

36-Righteousness

This Wronged One exhorteth the peoples of the world to observe tolerance and righteousness, which are two lights amidst the darkness of the world and two educators for the edification of mankind. Happy are they who have attained thereto and woe betide the heedless.

Bahá'u'lláh, *Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh*, p. 36

Fear ye God and do not dissipate your deeds through negligence, nor seek to impress upon God--as if doing Him a favor--that ye believe in Him and the Person of His Manifestation. Rather, it is God Who hath conferred this favor upon you, inasmuch as He hath assisted you to recognize this Revelation, and shown unto you the paths of dignity and righteousness, and inspired you with His wondrous and treasured knowledge.

Bahá'u'lláh, *Súrah of Patience*, para 7

O ye beloved of the Lord! Commit not that which defileth the limpid stream of love or destroyeth the sweet fragrance of friendship. By the righteousness of the Lord! Ye were created to show love one to another and not perversity and rancour. Take pride not in love for yourselves but in love for your fellow-creatures.

Bahá'u'lláh, *Tablets of Baha'u'llah*, p. 138

We beg of God to assist the children of His loved ones and adorn them with wisdom, good conduct, integrity and righteousness.

Bahá'u'lláh, *Compilation of Compilations, Vol I* (Bahá'í Education), p. 251

The sword of a virtuous character and upright conduct is sharper than blades of steel.

Bahá'u'lláh, *Epistle to the Son of the Wolf*, p. 29

It is Our wish and desire that every one of you may become a source of all goodness unto men, and an example of uprightness to mankind.

Bahá'u'lláh, *Gleanings*, p. 315

Not until discipline, order and good government reach the degree where an individual, even if he should put forth his utmost efforts to do so, would still find himself unable to deviate by so much as a hair's breadth from righteousness, can the desired reforms be regarded as fully established.

'Abdu'l-Bahá, *Secret of Divine Civilization*, p. 16

Consider whether there exists anywhere in creation a principle mightier in every sense than religion, or whether any conceivable power is more pervasive than the various Divine Faiths, or whether any agency can bring about real love and fellowship and union among all peoples as can belief in an almighty and all-knowing God, or whether except for the laws of God there has been any evidence of an instrumentality for educating all mankind in every phase of righteousness.

'Abdu'l-Bahá, *Secret of Divine Civilization*, p. 83

O ye who are strongly attracted! O ye who are mindful! O ye who are advancing unto the Kingdom of God! Verily with all my heart and soul and with all lowliness do I supplicate the Lord God to make of you ensigns of guidance, banners of righteousness, wellsprings of understanding and knowledge, that through you He may lead the seekers unto the straight path and guide them to the broad way of truth in this mightiest of ages.

'Abdu'l-Bahá, *Selections from the Writings of 'Abdu'l-Bahá*, 137.1

How great the number of people who deck themselves with robes of silk all their lives, while clad in the garb of fire, inasmuch as they have divested themselves of the raiment of divine guidance and righteousness; and how numerous are those who wear clothes made of cotton or coarse wool throughout their lives, and yet by reason of their being endowed with the vesture of divine guidance and righteousness, are truly attired with the raiment of Paradise and take delight in the good-pleasure of God.

The Báb, *Selections from the Writings of the Báb*, 5.21

How often has it happened that an individual who was graced with every attribute of humanity and wore the jewel of true understanding, nevertheless followed after his passions until his excellent qualities passed beyond moderation and he was forced into excess. His pure intentions changed to evil ones, his attributes were no longer put to uses worthy of them, and the power of his desires turned him aside from righteousness and its rewards into ways that were dangerous and dark.

'Abdu'l-Bahá, *Secret of Divine Civilization*, pp. 59-60