

Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 256: Final Destinies of evil and good souls – Ahunavaiti Gatha – Yasna 31, Verses 20 - 21

Hello all Tele Class friends:

In [our last WZSE #255](#), we presented two verses from Ahunavaiti Gatha – Yasna 31 Verses 18 – 19. In the first Verse 18, our Vakhshur-e-Vakhshuraan Zarathushtra Spitamaan advises all not to listen to the falsehood of the evil persons because they destroy the home, the village, the town, and the country. He implores them to resist these false people with good thinking (Vohu Mano) and truth/righteousness (Asha Vahishta).

In the second Verse 19, Zarathushtra wishes that the people listen to a wise man whose teachings are beneficial and hope they act according to them in their lives. And he requests Ahura Mazda to assign the destinies of the good and evil people by HIS Asha (Fire/Truth).

Today, we continue the same Gatha Haa in which Zarathushtra predicts what will happen to the souls of evil as well as good people: a long life of misery and darkness, woe and despair to the evil souls; and the souls of the righteous will attain the Abode of Light, and Ahura Mazda will give them the perfection of integrity and immortality, and perpetual communion with truth and the Holy Dominion. (D. J. Irani).

With this introduction, let us present these two verses from Ahunavaiti Gatha, Yasna 31 Verses 20 - 21:

Final Destinies of evil and good souls – Ahunavaiti Gatha – Yasna 31, Verses 20 - 21

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

**(20) Yeh aayat ashavanem divamnem
Hoi aparem khshayo,
Daregem aayoo temangho dush-khvarethem
Avataas vacho;
Tem vaao ahum dregvantoh shyaothanaaish
Khvaaish daenaa naeshat.**

**(21) Mazdaao dadaat Ahuro Haurvato Ameretaataschaa,
Buroish aa ashakhyaachaa khvaapaithyaat
Khshathrahyaa saroh,
Vangheush vazdvareh Manangho, yeh hoi mainyu
Shyaothanaaishchaa urvathoh.**

Final Destinies of evil and good souls – Ahunavaiti Gatha –

Yasna 31, Verses 20 – 21 Translation:

**(20) The follower of the righteous shall attain the Abode of Light;
But he who deceived the good and the righteous,
For him shall the future be long life of misery and darkness,
woe and despair, O ye of evil lives!
Your own deeds will lead you to this dark existence.**

**(21) To him, who is Thy true friend in spirit and in action, O Mazda Ahura!
To him shalt Thou give the perfection of integrity and immortality;
To him shalt Thou give perpetual communion with Truth
and the Holy Dominion,
And to him shalt Thou give the sustaining power of the Good Mind.**

(The Gathas – The Hymns of Zarathustra, by D. J. Irani, Page 22.)

SPD Explanation:

1. Dr. Taraporewala translates Verse 20 as:
“Who follows the Righteous Teacher the Light shall henceforth be his abode; but to long ages of darkness, to light obscure and to the words of woe, the Wicked to such life, indeed their own Self shall lead, through their own deeds.”
2. For the Verse 20, Prof. Insler states that the fundamental doctrine of existence in its highest form is shown here. Those who are the deceitful await damnation but the truthful receive salvation and heaven. This is because the truthful man is of the same essence as his God.
3. In Verse 21, Zarathushtra declares the benefits bestowed upon a righteous person who is a true friend of Ahura Mazda in spirit and action.
4. These two verses succinctly describe the justice meted out by Ahura Mazda to the good and evil persons.

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