

THE BOOK OF LIFE



200 Q&A Based on the Bhagavad-Gita Teachings
Question Everything and ask for Proof
Only then, you will see the Truth

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200 Q&A Based on the Bhagavad-Gita Teachings

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Dedication

This book is dedicated to his Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada. Most of my knowledge realization comes from him, his followers, others, and my personal life experiences.

Introduction

The aim of this book is to explain the teachings of an eternal scripture in a practical and easy way to understand. The difference between this summarized Bhagavad-Gita and other versions is that this is practical, easier to understand, and without deviation from the original message of Lord Krishna.

We have questions about God and life and the Bhagavad-Gita has the answers to them, but to extract the answers to our questions from the Bhagavad-Gita is not so easy, because we are so much degraded, and brain washed with man-made ideologies. I give these questions that most people have in mind, and the answers based on the Bhagavad-Gita, using simple language.

The translations of the Bhagavad-Gita and Srimad-Bhagavatam verses from Sanskrit to English were prepared without deviating from the intended message of the scriptures.

The focus of this book is on the message of Lord Krishna to humanity and so I have omitted the statements in the translations, which address Arjuna, like 'O Arjuna', 'O son of Kunti', 'My dear Arjuna', 'O son of Bharata' and so on. This makes it clear that the message of the Bhagavad-Gita applies to everyone and not just to Arjuna.



Testification

In general people read religious scriptures, go to temples, perform rituals and austerities, and listen to religious discourses for many years. But they don't change their nature and thus consciousness for the better. The below testification will help everyone to change for the better.

I testify the below:

I want to change and become a better person
I will give up killing (No meat, fish, and eggs)
I will give up hatred and love everyone
I will stop losing my head (No alcohol, drugs, and tobacco)
I will stop risking my hard-earned money (No gambling)
I will stop lying, stealing, cheating, and deceiving
I will stop being greedy
I will stop being miserly
I will stop being wicked
I will treat everyone nicely
I will be satisfied with what I have
I am in my current situation only due to my own doing
I will give up attachment to money by donating more
I will let go
I will forgive
I will be more time disciplined
I will do something for the benefit of everyone
I will eat more healthy foods like fruits and vegetables
I will minimize the use of cell phone
I will minimize the use of social media
I will question everything
I will be open minded
I will stop denying the facts
I will accept the truth
I will pass on all the above to everyone I know to help them improve their life

Signed (Your Name, Signature, and Date):



1. What is the Bhagavad-Gita?

- The Topmost Spiritual Knowledge
- The Song of God
- The Word of God in Person
- Directly spoken by God (Lord Krishna)
- The conversation between man (Arjuna) and God
- 18 Chapters, 700 Verses
- Last spoken 5,000 years ago in Kurukshetra (India)
- Not a once only delivery scripture, eternally existing
- Already spoken millions of times in many universes

The fields of knowledge of the Bhagavad-Gita are as follows:

1. The Science of God
2. The Science of Living Entity
3. The Science of Spiritual Life
4. The Science of Material Life

"This is the purest knowledge, the king of education, the king of the most confidential knowledge. It is the highest knowledge, most righteous, and everlasting." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 9.2)

One must read the Bhagavad-Gita with a submissive spirit, to understand it. The purpose of the Bhagavad-Gita is to deliver mankind from material existence.

2. What information does the Bhagavad-Gita provide?

The subject of the Bhagavad-Gita entails understanding five basic truths:

- God (Isvara)
- Souls (Jivas), the living entities like you and me
- Time (Kala)
- Activities (Karma)
- Material Nature (Prakrti)

No other scripture on the planet provides this information. From the above five, karma is temporary, and the others are all eternal. Thus God, living entities, time, and matter are eternal.

3. What does the Bhagavad-Gita teach?

The Bhagavad-Gita teaches that we must purify our materially contaminated consciousness. Spiritual self-realization is the aim of the Bhagavad-Gita.

- There is only one God
- We are the soul, which is eternal
- Why we suffer or enjoy
- What is the relationship between God and living beings
- How brilliant God looks
- How great God is
- Why Lord Krishna is the only proven God

- What are the qualities of godly human beings
- What are the qualities of demonic human beings
- How God witnesses all our actions
- How living beings move up or down in species
- How we can love and serve God

4. What is the history of the Bhagavad-Gita?

Unlike the scriptures which originate from outside India, the Bhagavad-Gita, is not a one-off scripture, it's eternal. It was last spoken 5,000 years ago by Lord Krishna to Arjuna, and 120.533 million years ago to the person who maintains the sun planet, Vivasvan. It was first spoken in this universe, 155.522 trillion years ago.

"I gave this science of self-realization knowledge to Vivasvan, and he gave it to Manu, and Manu gave the knowledge to his son, Ikshvaku." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 4.1)

Vivasvan is a demigod who maintains the sun planet. Demigods are very powerful human beings, they are NOT the Supreme (Not God).

"Although I am unborn, imperishable, eternal, and the Lord of all living beings, using My internal energy, I still appear in My original spiritual form." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 4.6)

Lord Krishna appears once on this planet in His original form, once in every daytime of Brahma, which is every 8.64 billion years, and each time the Bhagavad-Gita is spoken by Him. So far in the current cosmic cycle, Lord Krishna has appeared and spoken the Bhagavad-Gita more than 18,000 times on this planet (age of universe/timing of appearance=155.522 trillion/8.64 billion). This is how great Lord Krishna (God), His teachings, and the Bhagavad-Gita are.

"Once in a day of Brahma, He descends to this world to manifest His transcendental pastimes." (Caitanya-caritamrta Adi-Lila 3.6)

The Bhagavad-Gita has been spoken by Lord Krishna in millions of other universes. It is continuously being spoken at every second. This means that it's being spoken right now in some universe.

"The consecutive pastimes of Krsna are being manifested in one of the innumerable universes moment after moment. There is no possibility of counting the universes, but in any case, some pastime of the Lord is being manifested at every moment in one universe or another." (Sri Caitanya-caritamrta Madhya-Lila 20.382)

"Since all Krsna's pastimes are taking place continuously, at every moment some pastime is existing in one universe or another. Consequently, these pastimes are called eternal by the Vedas and Puranas." (Sri Caitanya-caritamrta Madhya-Lila 20.395)

The speaking of the Bhagavad-Gita is the greatest pastime of Lord Krishna which is for our benefit.

5. Does the Bhagavad-Gita state that those who don't follow it go to hell?

No. The Bhagavad-Gita clearly teaches that eventually every soul will get liberation. This is because, every soul belongs to God.

One of the differences between the Bhagavad-Gita and the Non-Vedic scriptures is that the God of the Bhagavad-Gita is a responsible, mature, loving, and caring person. He is not a bully, hater, curser, nor childish.

"I hate no one. I am equal to all living beings..." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 9.29)

"...One who has no enemies among all living beings comes to Me." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 11.55)

"One who is compassionate to all living beings ... - These are some of the qualities of those born with divine nature." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 16.1-3)

The fact that the people of various religions exist is the simple proof that it is God's will that they exist. God is the creator of all living beings.

I have come across many in my life who say that I will go to hell because I don't follow their religion. They think that God made a mistake by creating those who don't follow their religion. They clearly don't understand that God is in full control, infallible, and thus all living beings have the right to exist by the will of God. Some people think that God is testing us by creating people of various religions to see who converts. This is a non-sense ideology because the eternal God is omniscient. He knows the past, present, and the future of everyone, and we are not animals in a laboratory that need testing. God has been creating people eternally in this universe and other universes. It is foolish to think that God has only recently created His religion. God is eternal, and His religion is also eternal, Sanatan-Dharma.

"I am transcendental, beyond the fallible and infallible, and because I am the greatest, I am celebrated as the Supreme person, on the material, and spiritual planets, and in the Vedas." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 15.18)

6. Does God sustain all living beings?

Yes, it's God's will that the variety of people and animals exist. God sustains all living beings because they are His children.

- Does the sun only give light to the followers of one religion? No. The sun gives light to all plants, animals, oceans, and all humans
- Do the plants only give fruit and vegetables to people of one religion? No. They provide for all living beings everywhere
- Does it only rain on land occupied by people of one religion? No. It rains on land occupied by all living beings everywhere

"All species of living beings in this material creation appear by taking birth, and I am the seed giving father." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 14.4)

7. Show me God, only then will I believe?

Most of us can't even meet the president of a small country on this insignificant planet. So how can we meet the President of millions of universes?

God is not our servant who will come in front of us whenever we desire it. If we want to see Him, then we must accept His terms.

Have you seen Japan? No! But you still believe there is a country called Japan, even though you have not seen it. You are willing to accept the authority of world maps created by people and the words of people who have seen Japan. Why not accept the authority of the eternal Vedic scriptures?

"By performing devotional service unto Me [Krishna], without deviation. You can begin to understand My mysteries, and thus I can be seen in this form, standing before you." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 11.54)

As Lord Krishna states in this verse, by serving Him without deviation, one will eventually see Him, face-to-face. A 5-year-old boy named Druva, saw Lord Vishnu face to face, after just a few months of performing severe penances. Another 5-year-old boy named Prahlad, saw Lord Krishna in His form as Lord Nrisingha. Millions of people have already seen Lord Krishna, face-to-face, and you can too, but you must become qualified to see Him.

For those who are not qualified: the foolish, sinful, narrow minded, and the spiritually less intelligent, God will remain unseen, invisible, unknown, and unknowable.

8. What is the evidence for God?

The scientists and atheists say there is no God:

- Can any scientist create life? Every second God is creating trillions of living beings in various forms. This is evidence of God
- Everything on this planet is maintained by living beings, so who is maintaining everything beyond this planet? This is evidence of God
- Can any scientist create trees that produce fruits and vegetables? This is evidence of God
- The cow takes water and grass and turns it into milk. Can any scientist do this? This is evidence of God
- According to the scientists, it would take over 400 billion nuclear weapons to produce the same amount of heat that the sun produces in just 1 second, and the sun has been doing this for billions of years according to the scientists themselves. Can the scientists replicate the sun, even for 1 second? This is evidence of God
- The sun always rises and sets on time, and the seasons come and go on time. Is this by chance? This is evidence of God

- The legs of trillions of living beings, including humans are 100% of the same length. Is this by chance? This is evidence of God
- Why is there a variety of living beings? Can a manufacturing company produce anything without the input from a person? This is evidence of God
- Every human face is unique, is this by chance? Can a manufacturing company produce unique products without any input from a person? This is evidence of God
- The human body is symmetrical (both halves are 100% same). Is this by chance? This is evidence of God
- Why doesn't the donkey think like a human and vice versa? This is evidence of God
- If you throw some bricks on the ground, will they form into a house? Without a spiritual being, the bricks cannot be formed into anything. Do the atoms combine to form certain molecules by chance? No. It's Krishna (God) who is present in every atom who combines the atoms to form specific molecules

"I am the origin of all creations. There is nothing, moving or non-moving, that can exist without Me." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 10.39)

"With a single particle of Myself [Krishna], I maintain the entire creation." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 10.42)

Some people shout that God is great, but they have absolutely no idea how great He is. Lord Krishna maintains the millions of universes in the material creation with just one particle of Himself. This is how great Lord Krishna (God) is.

Some facts to help you realize the existence of God.

- a. A barber says there is no God, because if there were a God then there would be no poverty, disease, and suffering. There are many long haired and unshaven people. Does this mean that there are no barbers? The barber agrees that there are long haired and unshaven people, but the problem is that they don't go to him. In a similar way, people don't approach God, nor do they follow His teachings and thus there is material existence with poverty, disease, and suffering.
- b. A doctor says there is no God, because if there were a God then there would be no poverty, and suffering. There are many diseased people everywhere in the world. Does this mean there are no doctors? The doctor agrees that there are many diseased people in the world, but the problem is that they don't go to a doctor. In a similar way, people don't approach God, nor do they follow His teachings and thus there is poverty, and suffering.
- c. A painter says there is no God, because if there were a God then there would be no poverty, disease, and suffering in the world. There are many unpainted buildings in the world, does this mean there are no painters? People can have their home painted but they need to find a painter. In a similar way, there is a God, but people need to look for Him.
- d. A banker says there is no God, because if there were a God then there would be no murders in the world. There are many people living in poverty. Does this mean there are no banks full of money? Why don't the banks give out loans to all the poor? The banker says, we can only give to those who are qualified. In a similar way, there is a God, but only those who are qualified, will know Him.

- e. An Optician says there is no God because I haven't seen Him. There are millions who cannot see properly. Does this mean there are no Opticians? The optician says, we can only help those who approach us. In a similar way, God will eventually be seen, face to Face, by those who approach Him.
- f. A person living in the desert says he believes in God, but He must be formless, because nobody around here has seen Him. Can anyone see waterfalls in the desert? No? Does this mean there are no waterfalls? In a similar way, God has a form, but He cannot be Seen in places where even the animals cannot be seen.
- g. A person says nobody has seen God, and thus there is no God. Have you seen what the 7 billion people in the world today and the zillions who lived in the past have seen? No? So how can you say nobody has seen God?
- h. A pilot says there is no God because I have not seen him. There are millions of people who have never flown in an airplane. Does this mean there are no pilots? The pilot says I can only take those who book through the airline company. In a similar way, God can only be known by those who approach a representative of God, a genuine spiritual master.
- i. A medical college professor says there is no God because he hasn't seen Him. There are millions who have never seen a medical college. Does this mean there are no medical colleges? The professor says only the most intelligent are qualified to see and attend a medical college. In a similar way, only the most intelligent can See and understand God.
- j. A sports personality says there is no God because I have not seen God perform. There are millions who cannot perform. Does this mean that there are no sports? The sports personality says it takes time, effort, and luck to perform well and become a sports personality. In a similar way, it takes time, effort, and the will of God to know Him.
- k. A cleaner says there is no God, because if there were a God then there would be no chaos in the world. There are many dirty places in the world, does this mean there are no cleaners? The cleaner says we do clean, but people keep messing up. In a similar way, God created a perfect world, but people keep messing it up.
- l. A blind person says there is no God because he cannot seem Him. He cannot see anyone, does this mean nobody is existing?
- m. An atheist says I won't believe in God unless He appears in front of me. A pig in Africa is saying he doesn't believe in the existence of human beings, unless he sees the President of America, face to face. Will the President waste his time to visit a pig? In a similar way, God is not so cheap. Only those who are qualified can See Him face to Face. Millions have already Seen Him, and you can also, but first you need to become qualified and look for Him. You will only find Him in the Vedic scriptures. There are trillions of living beings, why should God visit you?
- n. A person says he can't find the description of God in the scriptures he has read, and thus God is indescribable. If you want to learn to construct buildings, then you must read books on engineering and not books on cake making. In a similar way, if you want to know God then you must read the Vedic scriptures, the only scriptures where God is fully described.

9. What is religion?

To follow the teachings or laws of God is called religion. Since God is eternal, His teachings must also be eternal, and thus the religion of God must also be eternal.

- God is eternal, meaning He has always existed
- If God has eternally existed, then man must also have eternally existed. Why would God live alone?
- The teachings/laws created by God for man to follow must have eternally existed

That eternal religion which was created by the eternal God is called "Sanatan-Dharma", which literally means the 'Eternal Religion', and referred to as the Vedic religion or pure Hinduism. The eternal teachings of God are contained in the Vedic Scriptures.

The highest form of religion is that by which one becomes fully conscious of the existence of God, including His form, name, qualities, pastimes, abode and all-pervasive features. When everything is completely known, that is the perfection of religious knowledge, and this can only be achieved by the Vedic knowledge. God is only described in the Vedic scriptures.

The Vedic religion has been proven to be the oldest on the planet, and the oldest scriptures on the planet are the Vedic scriptures, which were written in the oldest language known to man, Sanskrit. Sanskrit is known to be the most systematic language on the planet, the best language.

"You are the Supreme person, eternal, imperishable, inexhaustible, the sustainer of the eternal religion. You are the basis of this universe." (Arjuna to Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 11.18)

It is only Lord Krishna who is eternally known as the supreme person, God. All other so-called Gods are recent man-made creations and they have not exhibited the qualities of God. Only Lord Krishna has so far proved Himself to be the one true God.

10. What is the purpose of religion?

The purpose of religion is to know, serve, and love God. Serving and loving God includes serving and loving all the creatures of God. This means serving and loving all human beings and animals. You should not hurt or eat any of your brothers and sisters. The animals are also our brothers and sisters. We should not even kill trees.

"Being freed from attachments, fear, anger, and fully situated in thought of me, many have become purified by penance and knowledge of me. They all attained pure love for me. (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 4.10)

Can anyone love an unknown or invisible person? No. This can be proven by the fact that mothers kill their unborn and thus unseen child with abortion. How many mothers would kill their live (seen) child? It is only possible to love a known and visible person.

Only the Vedic scripture describe God and in complete. Thus, if one wants to know God as a person, then one must read and follow the eternal Vedic scriptures.

11. Is freedom of religion the will of God?

Yes. There must be freedom of religion in every country in the world. God is in full control and by His will, the people of various religions are being created every second. By not allowing freedom of religion, one is acting against the will of God. Those who are against the will of God are wicked, unbelievers, faithless, and envious of God.

"Those who are envious, cruel, full of hate, and wicked, are the lowest among men. I repeatedly cast these evildoers into the wombs of demonic species. Such persons are foolish and can never approach me. Birth after birth, they enter into the wombs of demonic species, and gradually sink down to the lowest state of life." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 16.19-20)

There are some people who want to practice their religion/ideology everywhere in the world, but they don't give the same right to others. This is called wickedness, and for such persons, God will be unknown/unseen and just an idea. Humans who cannot describe God are covered in complete ignorance, by their beliefs.

12. Who are the unbelievers?

As already stated, those who are against the will of God are called the unbelievers.

- It is God who is creating the people of various religions, and thus those who don't allow freedom of religion are the unbelievers
- It is God who is creating the animals and for the same reason as humans, to live. Thus, those who think that animals are food are the unbelievers
- It is God who is creating people who worship Him in His image form, and thus those who are against image worship are the unbelievers
- It is God who is placing souls in particular bodies in particular situations exactly based on what the soul deserves (karma), and thus those who believe things happen by chance are the unbelievers
- God is most merciful and forgiving. To prove this, He gives us unlimited chances of life (reincarnation), and thus those who believe this is the only life are the unbelievers
- The eternal God has made Himself completely describable to humans. Those who follow ideologies, where God is not described are the unbelievers
- Those who force their ways onto others are the unbelievers

"One who does not hate anyone, is friendly and compassionate to all living beings, shares his belongings with others, has no sense of ownership, free from ego; even-minded in both happiness and distress, forgiving, tolerant in all situations, always satisfied, worships Me with determination and devotion. Such a person is very dear to Me." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 12.13-14)

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