

more Words of Wisdom

from Lao Tzu



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The world is full of half-enlightened masters.

Overly clever, too "sensitive" to live in the real world, they surround themselves with selfish pleasures and bestow their grandiose teachings upon the unwary.

Prematurely publicizing themselves, intent upon reaching some spiritual climax, they constantly sacrifice the truth and deviate from the Tao.

What they really offer the world is their own confusion.

The true master understands that enlightenment is not the end, but the means.

Realizing that virtue is her goal, she accepts the long and often arduous cultivation that is necessary to attain it.

She doesn't scheme to become a leader, but quietly shoulders whatever responsibilities fall to her.

Unattached to her accomplishments, taking credit for nothing at all, she guides the whole world by guiding the individuals who come to her.

She shares her divine energy with her students, encouraging them, creating trials to strengthen them, scolding them to awaken them, directing the streams of their lives toward the infinite ocean of the Tao.

If you aspire to this sort of mastery, then root yourself in the Tao.

[There are those who derive energy](#) from worshipping and meditating on divine beings and deities.

If you feel inclined to worship, then worship these:

Worship the fiery sun, repository of yang, and the watery moon, repository of yin;

Worship the spiritual centers of men and women, which are angelic in every sense;

Worship the Eight Great Manifestations: Heaven, Earth, Water, Fire, Thunder, Lake, Wind, and Mountain;

Worship the sixty-four hexagrams of the I Ching, which illuminate the underlying harmony of the universe;

Finally, worship the Great Tai Chi, in which all things are contained, balanced, and reposed.

[The teacher cannot aid the student](#) as long as the student's spirit is contaminated.

The cleansing of the spiritual contamination is not the responsibility of the teacher, but of the student.

It is accomplished by offering one's talent, resources,

The mystical techniques for achieving immortality are revealed only to those who have dissolved all ties to the gross worldly realm of duality, conflict, and dogma. As long as your shallow worldly ambitions exist, the door will not open.

Devote yourself to living a virtuous, integrated, selfless life. Refine your energy from gross and heavy to subtle and light. Use the practices of the Integral Way to transform your superficial worldly personality into a profound, divine presence.

By going through each stage of development along the Integral Way, you learn to value what is important today in the subtle realm rather than what appears desirable tomorrow in the worldly realm.

Then the mystical door will open, and you can join the unruling rulers and uncreating creators of the vast universe.

Unless the mind, body, and spirit are equally developed and fully integrated, no spiritual peak or state of enlightenment can be sustained. This is why extremist religious and ideologies do not bear fruit.

When the mind and spirit are forced into unnatural austerities or adherence to external dogmas, the

In ancient times, people lived holistic lives.

They didn't overemphasize the the intellect, but integrated mind, body, and spirit in all things.

This allowed them to become masters of knowledge rather than victims of concepts.

If a new invention appeared, they looked for the troubles it might cause as well as the shortcuts it offered.

They valued old ways that had been proven effective, and they valued new ways if they could be proven effective.

If you want to stop being confused, then emulate these ancient folk: join your body, mind, and spirit in all you do.

Choose food, clothing, and shelter that accords with nature.

Rely on your own body for transportation.

Allow your work and your recreation to be one and the same.

Do exercise that develops your whole being and not just your body.

Listen to music that bridges the three spheres of your being.

Choose leaders for their virtue rather than their wealth or power.

Serve others and cultivate yourself simultaneously.

Understand that true growth comes from meeting and solving the problems of life in a way that is harmonizing to yourself and to others.

If you can follow these simple old ways, you will be continually renewed.

Nothing in the realm of thoughts or ideologies is absolute.

It is entirely possible for you to achieve immortality,
and to experience absolute joy and freedom forever.
The practice of indiscriminating virtue is the means
to this end.

Practicing kindness and selflessness, you naturally
align your life with the Integral Way.
Aligning your life with the Integral Way, you being to
eliminate the illusory boundaries between people
and societies, between darkness and light, between
life and death.
Eliminating these illusions, you gain the company of
the highest spiritual beings.
In their company, you are protected from negative
influences and your life energy cannot be dissolved.
Thus do you achieve immortality.

Remember: it is not that those who cultivate
wholeness and virtue in themselves do not encounter
difficulties in life.

It is that they understand that difficulties are the very
road to immortality: by meeting them calmly and
openly, however they unfold, and joyfully
developing themselves in response to them, they
become as natural, as complete, and as eternal as the
Tao itself.

Intellectual knowledge exists in and of the brain.
Because the brain is part of the body, which must one

[Does one scent appeal more than another?](#)

Do you prefer this flavor, or that feeling?

Is your practice sacred and your work profane?

Then your mind is separated:

from itself, from oneness, from the Tao.

Keep your mind free of divisions and distinctions.

When your mind is detached, simple, quiet, then all things can exist in harmony, and you can begin to perceive the subtle truth.

[The ego is a monkey](#) catapulting through the jungle:

Totally fascinated by the realm of the senses,

it swings from one desire to the next,

one conflict to the next,

one self-centered idea to the next.

If you threaten it, it actually fears for its life.

Let this monkey go.

Let the senses go.

Let desires go.

Let conflicts go.

Let ideas go.

Let the fiction of life and death go.

Just remain in the center, watching.

And then forget that you are there.

End of Preview.

Rest of the book can be read @

<http://kinige.com/book/More+Words+Of+Wisdom>

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