

## 36-Righteousness

I searched for the crooked, met not a single one.  
When searched myself, "I" found the crooked one.

And it will be righteousness for us, if we are careful to do all this  
commandment before the LORD our God, as he has commanded us.

The tongue of the righteous is as choice silver; the heart of the wicked is  
little worth.

The righteous should choose his friends carefully,  
For the way of the wicked leads them astray.

He who lives without looking for pleasures, his senses well controlled,  
moderate in his food, faithful and strong, him Māra will certainly not  
overthrow, any more than the wind throws down a rocky mountain.

The evil-doer suffers in this world, and he suffers in the next; he suffers in  
both. He suffers when he thinks of the evil he has done; he suffers more  
when going on the evil path.

The virtuous man is happy in this world, and he is happy in the next; he is  
happy in both. He is happy when he thinks of the good he has done; he  
is still more happy when going on the good path.

Know this, my beloved brethren. Let every man be quick to hear, slow to  
speak, slow to anger, for the anger of man does not work the righteousness  
of God.

Those who believe, and whose hearts find satisfaction in the remembrance  
of God: for without doubt, in the remembrance of God do hearts find  
satisfaction.

For those who believe and work righteousness, is blessedness, and a  
beautiful place of return.

For those who believe and work deeds of righteousness is a reward that  
will never fail.

Let integrity and uprightness distinguish all thine acts.

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.

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.