

Supplemental Material – Notable Scriptural Passages

Supplement to:

Grabenstein JD. What the world's religions teach, applied to vaccines and immune globulins.

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Table 1A. Notable Passages from Hindu Texts

Sources: ^a <https://vedabase.com/en/search/site;>

www.swaminarayan.org/scriptures/shikshapatri/index.htm

Bhagavad Gītā 3.14.

3.14. All living bodies subsist on food grains, which are produced from rains. Rains are produced by performance of yajña [sacrifice], and yajña is born of prescribed duties.

Purport: ... the devotees of the Lord, who are in Kṛṣṇa consciousness, offer food to Kṛṣṇa and then eat – a process which nourishes the body spiritually. By such action not only are past sinful reactions in the body vanquished, but the body becomes immunized to all contamination of material nature. When there is an epidemic disease, an antiseptic vaccine protects a person from the attack of such an epidemic. Similarly, food offered to Lord Viṣṇu and then taken by us makes us sufficiently resistant to material affection, and one who is accustomed to this practice is called a devotee of the Lord. Therefore, a person in Kṛṣṇa consciousness, who eats only food offered to Kṛṣṇa, can counteract all reactions of past material infections, which are impediments to the progress of self-realization. On the other hand, one who does not do so continues to increase the volume of sinful action, and this prepares the next body to resemble hogs and dogs, to suffer the resultant reactions of all sins. The material world is full of contaminations, and one who is immunized by accepting prasādam of the Lord (food offered to Viṣṇu) is saved from the attack, whereas one who does not do so becomes subjected to contamination.

Shikshapatri

Śloka 12: (My followers) shall never kill goats and/or other living beings in sacrifice performed for the propitiation of deities and Pitris (ancestors), for non-violence is declared (by the Shastras) as the highest Dharma of all the Dharmas.

Śloka 31: None shall ever take medicines which are mixed with meat and/or liquor-wine or with both; or take medicines given by physician whose antecedents are not known.

Gandhi MK. *An Autobiography: The Story of My Experiments With Truth* [174]

Ahimsa is a comprehensive principle. We are helpless mortals caught in the conflagration of himsa. The saying that life lives on life has a deep meaning in it. Man cannot for a moment live without consciously or unconsciously committing outward himsa. The very fact of his living--eating, drinking and moving about--necessarily involves some himsa,

destruction of life, be it ever so minute. A votary of ahimsa therefore remains true to his faith if the spring of all his actions is compassion, if he shuns to the best of his ability the destruction of the tiniest creature, tries to save it, and thus incessantly strives to be free from the deadly coil of himsa. He will be constantly growing in self-restraint and compassion, but he can never become entirely free from outward himsa.

a – These selected scriptural passages should be interpreted in context with text preceding and following them.

Table 1B. Notable Passages from the Buddha

Sources: [89,90-92,95] ^a

From the Buddha's Sermon at Benares: "But to satisfy the necessities of life is not evil. To keep the body in good health is a duty for otherwise we shall not be able to trim the lamp of wisdom, and keep our minds strong and clear. Water surrounds the lotus flower, but does not wet its petals." [95]

The Dhammapada: Sayings of the Buddha.

Chapter X – The Rod, verse 130: All are frightened of the rod. For all, life is dear. Having made oneself the example, One should neither slay nor cause to slay. [92]

Chapter XV – Happiness, verse 204. Health is the greatest gain, Contentment is the highest wealth, Those inspiring trust are kinsmen supreme, Nibbāna [Nirvana] is ease supreme. [92]

Sāmaññaphala-sutta, The Fruits of the Ascetic Life: "In fact we would salute him respectfully, and get up and invite him to sit down, offering the requisites of robes, alms, lodging, medicine in case of illness, and provide him with proper care and protection." [91]

Sigālovāda-sutta, Advice to Sigāla: "A master should look after the direction below as his servants and workers in five respects: by assigning work in accordance with their capabilities, by providing them with food and wages, by looking after them in sickness, by sharing rare delicacies, by given them leave at proper time." [91]

Bodhicharyavatara of Santideva: Chapter III, Taking the Thought on Enlightenment. "May I be a balm to the sick, their healer and servitor until sickness come never again." [90]

a – These selected scriptural passages should be interpreted in context with text preceding and following them.

Table 1C. Notable Passages from the Hebrew Bible ^b

Source: ^a www.torah-online.org/

Genesis chapter 4, verse 9. And the Lord said unto Cain: 'Where is Abel thy brother?' And he said: 'I know not; am I my brother's keeper?'

Leviticus 11:7-8. ⁷ And the swine, because he parteth the hoof, and is cloven-footed, but cheweth not the cud, he is unclean unto you. ⁸ Of their flesh ye shall not eat, and their carcasses ye shall not touch; they are unclean unto you.

Leviticus 11:10-11. ¹⁰ And all that have not fins and scales in the seas, and in the rivers, of all that swarm in the waters, and of all the living creatures that are in the waters, they are a detestable thing unto you, ¹¹ and they shall be a detestable thing unto you; ye shall not eat of their flesh, and their carcasses ye shall have in detestation.

Leviticus 19:16. Thou shalt not go up and down as a talebearer among thy people; neither shalt thou stand idly by the blood of thy neighbour: I am the Lord.

Leviticus 19:19. Ye shall keep My statutes. Thou shalt not let thy cattle gender with a diverse kind; thou shalt not sow thy field with two kinds of seed; neither shall there come upon thee a garment of two kinds of stuff mingled together.

Deuteronomy 4:9. Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes saw, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life; but make them known unto thy children and thy children's children; (alternately translated as "... be particularly careful of your well being...")

Deuteronomy 14:7-8. ⁷ Nevertheless these ye shall not eat of them that only chew the cud, or of them that only have the hoof cloven: the camel, and the hare, and the rock-badger, because they chew the cud but part not the hoof, they are unclean unto you; ⁸ and the swine, because he parteth the hoof but cheweth not the cud, he is unclean unto you; of their flesh ye shall not eat, and their carcasses ye shall not touch.

Deuteronomy 22:1-4. ¹ Thou shalt not see thy brother's ox or his sheep driven away, and hide thyself from them; thou shalt surely bring them back unto thy brother. ² And if thy brother be not nigh unto thee, and thou know him not, then thou shalt bring it home to thy house, and it shall be with thee until thy brother require it, and thou shalt restore it to him. ³ And so shalt thou do with his ass; and so shalt thou do with his garment; and so shalt thou do with every lost thing of thy brother's, which he hath lost, and thou hast found; thou mayest not hide thyself. ⁴ Thou shalt not see thy brother's ass or his ox fallen down by the way, and hide thyself from them; thou shalt surely help him to lift them up again.

Deuteronomy 22:8. When thou buildest a new house, then thou shalt make a parapet for thy roof, that thou bring not blood upon thy house, if any man fall from thence.

Proverbs 23:12-13. ¹²Apply thy heart unto instruction, and thine ears to the words of knowledge. ¹³Withhold not correction from the child; for though thou beat him with the rod, he will not die.

a – These selected scriptural passages should be interpreted in context with text preceding and following them.

b – Relevant also to Christians in the context of their Old Testament.

Table 1D. Notable Passages from the Christian New Testament

Source: www.biblestudytools.com/, using the New Revised Standard Version. This website also offers other translations.

(1) Passages cited to support immunization ^a,b

Mark, chapter 7, verses 18-23. ¹⁸ He said to them, "Then do you also fail to understand? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile, ¹⁹ since it enters, not the heart but the stomach, and goes out into the sewer?" (Thus he declared all foods clean.) ²⁰ And he said, "It is what comes out of a person that defiles. ²¹ For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²² adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

Luke 10:33-35. ³³ But a Samaritan while traveling came near him [a beaten man]; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, "Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend."

Luke 14:1-6. ¹ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. ² Just then, in front of him, there was a man who had dropsy. ³ And Jesus asked the lawyers and Pharisees, "Is it lawful to cure people on the sabbath, or not?" ⁴ But they were silent. So Jesus took him and healed him, and sent him away. ⁵ Then he said to them, "If one of you has a child or an ox that has fallen into a well, will you not immediately pull it out on a sabbath day?" ⁶ And they could not reply to this.

First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians 10:24. Do not seek your own advantage, but that of the other.

Second Letter of Timothy 1:14. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

James 2:8. You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Third Letter of John 1:2. Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, just as it is well with your soul.

(2) Passages cited in declining immunization ^a,b

Matthew 10:7-8. ⁷ As you go, proclaim the good news, "The kingdom of heaven has come near." ⁸ Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

Matthew 15:13. He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted.

Mark 2:17. ¹⁶ When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, they said to his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹⁷ When Jesus heard this, he said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have come to call not the righteous but sinners." [Note similarities with Luke 5:30-31 and Matthew 9:10-12.]

Mark 5:34. He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians 3:16-17. ¹⁶ Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? ¹⁷ If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

First Corinthians 6:19-20. ¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? ²⁰ For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

a – These selected scriptural passages should be interpreted in context with text preceding and following them.

b – Consider also Table 1C, with regard to Christianity's Old Testament.

Table 1E. Notable Passages from the Christian Bible, Related to Jehovah's Witnesses

Source: ^a www.watchtower.org, using the *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*, the translation preferred by Jehovah's Witnesses.

Genesis 9:3-4. ³ Every moving animal that is alive may serve as food for you. As in the case of green vegetation, I do give it all to you. ⁴ Only flesh with its soul—its blood—you must not eat.

Leviticus 17:10-14. ¹⁰ As for any man of the house of Israel or some alien resident who is residing as an alien in your midst who eats any sort of blood, I shall certainly set my face against the soul that is eating the blood, and I shall indeed cut him off from among his people. ¹¹ For the soul of the flesh is in the blood, and I myself have put it upon the altar for you to make atonement for your souls, because it is the blood that makes atonement by the soul [in it]. ¹² That is why I have said to the sons of Israel: “No soul of you must eat blood and no alien resident who is residing as an alien in your midst should eat blood.” ¹³ As for any man of the sons of Israel or some alien resident who is residing as an alien in your midst who in hunting catches a wild beast or a fowl that may be eaten, he must in that case pour its blood out and cover it with dust. ¹⁴ For the soul of every sort of flesh is its blood by the soul in it. Consequently I said to the sons of Israel: “You must not eat the blood of any sort of flesh, because the soul of every sort of flesh is its blood. Anyone eating it will be cut off.”

Acts of the Apostles 15:28-29. ²⁸ For the holy spirit and we ourselves have favored adding no further burden to you, except these necessary things, ²⁹ to keep abstaining from things sacrificed to idols and from blood and from things strangled and from fornication. If you carefully keep yourselves from these things, you will prosper. Good health to you!

a – These selected scriptural passages should be interpreted in context with text preceding and following them.

Table 1F. Notable Passages from the Qur'ān

Source: ^a quran.com

Qur'ān surah (chapter) 2, verse 173. He has only forbidden to you dead animals, blood, the flesh of swine, and that which has been dedicated to other than Allāh. But whoever is forced [by necessity], neither desiring [it] nor transgressing [its limit], there is no sin upon him.

Qur'ān 5:3. Prohibited to you are dead animals, blood, the flesh of swine, and that which has been dedicated to other than Allāh, and [those animals] killed by strangling or by a violent blow or by a head-long fall or by the goring of horns, and those from which a wild animal has eaten, except what you [are able to] slaughter [before its death], and those which are sacrificed on stone altars, and [prohibited is] that you seek decision through divining arrows. That is grave disobedience. This day those who disbelieve have despaired of [defeating] your religion; so fear them not, but fear Me. This day I have perfected for you your religion and completed My favor upon you and have approved for you Islam as religion. But whoever is forced by severe hunger with no inclination to sin.

Qur'ān 5:4. They ask you, [O Muhammad], what has been made lawful for them. Say, "Lawful for you are [all] good foods and [game caught by] what you have trained of hunting animals which you train as Allāh has taught you. So eat of what they catch for you, and mention the name of Allāh upon it, and fear Allāh." Indeed, Allāh is swift in account.

Qur'ān 16:81. And Allāh has made for you, from that which He has created, shadows and has made for you from the mountains, shelters and has made for you garments which protect you from the heat and garments which protect you from your [enemy in] battle. Thus does He complete His favor upon you that you might submit [to Him].

Qur'ān 16:116. He has made unlawful for you only (carcass) that which dies of itself and blood and the flesh of swine and that on which the name of any other than Allāh has been invoked. But he who is driven by necessity, being neither disobedient nor exceeding the limit.

Qur'ān 30:30. So direct your face toward the religion, inclining to truth. [Adhere to] the *fitrah* of Allāh upon which He has created [all] people. No change should there be in the creation of Allāh. That is the correct religion, but most of the people do not know.

a – These selected scriptural passages should be interpreted in context with text preceding and following them.