

Honor

Universal Worship, January 10, 2021

HINDUISM:

Considering your dharma, you should not vacillate. For a warrior, nothing is higher than a war against evil. The warrior confronted with such a war should be pleased, Arjuna, for it comes as an open gate to heaven. But if you do not participate in this battle against evil, you will incur sin, violating your dharma and your honor.

-Bhagavad Gita, 2:31-33 (Eknath Easwaran)

BUDDHISM:

Those who are good and pure in conduct are honored wherever they go. The good shine like the Himalayas, whose peaks glisten above the rest of the world even when seen from a distance. Others pass unseen, like an arrow shot at night.

-Dhammapada, 303, 304 (Eknath Easwaran)

ZOROASTRIANISM:

Since, O Mazda, from the beginning You did fashion for us physical bodies, discerning souls, and directive intelligences through Your own Mind; since you did infuse life-breath into mortal bones, since you did grant us capacities to act and true doctrines to guide so that one could choose beliefs at will;

Since then, each lifts up their voice to proclaim their faith, whether a liar or a truthful speaker, whether learned or unlearned, according to their own heart and mind; but Divine Devotion stands by to deliberate with the spirit of whoever is perplexed by doubt.

-Yasna 31:11-12 (trans. FA Bode, adapted)

TAOISM:

Heavy is the root of light
still is the master of restless
thus a lord might travel all day
but never far from his supplies
even in a guarded camp
his manner is calm and aloof
why would the lord of ten thousand chariots
treat himself lighter than his kingdom
too light he loses his base
too restless he loses his command
-Taoteching 26 (trans. Red Pine)

INDIGENOUS:

Among the Indians there have been no written laws. Customs handed down from generation to generation have been the only laws to guide them. Every one might act different from what was considered right did he choose to do so, but such acts would bring upon him the censure of the Nation.... This fear of the Nation's censure acted as a mighty band, binding all in one social, honorable compact.
-George Copway, Ojibwa writer 1818-1869

JUDAISM:

Learn to do good. Devote yourselves to justice; Aid the wronged. Uphold the rights of the orphan; Defend the cause of the widow.

“Come, let us reach an understanding, —says the LORD. Be your sins like crimson, They can turn snow-white; Be they red as dyed wool, They can become like fleece.”

If, then, you agree and give heed, You will eat the good things of the earth;

But if you refuse and disobey, You will be devoured [by] the sword.— For it was the LORD who spoke.

-Isaiah 1: 17-19 (JPS)

CHRISTIANITY:

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me— practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

Philippians 4:8–9 (ESV)

ISLAM:

He has given freedom to the two great bodies of water, so that they might meet:

[yet] between them is a barrier which they may not transgress.

Which, then, of your Sustainer's powers can you disavow?

Out of these two [bodies of water] come forth pearls, both great and small.

Which, then, of your Sustainer's powers can you disavow?
And His are the lofty ships that sail like [floating] mountains through the seas.

Which, then, of your Sustainer's powers can you disavow?
All that lives on earth or in the heavens is bound to pass away:

but forever will abide thy Sustainer's Self, full of majesty and glory.

Which, then, of your Sustainer's powers can you disavow?
-Quran 55:19-28 (trans. Asad)

TRUTH:

It is not only necessary that we should be humble, but it is also necessary that we must be proud. Pride is the sign of evolution, honor comes out of pride. If there were no pride nor honor, virtue would not exist.