

23-Excellence

Friend do it this way-that is, whatever you do in life, do the very best you can with both your heart and minds. And if you do it that way, the Power of the Universe will come to your assistance, if you heart and mind are in Unity. When one sits in the Hoop Of The People, one must be responsible because All of Creation is related. And the Hurt of one is the hurt of all. And the honor of one is the honor of all. And whatever we do effects everything in the universe. If you do it that way-that is, if you truly join your heart and mind as One-whatever you ask for, that the Way it's Going to be.

Lakota Instructions for Living
passed down from White Buffalo Calf Woman

Arjuna, whatever you do, whatever you eat, whatever you offer as oblation to the sacred fire, whatever you bestow as a gift; whatever you do by way of penance, offer it all to Me.

Hinduism, *Bhagavad-Gita* 9: 27

Acts of sacrifice, gift and penance should not be relinquished; they must be performed at all events. For sacrifice, gift and penance performed by wise men purify the heart.

Hinduism, *Bhagavad-Gita* 18: 5

Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said: Gird up thy loins now like a man; I will demand of thee, and declare thou unto Me. Wilt thou even make void My judgment? Wilt thou condemn Me, that thou mayest be justified?

Or hast thou an arm like God? And canst thou thunder with a voice like Him?

Deck thyself now with majesty and excellency, and array thyself with glory and beauty.

Judaism, *Eyov (Job)*, 40: 10

The excellent one who knows what is excellent, who gives what is excellent, and who brings what is excellent, the incomparable one taught the excellent Dhamma. This excellent jewel (is found) in Buddha, by this truth may there be salvation.

Buddhism, Buddha, *The Sutta Nipata*, 233

The purity which the best of Buddhas praised, the meditation which they call uninterrupted, there is no meditation like this. This excellent jewel (is found) in the Dhamma, by this truth may there be salvation.

Buddhism, Buddha, *The Sutta Nipata*, 225

My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples.

Christianity, *John* 15: 8

My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor lose courage when you are punished by him. For the Lord disciplines him whom he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.

Christianity, *Hebrews* 12: 5-6

And in the earth are tracts (diverse though) neighbouring, and gardens of vines and fields sown with corn, and palm trees - growing out of single roots or otherwise: watered with the same water, yet some of them We make more excellent than others to eat. Behold, verily in these things there are signs for those who understand!

Islam, *Qur'án* 13: 3-4

Would that ye had the power to perceive the things your Lord, the All-Merciful, doth see – things that attest the excellence of your rank, that bear witness to the greatness of your worth, that proclaim the sublimity of your station! God grant that your desires and unmortified passions may not hinder you from that which hath been ordained for you.

Bahá'i, Bahá'u'lláh, *Gleanings*, p. 317

The potentialities inherent in the station of man, the full measure of his destiny on earth, the innate excellence of his reality, must all be manifested in this promised Day of God.

Bahá'i, Bahá'u'lláh, *Gleanings*, p. 340