

**Universal Worship Readings**  
**“Interbeing with the Cosmos: Energy of the  
Warrior”**  
**March 8, 2026**

**Hinduism**

*(Krishna to Arjuna...)*

The senses are higher than the body, the mind higher than the senses; above the mind is the intellect, and above the intellect is the Atman (soul). Thus, knowing that which is supreme, let the Atman rule the ego. Use your mighty arms to slay the fierce enemy that is selfish desire.

*~Bhagavad Gita 3:42-43 (E. Easwaran trans.)*

**Buddhism**

One who conquers [themselves] is greater than another who conquers a thousand times a thousand [people] on the battlefield. Be victorious over yourself and not over others. When you attain victory over yourself, not even the gods can turn it into defeat.

*~The Dhammapada 8:103-105 (E. Easwaran trans.)*

**Zoroastrianism**

Against the followers of deceit, who attempt at every moment to prevent the just from achieving progress and the development of the country, we, with our full force and spirit shall battle against them, and thus Mazda (God), with this aim, we shall march on the path of your doctrine.

*(continued on next page...)*

To the one who joins me, I shall grant my warmest friendship, and in the radiance of Good Thought I shall promise [them] the best; but the one who confronts me, I shall fight [them] also. O Mazda, in the radiance of Righteousness, I shall do what you want me to do, since this is the path my wisdom and my thought have chosen.

*~The Gathas Yasna 46:4 &18 (K. Khazai trans.)*

### **Taoism**

The accomplished person is not aggressive. The good soldier is not hot-tempered. The best conqueror does not engage the enemy. The most effective leader takes the lowest place. This is called the Te (true strength) of not contending. This is called the power of the leader. This is called matching Heaven's ancient ideal (subtle non-coercive power).

*~Tao Te Ching 68 (S. Addiss & S. Lombardo trans.)*

### **Indigenous**

The warrior, for us, is one who sacrifices [themselves] for the good of others. [Their] task is to take care of the elderly, the defenseless, those who cannot provide for themselves, and above all, the children – the future of humanity.

*~Sitting Bull, Hunkpapa Lakota Sioux*

### **Judaism**

*(David, Israelite to Goliath, Philistine...)*

You come against me with sword and spear and javelin; but I come against you in the name of the Lord of Hosts, the God of the ranks (armies) of Israel, whom you have defied. This very day the Lord will deliver you into my hands. I will kill you and cut off your head; I will give the carcasses of the Philistine camp to the birds of the sky and the beasts of the earth. All the earth shall know that there is a God in Israel. And this whole assembly shall know

that the Lord can give victory without sword or spear. For the battle is the Lord's, and [God] will deliver you into our hands.

~1 Samuel 17:45-47 (Tanakh, JPS)

## **Christianity**

*(Apostle Paul writing to the church in Ephesus...)*

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in [God's] mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore, put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

~Ephesians 6:10-13 (New Testament, NIV)

## **Islamic**

O those who believed! Be one who is staunch in equity, as witnesses for God even against yourselves or ones who are your parents or nearest of kin. Whether you would be rich or poor, then God is closer to both than you are so follow not your desires that you become unbalanced. And if you distort or turn aside, then truly God has been aware of what you do.

~Qur'an 4:135 (L. Bakhtiar trans.)

## **Truth**

[Our] constant fight is with the Nafs (self-interest), the root of all disharmony and the only enemy of man. By crushing this enemy [we gain] mastery over [ourselves]; this wins for [us] mastery over the whole universe, because the wall standing between the self and the Almighty has been broken down.

*~The Mysticism of Music, Sound and Word; Hazrat Inayat Khan*