

Dhammapada- The Teachings of The Buddha

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From ancient times to the present, the Dhammapada has been regarded as the most succinct expression of the Buddha's teaching found in the Pali canon and the chief spiritual testament of early Buddhism. In the countries following Theravada Buddhism, such as Sri Lanka, Burma and Thailand, the influence of the Dhammapada is ubiquitous. It is an ever-fecund source of themes for sermons and discussions, a guidebook for resolving the countless problems of everyday life, a primer for the instruction of novices in the monasteries. Even the experienced contemplative, withdrawn to forest hermitage or mountainside cave for a life of meditation, can be expected to count a copy of the book among his few material possessions. Yet the admiration the Dhammapada has elicited has not been confined to avowed followers of Buddhism. Wherever it has become known its moral earnestness, realistic understanding of human life, aphoristic wisdom and stirring message of a way to freedom from suffering have won for it the devotion and veneration of those responsive to the good and the true.

Week 1:

The Twin Verses
On Earnestness

Week 2:

Thought
Flowers
The Fool

Week 3:

The Wise Man
The Venerable
The Thousands

Week 4:

Evil
Punishment
Old Age

Week 5:

Self
The World
The Buddha (The Awakened)

Week 6:

Happiness
Pleasure
Anger

Week 7:

Impurity
The Just
The Way

Week 8:

Miscellaneous
The Downward Course
The Elephant

Week 9:

Thirst
The Bhikshu (Mendicant)

Week 10:

The Brahmana (Arhat)