

# *Christmas Talk*

# ***Lord Jesus Christ***

**Lord Jesus Christ, he claimed to be the son of God and coming from the kingdom of God to reclaim you. So this claim of Lord Jesus Christ, we admit. We, the followers of Bhagavad-gita, we admit this claim. So there is no difference of opinion between the followers of Hindu religion and Christian religion. BG Lecture 4/6-9**

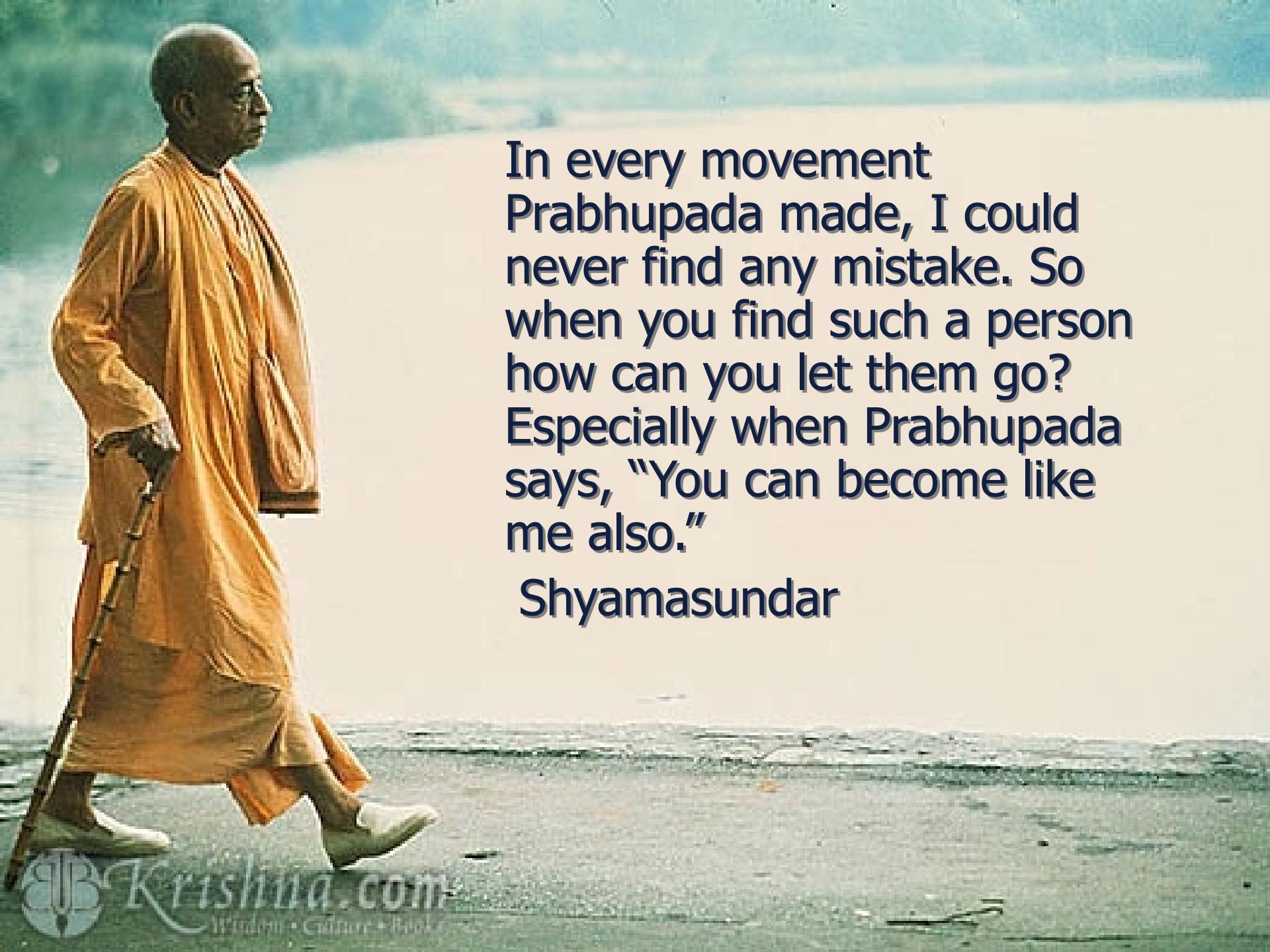
# *Symptoms*

**Arjuna said, “What are the symptoms of one whose consciousness is merged in transcendence? How does he speak, and what is his language? How does he sit & how does he walk?”**

# *Gita 12/13*

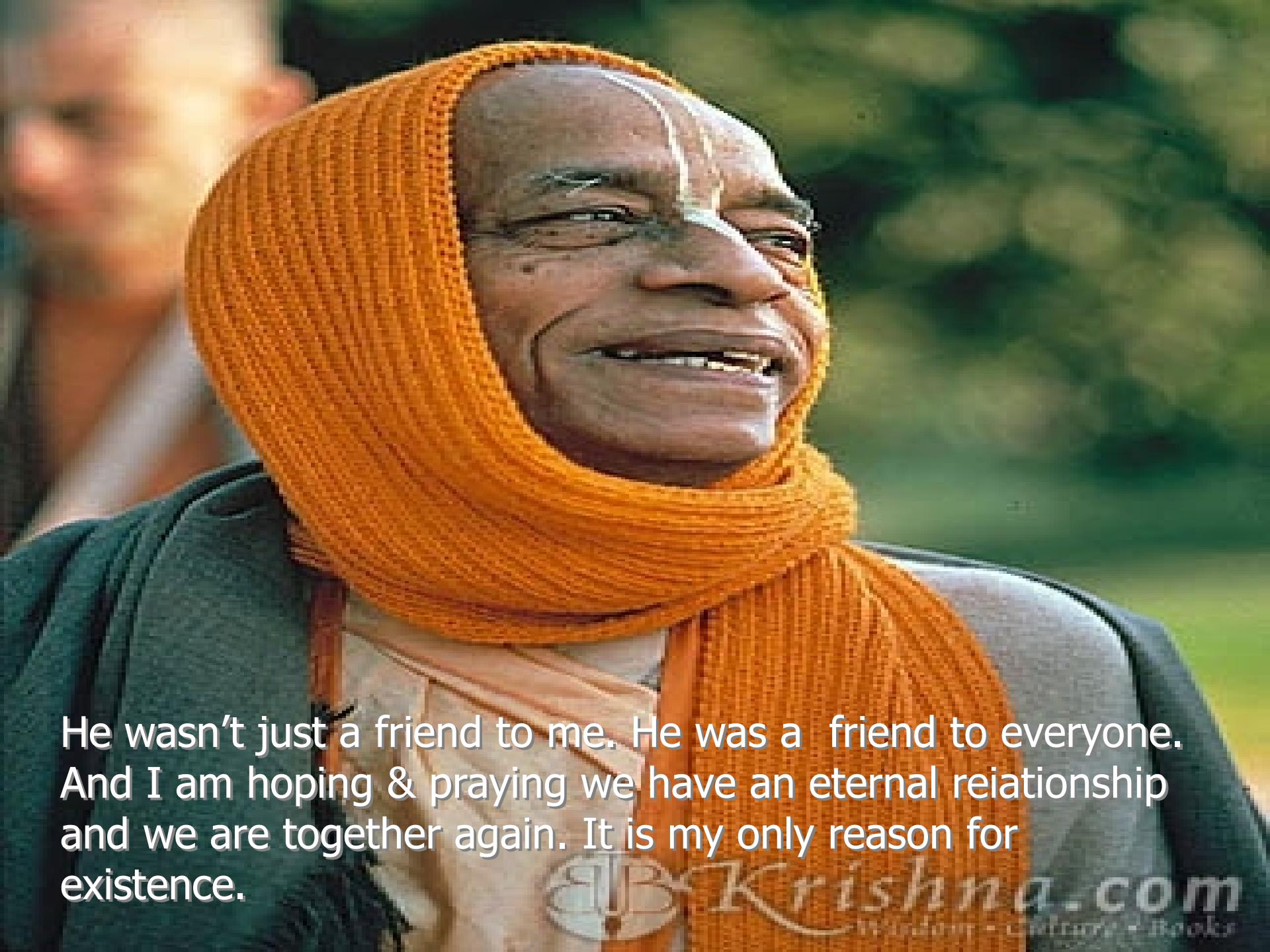
“One who is not envious but is a **kind friend to all living entities**, who does not think himself a proprietor, who is free from false ego & equal both in happiness & distress, who is always satisfied & engaged in devotional service with determination, & whose mind & intelligence are in agreement with Me, he is very dear to Me.”

(1) He is very kind to every living being. (2) He does not make anyone his enemy. (3) He is truthful. (4) He is equal to everyone. (5) No one can find any fault in him. (6) He is magnanimous. (7) He is mild. (8) He is always clean. (9) He is without possessions. (10) He works for the benefit of all. (11) He is very peaceful. (12) He is always surrendered to Krsna. (13) He has no material desires. (14) He is very meek. (15) He is steady. (16) He controls his senses. (17) He does not eat more than required. (18) He is not influenced by the Lord's illusory energy. (19) He offers respect to all. (20) He does not desire any respect for himself. (21) He is very grave. (22) He is merciful. (23) He is friendly. (24) He is poetic. (25) He is expert. (26) He is silent.



In every movement  
Prabhupada made, I could  
never find any mistake. So  
when you find such a person  
how can you let them go?  
Especially when Prabhupada  
says, "You can become like  
me also."

Shyamasundar



He wasn't just a friend to me. He was a friend to everyone.  
And I am hoping & praying we have an eternal relationship  
and we are together again. It is my only reason for  
existence.

**There is no sense in trying to imitate a pure devotee of Krsna because if one is not genuinely situated on that platform he will ultimately fall down to the material plane. The self-realized acarya is therefore worshipable by all conditioned souls, since he has achieved qualitative oneness with the Supreme. In the eleventh Canto of Srimad-Bhagavatam, Lord Krsna tells Uddhava:**

**"One should know the acarya as Myself and never disrespect him in any way. One should not envy him, thinking him an ordinary man, for he is the representative of the demigods."**  
**(S.B. 11.17.27)**

***Patience, Perseverance,  
Determination***

# **1. Patience amidst Troubles**

- ⊕ Troubles teach patience
- ⊕ Life long endeavor
- ⊕ This not comfort stage
- ⊕ Not what you're doing but what you're becoming
- ⊕ Why is this happening to me?
- ⊕ Every problem has a purpose
- ⊕ Grow up

**"Srila Prabhupada, I am chanting. I am following the program. I keep wondering. Is it possible I will ever be a pure devotee, like you?"**

**"Why not? You are in the process...."**

**Then he looked at me with a glimmer in his eye. "But it may take some time."**

**The soul's dark cottage, battered &  
decayed,**

**Lets in new light thru chinks that time has  
made:**

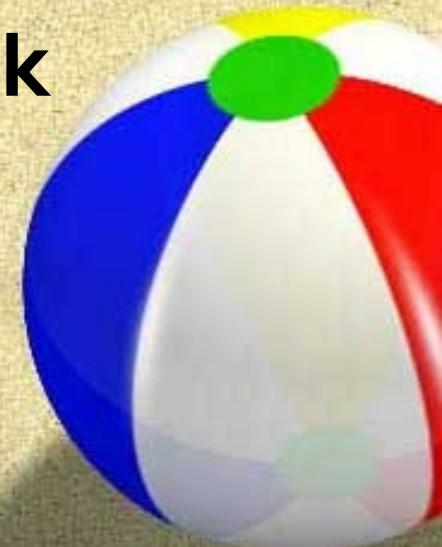
**Stronger by weakness, wiser men become  
As they draw near to their eternal home.**

**Leaving the old, both worlds at once they  
view**

**That stand upon the threshold of the new.**

**Edmund Waller**

**“Once we were walking with  
Prabhupada on the beach in  
Jagannatha Puri. Srila  
Prabhupada said, ‘When I was a  
young man, just married, I came  
here and ran on the beach &  
jumped in the waves, but now  
just see the position. Don’t think  
this will not happen to you.””**



# *Gita 5/16*

**"When one is enlightened with the knowledge by which nescience is destroyed, this knowledge reveals everything, as the sun lights up everything in the daytime."**

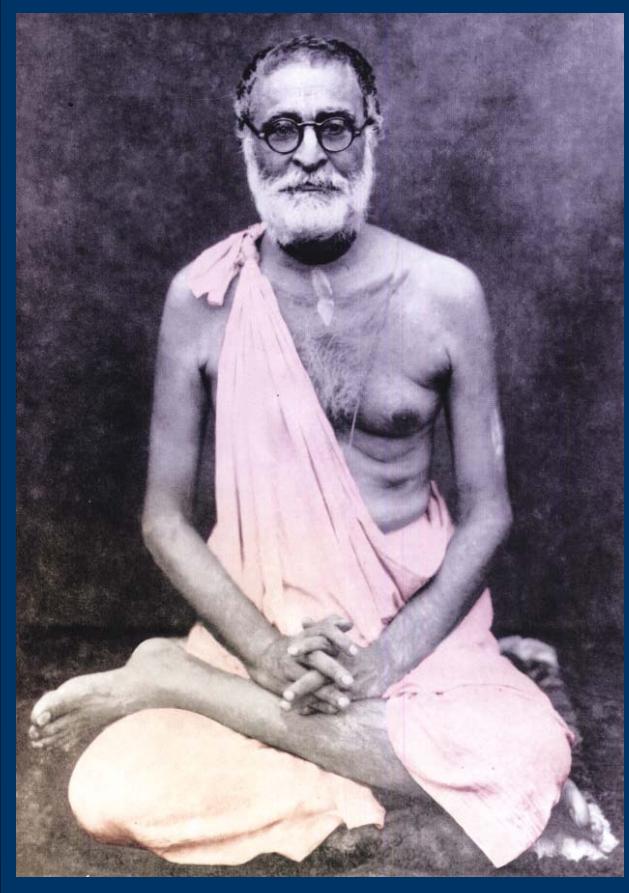


## *2. Perseverance through Temptation*

- ⊕ Not a sin to be tempted
- ⊕ Everyone tempted in same way
- ⊕ Every temptation the opportunity to do the right thing

## *Gita 2/41*

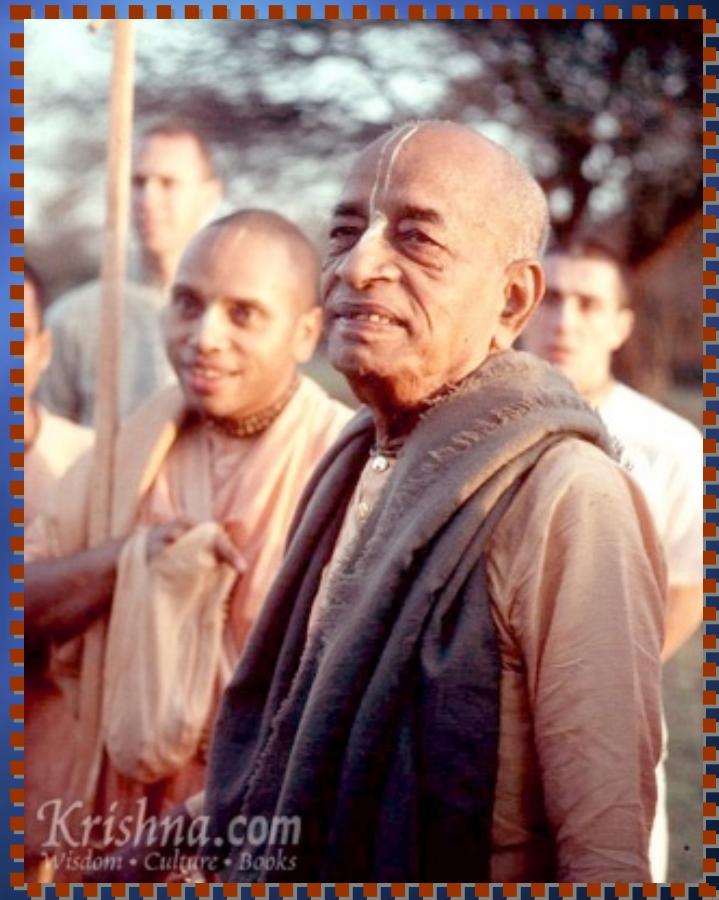
**Those who are on this path are resolute in purpose, and their aim is one. O beloved child of the Kurus, the intelligence of the irresolute is many branched.**



**"I did not want to take sannyas, because it is a very difficult position. But My guru appeared to me three times in dreams. Each time he walked away from me, turned around, and beckoned me to follow. In this way, my Guru Maharaj pulled me out of this material world."**

**When he said “pulled”,  
his voice got thick and  
two tears shot out  
from his eyes. As if  
they were squeezed  
out by a shudder of  
ecstasy. Everybody in  
the room was  
speechless.**

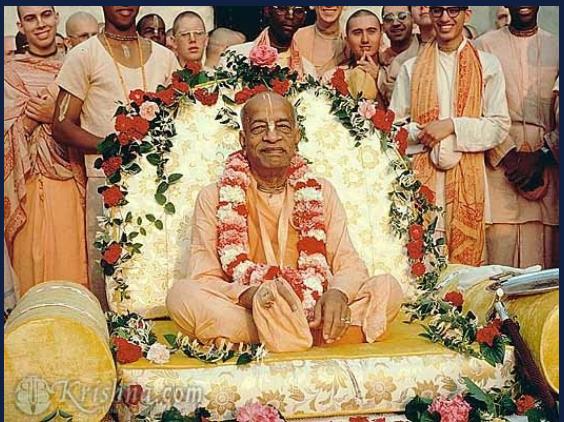
**Revatinanadan**



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# *Gita 4/11*

**“All of them-as they surrender unto Me-I reward accordingly. Everyone follows My path in all respects, O son of Kunti.”**



**"The consciousness of a pure devotee is very deep. It is like the ocean. Near the surface there may be many waves, but as you go down into the ocean, you will find that it is still."**

**"Is it like that even at death?"**

**"Yes."**

### *3. Determination over Opposition*

- ⊕ Learn to forgive, Gandhi
- ⊕ If nobody hurts you, you won't learn to forgive
- ⊕ They know not what they are doing
- ⊕ Hurt people hurt people

- ⊕ You'll never have to forgive anyone more than Krishna forgives you
- ⊕ Krishna in control, GOOD FROM BAD





**The Lord's face is perpetually very beautiful and pleasing in attitude. To the devotees who see Him, He appears never to be displeased, and He is always prepared to award benedictions to them. His eyes, His nicely decorated eyebrows, His raised nose and His broad forehead are all very beautiful. He is more beautiful than all the demigods.**



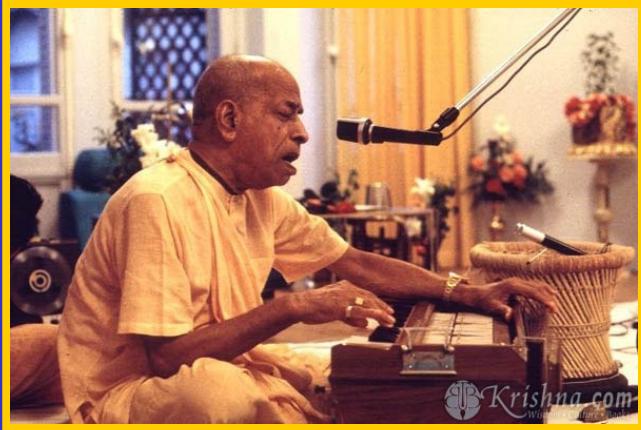
SB 4.8.51: The Lord is always smiling, and the devotee should constantly see the Lord in this form, as He looks very mercifully toward the devotee. In this way the meditator should look toward the Supreme Personality of Godhead, the bestower of all benedictions

**SB 4.8.48: The entire body of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, Vāsudeva, is decorated. He wears a valuable jeweled helmet, necklaces and bracelets, His neck is adorned with the Kaustubha jewel, and He is dressed in yellow silk garments.**





**SB 4.8.46: Nārada Muni continued: The Lord's form is always youthful. Every limb and every part of His body is properly formed, free from defect. His eyes and lips are pinkish like the rising sun. He is always prepared to give shelter to the surrendered soul, and anyone so fortunate as to look upon Him feels all satisfaction. The Lord is always worthy to be the master of the surrendered soul, for He is the ocean of mercy.**



**"Srila Prabhupada gave us spiritual life. He didn't come to exploit, but he genuinely cared & was concerned for everyone who came to him. We definitely felt that. Never before, from anyone else in our lives, not even our parents, that we felt the love & care that Prabhupada felt for us. Krishna consciousness was a process of falling in love with Srila Prabhupada. We were responding to the warm, deep, great love that he offered us."**

**Malati**

I don't know what you're going through right now but I do know how Krishna wants you to respond. He wants you to respond the way Prabhupada did, with patience, perseverance, & determination. Life makes so much more sense when we realize it's not about what we're doing but what we are becoming. It's not about our comfort. But it's all about our character and becoming like Prabhupada. Help us to use life for the reasons that Krishna gave it to us.

Say, Dear Krishna, I don't want to stay stuck in spiritual immaturity. I want to grow up. I want to become what You made me to be. I want to become more like Prabhupada in the way that I think and act and feel. If that means taking me through troubled time, so be it. I say to You, Krishna, Your will be done in my life. I'm going to trust You. If that means going through temptation, then please give me the strength to make the right choices. If becoming like You means I have to endure hurts of other people, please teach me to forgive others as much as You've forgiven me.

Hare Krishna Hare Krishna  
Krishna Krishna Hare Hare  
Hare Rama Hare Rama  
Rama Rama Hare Hare