

Universal Worship Readings
“A Complete Sanctuary of Community”
December 14, 2025

Hinduism

When a person responds to the joys and sorrows of others as if they were his own, he has attained the highest state of spiritual union.

~*Bhagavad Gita, 6:32 (trans. Eknath Easwaran)*

Buddhism

If one finds a sagacious friend, who is a virtuous and steadfast companion, one should live with him joyfully and mindfully, overcoming all dangers.

~*Dhammapada Verse 328 (trans. Daw Mya Tin)*

Zoroastrianism

God and the Pure Mind do I seek to worship, who, in his plan, has made for us both good and its opposite, evil. God's power has made us serve our human flock so that they advance to the highest truth and wisdom.

~*Yasna 45.9 (trans. Nariman)*

Taoism

The wise do not hold opinions. They are aware of the needs of others. I am good to people who are good. I am also good to people who are not good, because virtue is goodness. I have faith in people who are faithful. I also have faith in people who are not faithful, because virtue is faithfulness. The wise are shy and humble. They behave like small children. To the world they seem confusing. Yet people look to them and listen.

~*Taoteching 49 (trans. Gia-Fa Feng & Jane English)*

Indigenous

In the time of the Seventh Fire New People will emerge. They will retrace their steps to find what was left by the trail. Their steps will take them to the Elders who they will ask to guide them on their journey. But many of the Elders will have fallen asleep. They will awaken to this new time with nothing to offer. Some of the Elders

will be silent because no one will ask anything of them. The New People will have to be careful in how they approach the Elders.

The task of the New People will not be easy.

If the New People will remain strong in their quest the Water Drum of the Midewiwin Lodge will again sound its voice. There will be a rebirth of the Anishinaabe Nation and a rekindling of old flames.

The Sacred Fire will again be lit.

It is this time that the light skinned race will be given a choice between two roads. One road will be green and lush, and very inviting. The other road will be black and charred and walking it will cut their feet. In the prophecy, the people decide to take neither road, but instead to turn back, to remember and reclaim the wisdom of those who came before them. If they choose the right road, then the Seventh Fire will light the Eighth and final Fire, an eternal fire of peace, love, brotherhood and sisterhood. If the light skinned race makes the wrong choice of the roads, then the destruction which they brought with them in coming to this country will come back at them and cause much suffering and death to all the Earth's people.

~The Mishomis Book - The Voice of the Ojibway, Eddie Benton-Banai (Activist and Co-founder-American Indian Movement)

Judaism

And now, O Israel, give heed to the laws and rules that I am instructing you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that יהוה, the God of your fathers, is giving you. You shall not add anything to what I command you or take anything away from it but keep the commandments of your God יהוה that I enjoin upon you.

You saw with your own eyes what יהוה did in the matter of Baal-peor, that your God יהוה wiped out from among you every person who followed Baal-peor;

while you, who held fast to your God יהוה, are all alive today.

See, I have imparted to you laws and rules, as my God יהוה has commanded me, for you to abide by in the land that you are about to enter and occupy.

Observe them faithfully, for that will be proof of your wisdom and discernment to other peoples, who on hearing of all these laws will say, “Surely, that great nation is a wise and discerning people.”
~*Deuteronomy 4:1-6 (trans. The Contemporary Torah, JPS, 2006)*

Christianity

And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.
~*Joel 2:28-29 (Bible, NIV)*

Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy... Since you are eager for gifts of the Spirit, try to excel in those that build up the church.
~*1 Corinthians 14:1,12 (Bible, NIV)*

Islamic

O those who believed! Obey God and obey the Messenger and those imbued with authority among you. Then, if you contended with one another in anything, refer it to God and the Messenger if you had been believing in God and the Last Day. That is better and a fairer interpretation.
~*Quran 4:59 (trans. Laleh Bakhtiar)*

Truth

It is easy to be kind to those whom we like, who please us. In those whom we dislike even merits do not seem merits; we cannot see their merits because of our dislike. We should pity those who cannot attract our liking, and we should not think that we are different from them. We can see on the face of the man who takes a dislike to another that his own soul despises him, because in disliking the other he dislikes his own soul. His own soul is not a different soul; it is the same soul as that of the other, the same soul as the soul of the prophet, the same soul as the soul of the greatest sinner, the same soul as the Soul of the whole world.
~*The Privilege of Being Human, Chapter XXXII-Moral Culture*