

46-Charity

We will be known forever by the tracks we leave.

Dakota Wisdom

One should conquer the mean by charity; the untruthful by truth, the man of wicked deeds by forgiveness; and the dishonest by honesty.

Hinduism, Vyāsa, *The Mahabharata* 3, 193.1

Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

Judaism, *Malakhi (Malachi)*, 3.7

And this is the beginning here for a wise Bhikshu: watchfulness over the senses, contentedness, restraint under the law; keep noble friends whose life is pure, and who are not slothful.

Let him live in charity, let him be perfect in his duties; then in the fulness of delight he will make an end of suffering.

Buddhism, *The Dhammapada*, XXV 375-376

And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

Christianity, *I Corinthians*, 13: 2-3

Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

Christianity, *I Corinthians*, 13: 4

O ye who believe! when ye address the Apostle, then give in charity before addressing him; that is better for you, and more pure. But if ye find not the means, — then God is forgiving, compassionate. What! do ye shrink from giving in charity before addressing him? then if ye do it not, and God relents towards you, then be steadfast in prayer, and give alms, and fear God and His Apostle; for God is well aware of what ye do!

Islam, *Qur'án* 58: 12

Verily, those who give in charity, men and women, who have lent to God a goodly loan, — it shall be doubled for them, and for them is a generous hire.

Islam, *Qur'án* 57: 17

Charity is beloved and acceptable before God, and is accounted the chief among good deeds. Indeed, this blessed word is, in this connection, a sun among words. Blessed is he who prefers his brother before himself...

Bahá'i, Bahá'u'lláh, *Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh*, p. 57

Now is the time to cheer and refresh the down-cast through the invigorating breeze of love and fellowship, and the living waters of friendliness and charity.

Bahá'í, Bahá'u'lláh, *Gleanings*, p. 7

Summarize the following text and create free verse, nonrhyming lyrics for a modern folk song featuring a low alto female lead using traditional folk instrumentation

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Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

And this is the beginning here of wisdom: watchfulness over the senses, contentedness, restraint under the law; keep noble friends whose life is pure, and who are not slothful.

Let him live in charity, let him be perfect in his duties; then in the fulness of delight he will make an end of suffering.

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