

# Our Shared Spiritual Heritage

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Selected examples of universal spiritual teachings

One sample text from a world religion

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## The Golden Rule

Treat others as thou wouldst be treated thyself.  
*Sikhism*

## Do No Harm

Do not hurt others, do no one injury by thought or deed, utter no word to pain thy fellow creatures.  
*Hinduism*

## Embrace One Human Family

The well-being of mankind, its peace and security, are unattainable unless and until its unity is firmly established. *Bahá'í*

## Actions Important

Deeds speak louder than words.  
*Assiniboine Native American*

## Honesty

Sincerity is the way of heaven, and to think how to be sincere is the way of a man. *Confucianism*

## Preserve the Earth

Care should always be taken of trees and forests because of the many healthful effects they have for mankind. *Hinduism*

## Seek Wisdom Early

My son, gather instruction from thy youth up; so shalt thou find wisdom till thine old age. *Judaism*

## Kindness & Compassion

Full of love for all things in the world, practicing virtue in order to benefit others, this man alone is happy. *Buddhism*

## Generosity to Those in Need

The Wise Man doth not hoard. The more he giveth, the more he hath; the more he watereth, the more is he watered himself. *Taoism*

## Forgiving a Person (not the deed)

For hatred does not cease by hatred at any time; hatred ceases by love – this is an eternal law.  
*Buddhism*

## Seek & Find

Many millions search for God, and find him in their hearts. *Sikhism*

## Humility

Humility is the root of honor. *Taoism*

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## Love

It makes no difference as to the name of God, since love is the real God of all the world.

*Apache Native American*

## Heaven is Within

The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.

*Christianity*

## Reflecting the Creator

I created thee, have engraven on thee Mine image, and revealed to thee My beauty. *Bahá'í*

## Truth as Universal

Allow us to recognize Thee in all Thy holy names and forms: as Rama, as Krishna, as Shiva, as Buddha. Let us know Thee as Abraham, as Solomon, as Zarathustra, as Moses, as Jesus, as Mohammed, and in many other names and forms, known and unknown to the world. *Sufism*

## Many Paths to Truth

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. *Christianity*

## Remember the Spirit of a Law

The Qur'an was sent down in seven dialects, and in every one of its sentences there is an outer and an inner meaning. *Islam*

## Inner Identity as Eternal

The soul is eternal by its very nature. *Jainism*

## Struggle with Self

The most excellent jihad is that for the conquest of self. *Islam*

## Yield

I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart. *Judaism*

## Seek the Good of the World

Sift out the good from the many things you hear, and follow them; sift out the good from the many things you see and remember them. *Confucianism*

## Honour our Elders

When an elder speaks, be silent and listen. *Mohawk Native American*

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**“When their inherent similarities are revealed, the collected wisdom of the world’s religions shows a profound "Oneness" of the human spirit. When placed side-by-side—with surprisingly similar wording in many instances—the essential beliefs shared by all religions confirm that our differences are superficial, and that our similarities are deep. “ Jeffrey Moses, *Oneness: Great Principles Shared by all Religions***

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