeing the Lord and their relevance for preaching from 8.5.25?

"Unfortunately, modern so-called scientists, who do not fully understand the moon, describe the moon as being full of deserts. Since the moon is the source for our vegetation, how can the moon be a desert?.. therefore we cannot possibly accept that the moon is a desert." (34)

Comment the significance of Srila Prabhupada using the adjective 'so-called' for the scientists with reference from the verse.

"Nonetheless, in the presence of so many enemies, this movement is progressing, going forward without impediments. If the devotees continue to spread this movement, dedicating life and soul to the lotus feet of

Kṛṣṇa, no one will be able to check it. The movement will go forward without limits. Chant Hare Krishna!" (47)

Give at least 3 examples from cantos 1-6 that demonstrate this principles of dedicating oneself to Krishna to overcome impediments.

8.6

Discuss the significance of Srila Prabhupada's statement that the devotee will never command the Lord to appear with reference from the purport. (13)

" Kṛṣṇa, by His grace, will supply whatever we need in executing our devotional service. In the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement, we simply have to execute the order of Kṛṣṇa and guru. Then all necessities will be supplied by Kṛṣṇa, even if we do not ask for them." (14)

Discuss the relevance for expanding the Krishna consciousness movement giving reference from appropriate verses from the Bhakti Sastras.

Select at least four statements from the verses and purports of this chapter and explain how they help to deepen your understanding and explanation of Lord Siva.

(M&M) & (PeA) "If one has been recognized by the Lord, even if he does not ask the Lord for anything, the Lord, who is within everyone, supplies him whatever he wants." (44)

Discuss how this statement reflects Srila Prabhupada's mood and mission.

8.8

"As long as human society continues to allow cows to be regularly killed in slaughterhouses, there cannot be any question of peace and prosperity." Discuss how this purport reflects Srila Prabhupada's purport giving reference to at least one other section from cantos 1-6 in your response.

"While the demons fight to satisfy their own senses, devotees engage in devotional service to satisfy the senses of the Lord. The members of the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement must be alert in regard to this point, and then their preaching of the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement will be successful." (38)

Select and explain what these statements mean to you and how they can guide your life.

8.9

What lessons regarding social values can be drawn from Mohini murti's statements about women in verses 8.9.9 and 8.9.10. Discuss the relevance of these values reference for ISKCON and society at large. Give reference to 8.9.9 and 8.9.10 in your response.

"Therefore a devotee is always distinct from the karmīs, although the karmīs may dress like devotees." (28) Discuss the significance of this statement for expanding the Krishna consciousness movement with reference to the behaviour of Rahu and Ketu.

"The place, the time, the cause, the purpose, the activity and the ambition were all the same for both the demigods and the demons, but the demigods achieved one result and the demons another." Explain the statement with reference to text 28 verse and purport.(28)

"Activities performed for the satisfaction of Kṛṣṇa are permanent and good, but asat activity, although sometimes celebrated as philanthropy, altruism, nationalism, this "ism" or that "ism," will never produce any permanent result and is therefore all bad." (29)
Comment on Srila Prabhupada's evaluation of this 'ism' or that 'ism' being bad in relation to the incident of Mohini murti's incarnation. Give appropriate references from the bhakti sastras in your response.

8.10,11

"The modern attempt to go to the moon is also an attempt by inferior men to go to Svargaloka by artificial, mechanical means. This attempt cannot be successful. From this statement of Indra it appears that anyone attempting to go to the higher planetary systems by mechanical means, which are here called māyā, is condemned to go the hellish planets in the lower portion of the universe." (11.5)

Discuss the relevance of this statement in relation to efforts of modern space travel. Give appropriate references from the Isopanishad and Bhagavad Gita.

(PeA)"Following this advice of Kṛṣṇa's, one should not be morose or unhappy because of circumstantial changes. This is the symptom of a devotee. A devotee carries out his duty in Kṛṣṇa consciousness and is never unhappy in awkward circumstances. He has full faith that in such circumstances, Kṛṣṇa protects His devotee."

Discuss the relevance of this statement for your own practice of Krishna consciousness and give appropriate references from the previous cantos and the bhakti shastras.

(11.8)

"Everyone in Kṛṣṇa consciousness should execute his duty, without regard for victory or defeat. One must execute his duty as ordered by Kṛṣṇa or His representative, the spiritual master." (11.48)

Discuss the relevance with reference to the example of Bali Maharaja in this chapter. Give appropriate references from the bhakti sastras in your response.

"In many descriptions in Vedic literature it is found that mountains also fly in the sky with wings. When such mountains are dead, they fall to the ground, where they stay as very large dead bodies." (11.12)

Comment on this statement in relation to modern empirical perceptions of the world. Give reference to the bhakti sastras in your reference.

(closed book)

8.12

"A flower accepted for one's sense gratification is material, but when the same flower is offered to the Supreme Personality of Godhead by a devotee, it is spiritual. Food taken and cooked for oneself is material, but food cooked for the Supreme Lord is spiritual prasāda. This is a question of realization." (8)

Reflect on this statement in relation to your attitude to your practice of devotional service. Give reference to appropriate verses from the Srimad Bhagavatam and bhakti sastras.

"There are so many philosophers trying to understand the Absolute Truth, but since they are situated in the base qualities of material nature and are addicted to so many bad habits, like drinking, meat-eating, illicit sex and gambling, how can they conceive of the Supreme Personality of Godhead? For them it is impossible. For the present day, the pāncarātrikī-vidhi as enunciated by Nārada Muni is the only hope." (10)

Discuss this statement in relation to the development of the Krishna consciousness movement in the present and future.

Give reference to the Srimad Bhagavatam, cantos 1 to 8 and Bhakti sastras.

"When a devotee becomes a little proud, the Supreme Lord sometimes exhibits His supreme power to dissipate the devotee's misunderstanding." (38)

Discuss the principles behind the exhibition of supreme power. Give examples from Srimad Bhagavatam cantos 1-8 with reference to verses and p which demonstrate these principles.

(PeA) Srila Prabhupada mentions in the purport "those who maintain a demoniac mentality are bewildered by the beauty of a woman, but those who are advanced in Kṛṣṇa consciousness, or even those on the platform of goodness, are not bewildered." (15)

Further clarify the circumstances that Srila Prabhupada implies by the word 'bewildered'.

Discuss the significance of this statement in your practice of Krishna consciousness. Give appropriate references from Srimad Bhagavatam and bhakti sastras.

"If one can remain a brahmacārī, he saves himself so much trouble in material existence." (35)

How to ensure this principle remains significant in ISKCON's future development. Give appropriate references from the teachings of Prahlad Maharaja in Canto 7 and bhakti sastras in your response.

"But even though Lord Śiva associates with māyā, he is not influenced." Explain this with reference to this verse and purport.(39)

8.13

"We are now in the period of Vaivasvata Manu, the seventh Manu, and the eighth Manu will come into existence after many millions of years. But Śukadeva Gosvāmī, having heard from authorities, foretells that the eighth Manu will be Sāvārṇi... Śāstra can foretell what will happen millions and millions of years in the future."

Discuss how you would present this statement in modern colleges and schools "Srimad Bhagavatam must be introduced in the schools and colleges" considering Srila Prabhupada's comment in the preface. Give appropriate references from the bhakti shastras in your response.

(11)

Srila Prabhupada writes in the purport to text 4 "following in the footsteps of śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu, who five hundred years ago inaugurated the movement of saikirtana, kṛṣṇa-kīrtana, we are trying to introduce this movement, according to superior orders, all over the world. (14.4)

Select additional statements from 14.4 verse and purport which reflect Srila Prabhupada's mood and mission and discuss how these statements influence your approach to Krishna consciousness.

"This is the process of disciplic succession. Following the same process, the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement is teaching the principles of Bhagavad-gītā as it is, without deviation, all over the world... In other

words, one should become a guru and preach the Lord's instructions all over the world for the peace and prosperity of humanity." (14.5)

Discuss the relevance of this statement in relation to your own practice of Krishna consciousness. Give references from the Bhakti shastras in your response.

8.16

(M&M) "In other words, all living entities in this material world are more or less devoid of spiritual education. The Vedic civilization, however, is based on spiritual education, and spiritual education is the special basis on which Bhagavad-gītā was spoken to Arjuna... Therefore the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement is trying to give the true light of spiritual existence to all living entities." (19) Discuss Srila Prabhupada's vision for the Krishna consciousness movement as described in this statement and comment on how you can personally work towards fulfilling this vision.

"One who teaches the instructions of Vāsudeva, Bhagavad-gītā, is as good as vāsudevaṁ jagad-gurum. But when one who does not teach this instruction- as it is- declares himself jagad-guru, he simply cheats the public. Kṛṣṇa is jagad-guru, and one who teaches the instruction of Kṛṣṇa as it is, on behalf of Kṛṣṇa, may be accepted as jagad-guru. One who manufactures his own theories cannot be accepted; he becomes jagad-guru falsely." (20)

Discuss the relevance for the future development of the Krishna consciousness movement. Give reference to appropriate statements from the bhakti shastras.

"The Māyāvāda philosophy of accepting a poor man as Nārāyaṇa is the most envious and atheistic movement in Vedic culture. This mentality should be completely given up." (55)

Explain this statement with reference to this verse, purport and appropriate references from cantos 1-8.

"These are authorized activities, and if the members of the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement stick to these principles, they will achieve the same result one gains by observing the payovrata ceremony. (60) Explain this statement with reference to the pastime of Kashapa and Aditi. Discuss the relevance of this statement for congregational preaching.

8.17,18

"Even the Supreme Personality of Godhead does not interfere when one is protected by a brāhmaṇa... Therefore if brāhmaṇas favor someone, the Lord does not interfere, nor can anyone interfere with the happiness of such a person." (17.16)

Discuss the significance of this statement, give reference to the particular incident. Discuss how this principle is exemplified in other places in the Srimad Bhagavatam Cantos 1-8. Give appropriate references from the bhakti sastras in your response.

"Actually, however, fire belongs neither to the wood nor to the wind; it is always different from both. Similarly, here it is to be understood that the union of Kāśyapa Muni and Aditi was not like the sexual intercourse of ordinary human beings. The Supreme Personality of Godhead has nothing to do with the human secretions of sexual intercourse. He is always completely aloof from such material combinations." (17.23)

Discuss the principles referred to by this analogy in relation to the pastime. Give reference to this verse.

"Among the planets, the first is Sūrya, the sun, not the moon. Therefore, according to the Vedic version, the modern astronomer's proposition that the moon is nearest to the earth should not be accepted. The chronological order in which people all over the world refer to the days of the week- Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday- corresponds to the Vedic order of the planets and thus circumstantiates the Vedic version." (18.5)

Discuss how you would present this statement in modern colleges and schools "Srimad Bhagavatam must be introduced in the schools and colleges" considering Srila Prabhupada's comment in the preface. Give appropriate references from the bhakti shastras in your response.

8.19

"Therefore the Vedic culture or brahminical culture teaches one how to be satisfied with possessing the minimum necessities in life. To teach this highest culture, varṇāśrama-dharma is recommended." (21)

How is this statement relevant for the future development of the Krishna consciousness movement and discuss specifically its application in the circumstances of world pandemic situation.

"In human society, therefore, the brahminical culture, kṣatriya culture and vaiśya culture must be maintained, and people must be taught how to be satisfied with only what they need. In modern civilization there is no such education; everyone tries to possess more and more, and everyone is dissatisfied and unhappy. The Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement is therefore establishing various farms, especially in America, to show how

to be happy and content with minimum necessities of life and to save time for self-realization." (21)

Discuss the effect that ISKCON's farm communities have had on showing humanity how to be happy and content with minimum necessities in life. Comment on how ISKCON's farming projects can be further effective. Give reference to 1st canto verses and purports in your response.

"Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī taught us by his own example by using fifty percent of his accumulated wealth for Kṛṣṇa, twenty-five percent for his own self, and twenty-five percent for the members of his family... This is a śāstric injunction." (37)

Discuss the relevance of this for the Krishna consciousness movement.

8.20

Draw general principles with regard to guru disciple relationship from this pastime of Bali Maharaja and Shukracarya with reference to appropriate references to verses and purports from this section.

Srila Prabhupada writes in the purport to text 8.8.8 "The duration of one's life is extremely short, but if in that short lifetime one can do something that enhances his good reputation, that may continue to exist for many millions of years." Discuss Srila Prabhupada's advise regarding reputation in relation to the principles of pure devotional service as given by Srila Rupa Goswami in Bhakti Rasamrita Sindhu. Give appropriate references to this section and the bhakti sastras in your response.

Explain how one may consider this statement to be incompatible with Srila Rupa Goswamis...explain with

"Anyone cared for by Lord Viṣṇu does not need to care about anyone else." (15)

Discuss how this statement can be misused or taken out of context. What would be the consequences of such misuse. Explain the proper application of this principle in Krishna consiocusness with reference to this section.

8.21

"But although Bali Mahārāja had lost everything, he was fixed in his determination to satisfy Vāmanadeva, the Supreme Personality of Godhead. " (28)

Draw lessons from this incident of Bali Maharaja relavant for Vaishnavas dealing with loss in life. Give reference to this section and other relevant sections from the Srimad Bhagavatam in your response.

8.21

"Bali Mahārāja considered the Supreme Personality of Godhead a better friend to the demons than to the demigods..." (5)
Explain with reference to this section from the Srimad Bhagavatam.

"It is by the mercy of the Lord that one gets all material opulence, but if such material opulence causes one to become puffed up and forget the process of self-realization, the Lord certainly takes all the opulence away." (16)
Explain this principle with reference to this section and other sections of the Srimad Bhagavatam.

"If this kind of civilization continues, the time will soon come when the Supreme Personality of Godhead will take away all the material opulences. Then people will come to their senses." (17)
Discuss the import of Srila Prabhupada's statement with relation to world pandemic and other modern catastrophic circumstances. (Give references to appropriate references from this section.)

(FC) & (PeA) "Thus Bali Mahārāja could understand that the Lord had some hidden purpose in punishing him. Consequently he was neither unhappy nor ashamed because of the awkward position in which he had been." (7)
Discuss the relevance of this example of the Lord punishing Bali Maharaja for your own practice of devotional service. Give reference to this section of Bali Maharaja in your reference.

Select statements from the section of Bali Maharaja and Vamanadeva relevant for your own practice of Krishna consciousness.

(M&M) "Unfortunately, there is no institution in human society for education on this subject. People are kept in darkness about the goal of life..." (9)
Discuss the role Srimad Bhagavatam plays in the mission of Srila Prabhupada with reference to this section giving references to appropriate verses from the Srimad Bhagavatam.

"Thus there is a great need for the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement for the benefit of innocent people who are being carried away by propaganda of such demons. If the present status quo is allowed to continue, people will certainly suffer more and more under the leadership of these demoniac agnostics." (20)
Discuss ways that you can contribute to benefitting innocent people by saving them from the propaganda of the demoniac people. Give reference to this section of Srimad Bhagavatam optionally in your response.

Draw vaishnava principles and qualities from the activities of Bali Maharaja in this section of Srimad Bhagavatam. Draw specific statements from verses and purports from this section and discuss how they inspire you to cultivate these principles.

"Unfortunately, when modern scientists try to explore other planets they see nothing but rocks and sand. Of course, they may go on their frivolous excursions, but the students of the Vedic literature will never believe them or give them any credit for exploring other planets." (32)

How would you explain Srila Prabhupada's evaluation of modern scientific interplanetary exploration as frivolous excursions to a modern audience.

Select statements from the pastime of Lord Vamanadeva and Bali Maharaja and discuss their relevance for devotee's financial dealings. Give appropriate references from the previous cantos of Srimad Bhagavatam and the bhakti sastras.

8.23

(PeA) & (M&M) "Therefore Śrīla Jīva Gosvāmī has recommended that although one should take care to follow all the principles in every kind of spiritual activity, especially in worship of the Deity, there is still a chance of discrepancies, and one should compensate for this by chanting the holy name of the Supreme Personality of Godhead. In our Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement we therefore give special stress to the chanting of the Hare Kṛṣṇa mantra in all activities." (16)

Discuss the significance of Srila Prabhupada drawing lessons for our Krishna consciousness movement from the statements of Shukracarya from this section of Srimad Bhagavatam with reference to verses 8.23.15-17

Drawing from 8.23.29 verse and purport, discuss statements which reflect Srila Prabhupada's mood in preaching to scientists. Discuss ways that Srila Prabhupada's mood in preaching to the scientists can be perpetuated for ISKCON's future scientific preaching.

8.24

"The representative of the Supreme Personality of Godhead who acts to spread Kṛṣṇa consciousness is also guided by the Supreme Lord to act properly in executing the Lord's order. Such a person may appear to be an ordinary human being, but because he acts on behalf of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, the supreme spiritual master, he is not to be neglected as ordinary." (46)

Discuss appropriate application of this principle in ISKCON's multi-guru environment wherein gurus may have varying opinions. In your response, give at least four references to previous cantos and the bhakti sastras.

"One cannot become a guru if he does not know what the Personality of Godhead Kṛṣṇa or His incarnation wants. The mission of the guru is the

mission of the Supreme Personality of Godhead: to spread Kṛṣṇa consciousness all over the world." (48)

Discuss the relevance of this statement for your own practice of Krishna consciousness. Give appropriate references from the previous cantos and bhakti sastras.

Canto 9

9.1 & 9.2

(M&M) " Therefore, in the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement, we are trying to train some brāhmaṇas to guide human society. Because at present there is a scarcity of brāhmaṇas, the brain of human society is lost." (2.24)

Discuss the role Srimad Bhagavatam plays in achieving this aspect of the Krishna consciousness movement. Give reference to cantos 1-8 in your response.

9.3

(AMI) "... a woman must be trained to be submissive to the will of her husband. Westerners contend that this is a slave mentality for the wife, but factually it is not; it is the tactic by which a woman can conquer the heart of her husband, however irritable or cruel he may be." (10)

Explain how a wife's submission to the will of the husband is not slave mentality. Give reference to this section and previous cantos of the Srimad Bhagavatam.

9.4

"Citizens under the guidance of a Kṛṣṇa conscious king will become devotees, and then there will be no need to enact new laws every day to reform the way of life in the state..." (21)

Give evidence from cantos 1-8 of Srimad Bhagavatam showing advantages of Krishna conscious monarchies as compared to modern day democracies.

"The Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement is an attempt to increase the number of pure devotees of the Supreme Lord more and more. It is certain that a devotee who helps in this endeavor to satisfy the Supreme Personality of Godhead becomes indirectly a controller of the Supreme Lord." (65)

Drawing from verse 65 text and purport, discuss how a devotee indirectly becomes a controller of the Supreme Lord. Give reference to at least three additional examples of this principles from cantos 1-8 of the Srimad Bhagavatam in your response.

(PeA) "One who is advanced in devotional service has no attachment for material things for sense enjoyment, but for preaching, to spread the glories of the Lord, he accepts such things without attachment..

Everything can be used to the extent that it can be engaged in Kṛṣṇa's service." (27)

Discuss this principle with specific reference to the activities of Ambarish Maharaja, and other examples of devotees demonstrating these principles from cantos 1-8. Give appropriate reference to the bhakti sastras in your response.

"a devotee should learn how to tolerate all such awkward positions in this world. Devotees are often tortured by nondevotees, yet the pure devotee, depending fully on the mercy of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, is never disturbed..." (47)

Discuss this principle with specific reference to the activities of Ambarish Maharaja, and other examples of devotees demonstrating these principles from cantos 1-8. Give appropriate reference to the bhakti sastras in your response.

9.5

"Western philosophers sometimes think that the original cause of creation was a chunk that exploded. If one thinks of this chunk as the total material energy, the mahat-tattva, one can understand that the chunk was agitated by the glance of the Lord, and thus the Lord's glance is the original cause of material creation. " (5)

Elaborate in more detail with appropriate references to previous cantos from Srimad Bhagavatam and Bhagavad Gita verses and purports as found in the Bhakti Shastri texts.

Anyone against the Supreme Personality of Godhead and His devotees is called a demon." (6) Discuss appropriate and inappropriate application of this statement in modern preaching scenarios. Give reference to the bhakti sastras.

"A Vaiṣṇava can be understood by how much he is favored by the Supreme Personality of Godhead in terms of his inconceivable activities." (20)

Expand upon this statement with reference to the activities of Ambarish Maharaja and other examples from previous cantos. Give reference to specific verses and purports in your response.

"When Durvāsā Muni was persecuted by the Sudarśana cakra, however, his intelligence developed." (20) Briefly describe the interaction between Durvasa Muni and Ambarish maharaja and describe Durvasa Muni's development of consciousness as described in this statement. Give reference to verses and purports from this section of Srimad Bhagavatam in your response

9.6

"The Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement is creating many centers just to create devotees so that by associating with the members of such a center people will automatically become uninterested in material affairs. Although this is an ambitious proposal, this association is proving effective by the mercy of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu."

Discuss the principles of sadhu-sanga as implied in the above statement. Apart from creating centers of the Krishna consciousness movement, in what other ways can the association of the members of the Krishna consciousness movement affect people in general. Give appropriate reference from the bhakti-sastras in your response.

"Women are not considered very powerful in following spiritual principles, but if a woman is fortunate enough to get a suitable husband who is spiritually advanced and if she always engages in his service, she also gets the same benefit as her husband." (55)

Substantiate the above statements with reference to Srimad Bhagavatam from the current section and previous cantos and bhakti sastris texts.
9.9

"Sometimes the spiritual master, after accepting a disciple, must take charge of that disciple's past sinful activities and, being overloaded, must sometimes suffer if not fully then partially for the sinful acts of the disciple. Every disciple, therefore, must be very careful not to commit sinful activities after initiation." (5)

Discuss the relevance of this principle in relation to acting as a disciple, a preacher and a mentor in the Krishna consciousness movement. Give reference to appropriate statements from Srimad Bhagavatam and the bhakti sastras in your response.

"Hundreds and thousands of animals are killed in slaughterhouses, and no one cares about them, but the killing of even one human being is taken very seriously. Why? Because the human form of body is extremely important in executing the mission of life." (28)

Discuss the significance of this statement in relation to Srila Prabhupada's mood and mission

"The modern scientific theory that life is a combination of chemicals is nonsense; scientists cannot manufacture living beings, even like those born from eggs. The idea that scientists can develop a chemical situation resembling that of an egg and bring life from it is nonsensical. Their theory that a chemical combination can have life may be accepted, but these rascals cannot create such a combination." (31)

Discuss how will you present this statement to a modern scientific audience. Give reference from the Srimad Bhagavatam and the bhakti sastras in your response.

"This is an example of destiny. King Saudāsa was condemned by the curse of Vasiṣṭha, and therefore even though he was well qualified he could not restrain himself from becoming a tigerlike Rākṣasa, for this was his

destiny. Destiny is extremely strong, but one can change destiny if one comes to the platform of Kṛṣṇa consciousness." (33)

Discuss the principles implied in the above statement in relation to your own life in Krishna consciousness.

9.10

"Modern Rākṣasas, posing as educationally advanced merely because they have doctorates, have tried to prove that Lord Rāmacandra is not the Supreme Personality of Godhead but an ordinary person. But those who are learned and spiritually advanced will never accept such notions; they will accept the descriptions of Lord Rāmacandra and His activities only as presented by tattva-darśīs, those who know the Absolute Truth." (3)

Discuss how would you present the above statement to a modern scientific audience.

(AMI) "According to the Vedic rule, there is no scope for a woman's being independent (asamakṣam), for a woman cannot protect herself independently." (11)

Discuss the relevance of this statement for ISKCON communities and societies at large. Give appropriate references to the bhakti sastras.

(M&M) "Depending on the mercy of the Supreme Lord, one must fight one's enemies even though one may not be equipped with modern weapons... We should fight our enemy to the best of our ability, but for victory we must depend on the mercy of the Supreme Personality of Godhead." (20)

"Simply enforcing laws and ordinances cannot make the citizens obedient and lawful. That is impossible. Throughout the entire world there are so many states, legislative assemblies and parliaments, but still the citizens are rogues and thieves. Good citizenship, therefore, cannot be enforced; the citizens must be trained." (50)

"Among the four yugas-Satya, Tretā, Dvāpara and Kali-the Kali-yuga is the worst, but if the process of varṇāśrama-dharma is introduced, even in this age of Kali, the situation of Satyayuga can be invoked. The Hare Kṛṣṇa movement, or Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement, is meant for this purpose." (51)

"If the kings, the leaders, and the brāhmaṇas, the teachers, would set forth the examples we receive from Vedic literature, the entire world would be heaven; indeed, there would no longer be hellish conditions within this material world." (55)

9.11,12,13

(PeA) "Aspiring to possess more and more for personal sense gratification is simply ignorance, and this ignorance is conspicuous by its absence from the heart of a brāhmaṇa or Vaiṣṇava." (11.6)

"In the human form of life one should perform activities in such a way that at the end he goes back home, back to Godhead. This is self-realization." (13.3)

(M&M) "Many of the Lord's devotees residing in Vṛndāvana have taken the vow not to leave Vṛndāvana to preach Kṛṣṇa consciousness. But the Lord says that Kṛṣṇa consciousness should be spread all over the world, in every village and every town. This is the open order of Lord Caitanya Mahāprabhu... This is the order of the Lord, who speaks as the supreme emperor. Everyone should be induced to accept this order, for this is victory (dig-vijaya). And it is the duty of the soldier, the devotee, to impress upon everyone this philosophy of life." (11.25)

(EVA) "The desire to serve the Lord establishes one as liberated in any condition of life, whether in a spiritual body or a material body." (13.9)

9.14

(UND) "On the spiritual platform, however, when one is elevated to the platform of Kṛṣṇa consciousness, whether one is a man, woman, śūdra or whatever, everyone is equal. Otherwise, Urvaśī, who was a woman herself and who knew the nature of women, said that a woman's heart is like that of a sly fox. If a man cannot control his senses, he becomes a victim of such sly foxes." (36)

(AMI) "Because of her nature, a woman can respond to even a slight offense from her husband by not only leaving him but even killing him if required... That is a woman's nature. Therefore, in the material world, unless women are trained to be chaste and faithful to their husbands, there cannot be peace or prosperity in society." (37)

(EVA) "Purūravā wanted to have children continuously by the womb of Urvaśī. His only ambition was to have sex life with Urvaśī and thereby get a son. In other words, he had so much lust in his heart that even while performing yajña he thought of Urvaśī, instead of thinking of the master of yajña, Yajñeśvara, Lord Viṣṇu." (44-45)

9.15

(M&M) "If the son of a brāhmaṇa does not become like a brāhmaṇa, he may be called a kṣatriya, vaiśya or śūdra, according to his qualifications. The basic principle for dividing society is not a person's birth but his qualities and actions." (10)

"The Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement is therefore meant to revive a mode of civilization in which everyone will be happy. This is the motive of our Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement." (26)

(PrA) "As soon as the ruling class becomes irresponsible in regard to the religious principles, it becomes a burden on the earth." (15)

"In the matter of protecting the cows, the meat-eaters will protest, but in answer to them we may say that since Kṛṣṇa gives stress to cow protection, those who are inclined to eat meat may eat the flesh of unimportant animals like hogs, dogs, goats and sheep, but they should not touch the life of the cows, for this is destructive to the spiritual advancement of human society." (25)

9.16 & 9.17

(SC) "if the government becomes irresponsible and sinful, not caring for brahminical culture, there will certainly be an incarnation of God like Paraśurāma to create a devastation by fire, famine, pestilence or some other calamity." (18-19)

"If all the unqualified sūdras become so-called brāhmaṇas and kṣatriyas, social order will be impossible to maintain. Thus there will be discrepancies, human society will turn into a society of animals, and the situation all over the world will be hellish." (28)

(M&M) "The performance of saikīrtana-yajña is a special concession for human society to save people from being affected by known or unknown sinful activities. We are surrounded by unlimited sins, and therefore it is compulsory that one take to Kṛṣṇa consciousness and chant the Hare Kṛṣṇa mahā-mantra." (23)

9.18

(EVA) "Because care is no longer taken in marriage, we now find many divorces.. although formerly one's marriage would continue lifelong, and the affection between husband and wife was so great that the wife would voluntarily die when her husband died or would remain a faithful widow throughout her entire life. Now, of course, this is no longer possible, for human society has fallen to the level of animal society." (23)

"Sex and sense gratification can be controlled... one achieves perfection when he has no desires for sex. This is possible only when one is fully Kṛṣṇa conscious." (39)

(M&M) "Renunciation of material enjoyment is the ultimate goal of human life. Therefore the varṇāśrama institution is most scientific. It aims at giving one the facility to return home, back to Godhead, which one cannot do without completely renouncing all connections with the material world." (40)

9.19

(EVA) "Although one becomes a gr̥hastha, or householder, to enjoy sex life to his heart's content, one is never satisfied. Such a lusty materialist is like a goat, for it is said that if goats meant for slaughter get the opportunity, they enjoy sex before being killed. Human beings, however, are meant for self-realization." (5-6)

"We have actually seen, especially in the Western countries, that men who have reached more than eighty years of age still go to nightclubs and pay heavy fees to drink wine and associate with women. Although such men are too old to enjoy anything, their desires have not ceased." (16)

(AMI) "Vedic civilization recommends that a woman stay under the protection of a man. During childhood she should be cared for by her father, in youth by her husband, and in old age by a grown son. In any stage of life, a woman should not have independence." (8)

(M&M) & (PeA) "Human life is meant for such tapasya, or austerity. By the austerity of voluntarily stopping sex life at home and going to the forest to engage in spiritual activities in the association of devotees, one achieves the actual purpose of human life." (11)

(PeA) "If one wants relief from the miserable condition of material life, one must voluntarily give up his lusty relationship with his wife; otherwise there is no question of self-realization." (12)

"even if one is highly advanced, materially or spiritually, he may be attracted by lusty desires. The object of attraction may even be one's mother, sister or daughter. Therefore, one should be extremely careful in dealings with women." (17)

"A person trying to be perfectly Kṛṣṇa conscious by hearing the words of Kṛṣṇa from ŚrīmadBhāgavatam or Bhagavad-gītā certainly has all the dirty things cleansed from the core of his heart." (25)

9.20

(PrA) "The association of men and women according to religious principles is allowed in the Vedic culture. In our Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement we allow marriage on the basis of religious principles, but the sexual combination of men and women as friends is irreligious and is not allowed." (16)

(UND) "Consequently, husband and wife should not separate under any condition, for if they have a child whom they raise to be a Vaiṣṇava, he can save both the father and mother from the custody of Yamarāja and punishment in hellish life." (22)

(M&M) "Yajña must be performed, for otherwise people will be entangled in sinful activities and will suffer immensely. Therefore the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement has taken charge of introducing the chanting of Hare Kṛṣṇa all over the world. This Hare Kṛṣṇa movement is also yajña, but without the difficulties involved in securing paraphernalia and qualified brāhmaṇas." (24-26)

(PeA) "The Vedic civilization enjoins that after a certain age, following in the footsteps of Mahārāja Bharata, one should cease to enjoy material opulences and should take the order of vānaprastha." (33)

9.21,22,23

(M&M)& (PeA) "If one wants to be free from the influence of māyā, the illusory energy, one must become Kṛṣṇa conscious and always keep Kṛṣṇa prominent within the core of his heart... In this way, by always being Kṛṣṇa-minded or Kṛṣṇa conscious, one can surpass the influence of māyā." (21.17)

(PrA) "The members of the varṇas, or social orders-brāhmaṇa, kṣatriya, vaiśya and śūdra- must be ascertained by their symptoms, not by birth. Birth is immaterial; quality is essential." (21.21)

(M&M) "If this kingdom (Maṇipura) is organized as a Vaiṣṇava state, this revitalization will be a great success because for five thousand years this state has maintained its identity. If the Vaiṣṇava spirit is revived there, it will be a wonderful place, renowned throughout the entire world." (22.32)

9.24

(PrA) "At the present time, in Kali-yuga, people are extremely sinful and bad (manda). They have no idea of spiritual life and are misusing the benefits of the human form to live like cats and dogs. Under these circumstances Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu has inaugurated the Hare Kṛṣṇa movement, which is not different from Kṛṣṇa, the Supreme Personality of Godhead. If one associates with this movement, he directly associates with the Supreme Personality of Godhead. People should take advantage of the chanting of the Hare Kṛṣṇa mantra and thus gain relief from all the problems created in this age of Kali." (56)

"Every human being, therefore, should take advantage of this creation by understanding Kṛṣṇa and his relationship with Kṛṣṇa and in this way return home, back to Godhead." (58)

(PeA) "One who understands the purpose of Kṛṣṇa, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, should seriously understand the importance of the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement and seriously take part in it." (59)

"the devotee, simply by hearing the message of Bhagavad-gītā and further relishing the narrations of Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam, becomes so pure that he no longer takes interest in materialistic activities." (62)