

49-Independent Investigation

Man should discover his own reality and not thwart himself. For he has his self as his only friend, or as his only enemy.

Hinduism, *Bhagavad Gita* 6: 5

Seek refuge in thy soul; have there thy heaven!

Hinduism, *Bhagavad Gita*

I love them that love me, and those that seek me earnestly shall find me.

Judaism, *Mishlei (Proverbs)* 8:17

Seek good, and not evil, that ye may live; and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you, as ye say.

Judaism, *Nev'im (Amos)* 5: 14

I heard Confucius say, 'The true Sage pays no heed to worldly affairs. He neither seeks gain nor avoids injury. He asks nothing at the hands of man and does not adhere to rigid rules of conduct. Sometimes he says something without speaking and sometimes he speaks without saying anything.

Confucianism, *Chuangtse*

"A man," replied Confucius, "does not seek to see himself in running water, but in still water. For only what is itself still can instill stillness into others.

Confucianism, *Chuangtse*

Seek ye for a store of good deeds, O Zarathushtra, men and women! for a store of good deeds is full of salvation, O Zarathustra!

Zoroastrian, *The Zend-Avesta, Avesta Fragments*, 83

A wise man, abandoning the principle of darkness, should cultivate what is pure. Leaving home for the homeless life, let him seek his joy in the solitude which people find so hard to enjoy, and, abandoning sensual pleasures, let him cleanse himself of inner defilements, looking on nothing as his own.

Buddhism, *Dhammapada*

All fear violence, life is dear to all. Seeing the similarity to oneself, one should not use violence or have it used.

He who does violence to creatures seeking happiness like himself does not find happiness after death.

He who does no violence to creatures seeking happiness like himself does find happiness after death.

Buddhism, *Dhammapada*

Give thanks unto the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people.

Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works.

Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD.

Seek the LORD and his strength, seek his face continually.

Christianity, *1 Chronicles* 16: 8-11

For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it.

Christianity, *1 Peter* 3: 10-11

When My servants ask thee concerning Me, I am indeed close (to them): I listen to the prayer of every suppliant when he calleth on Me: Let them also, with a will, Listen to My call, and believe in Me: That they may walk in the right way.

Islam, *Qur'án* 2: 186

IN the name of the merciful and compassionate God. God's bidding will come; seek not then to hasten it on. Celebrated be His praises from what they join with Him!

Islam, *Qur'an*, Sura 16

God has given man the eye of investigation by which he may see and recognize truth...Man is not intended to see through the eyes of another, hear through another's ears nor comprehend with another's brain. Each human creature has individual endowment, power and responsibility in the creative plan of God.

Bahá'i, 'Abdu'l-Bahá,
Promulgation of Universal Peace, p. 293

All blessings are divine in origin, but none can be compared with this power of intellectual investigation and research, which is an eternal gift producing fruits of unending delight. Man is ever partaking of these fruits. All other blessings are temporary; this is an everlasting possession.

Bahá'i, 'Abdu'l-Bahá,
Promulgation of Universal Peace, p. 50