

Universal Worship Service, Summer School 2017
The Spirit of Guidance

We read in the Hindu scriptures:

Lords! Inspiration of sacrifice!

May our ears hear the good.

May our eyes see the good.

May we serve him with the whole strength of our body.

May we, all our life, carry out His will.

Peace,

peace,

and peace be everywhere.

[...]

The Self is the lord of all; inhabitant of the hearts of all. He is the source of all; creator and dissolver of beings. There is nothing He does not know.

– *Mandookya Upanishad*

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We read in the Buddhist scriptures:

The wind cannot shake a mountain.

Neither praise nor blame moves the wise man.

He is clarity.

Hearing the truth,

He is like a lake,

Pure and tranquil and deep.

Want nothing.

Where there is desire,

Say nothing.

Happiness or sorrow —

Whatever befalls you,

Walk on

Untouched, unattached.

— *Dhammapada*

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We read in the Zoroastrian scriptures:

Unfold Yourself within me, O Lord. Grant me strength of character through right-mindedness. Through the holiest spirit, O Lord, grant me goodness as a reward for prayer. Grant me a life full of vigor through truth, and may the Pure Mind look after me.

Give me bliss, make me far-seeing, and reveal to me your incomparable gifts – Your power and the blessings of the Pure Mind. O Holy Right-Mindedness, teach us clearly as to how truth guides our way of thinking.

— *Gatha Ahunavaiti, Yas. 33: 12, 13*

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We read in the Jewish Scriptures:

3

Send out your light and your truth;

let them guide me.

Let them lead me to your holy mountain,

to the place where you live.

4

There I will go to the altar of God,

to God—the source of all my joy.

I will praise you with my harp,

O God, my God!

5

Why am I discouraged?

Why is my heart so sad?

I will put my hope in God!

I will praise him again—

my Savior and my God!

Ps. 43:3-5

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We read in the Christian scriptures:

33 “No one lights a lamp and then hides it or puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where its light can be seen by all who enter the house.

34 “Your eye is like a lamp that provides light for your body. When your eye is healthy, your whole body is filled with light. But when it is unhealthy, your body is filled with darkness.

35 Make sure that the light you think you have is not actually darkness.

36 If you are filled with light, with no dark corners, then your whole life will be radiant, as though a floodlight were filling you with light.”

Luke 11:33-36

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We read in the scriptures of Islam:

And indeed, We granted true knowledge unto David and Solomon, and both were wont to say: “All praise is due to God, who has thus favoured us above many of his believing servants!”

And in this insight, Solomon was truly David’s heir; and he would say: “O you people! We have been taught the speech of birds, and have been given in abundance of all good things: this, behold, is indeed a manifest favour from God!”

And one day there were assembled before Solomon his hosts of invisible beings, and of men, and of brds, and then they were led forth in orderly ranks, till, when they came upon a valley full of ants, an ant exclaimed: “O you ants! Get into your dwellings, lest Solomon and his hosts crush you without even being aware of you!”

Thereupon Solomon smiled joyously at her words, and said, “O my Sustainer! Inspire me so that I may forever be grateful for those blessings of Thine, with which Thou hast graced me and my parents, and that I may do what is right in a manner that will please Thee; and include me, by Thy grace, among Thy righteous servants.”

Sura 27 “The Ants” 15-19

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We read in the Gayan:

Silent voice, in the stillness of night I hear thy whisper.

The sun, air, water, space, and fertile soil are necessary for the rose to bloom; intelligence, inspiration, love, a wide outlook, and guidance are required for the soul to unfold.

Thou wilt guide me aright, Lord; I am a child on life's path.