

Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 257: Save the ignorant from going astray and the virtues of the wise man – Ahunavaiti Gatha – Yasna 31, Verses 17, 22

Hello all Tele Class friends:

In our last two WZSEs #255 - 256, we presented four verses from Ahunavaiti Gatha – Yasna 31 Verses 18 – 21. In the Verses 18 - 19, our Vakhshur-e-Vakhshuraan Zarathushtra Spitamaan advises all not to listen to the evil persons and implores them to resist these false people with good thinking (Vohu Mano) and truth/righteousness (Asha Vahishta).

In the Verses 20 - 21, Zarathushtra predicts that the souls of evil people will have a long life of misery and darkness; and the souls of the righteous will attain the Abode of Light.

Today, we present two verses from the same Gatha Haa before and after these 4 verses mentioned above. In the Verse 17, Zarathushtra advises the wise one to explain the secrets to the ignorant, and requests Ahura Mazda to reveal the secrets of Vohuman (the spiritual love and pure mind) to all, including the ignorant.

In the last Verse 22 of this Haa, Zarathushtra describes the virtues of the wise man who spreads the truth and is worthy of helping all people.

With this introduction, let us present these two verses from Ahunavaiti Gatha, Yasna 31 Verses 17 - 22:

Save the ignorant from going astray and the virtues of the wise man – Ahunavaiti Gatha – Yasna 31, Verses 17, 22

[\(Please hear the attached .mp3 file for its recitation\)](#)

**(17) Kataarem ashavaa vaa dregvaao vaa
Verenvaiteh mazyoh.**

**Vidvaao vidusheh mraotu,
Maa evidvaao aipi-debaavayat.**

**Zdi-neh Mazdaa Ahuraa Vangheush
Fradakhshtaa Manangho.**

**(22) Chithraa ee hudaaongheh yathanaa
Vaedemnaai mananghaa;**

**Vohu hvo khshathraa ashem vachanghaa
Shyaothanaachaa hapti;**

**Hvo toi Mazdaa Ahuraa vaazishto
Anghaiti astish.**

Save the ignorant from going astray and the virtues of the wise man – Ahunavaiti Gatha – Yasna 31, Verses 17, 22 Translation:

(17) Which of the two persons; the righteous and pious or the wicked and impure ones, shall choose the best path?

The wise man should explain with his knowledge the secrets to the ignorant ones. Let not the ignorant go astray.

O Mazda Ahura, let Vohuman's secret (i.e. the spiritual love and pure mind) be revealed to all.

(22) O, Mazda Ahura, the wise and clever man is the person who realizes the truth and is aware of the Lord's Law by His thought.

He protects the truth and purity through His spiritual power and will neither speak nor act except in truth.

He shall try his best for the spread of truth.

Such a man, O Mazda, shall be faithful to Thee and shall be regarded as worthiest man for helping the people.

(Translation of Gathas the Holy Song of Zarathustra, from Persian into English by Mobed Firouz Azargoshasb, March 1988, San Diego, California.)

SPD Explanation:

1. The last Verse 22, according to Insler, affirms to the Wise Lord that His teachings are an inspiration for any man who has chosen to serve the good cause of man with good truth and good thinking.
2. “Any person, who sticks to righteousness by means of the divine power of self-control, speech and actions, and who never deviate from it, becomes the best active bearer of the true message of Ahura Mazda. This is the true enlightenment the prophet has given us to live in this world through his Gathas.” (Dr. Purviz Kolsawala)

May the Flame of Fellowship, Love, Charity, and Respect for all burn ever eternal in our hearts so we can do HIS work with humility, diligence, and eternal enthusiasm!

Atha Jamyat, Yatha Aafrinaamahi! (May it be so as we wish!)