

## THE SAYINGS OF V.M. PYTHAGORAS

Do not go beyond the balance (Avoid extreme reactionary behaviour)

Do not sit down on the bushel (Do not become content in this life, continue the harvest of souls but do not put down deep roots)

Do not tear the crown to pieces (Do not engage in biased politics, nor destroy the keterian unity of the red and white crown by instigating division between the dove and the serpent parties)

Do not eat the heart (Do not let love sickness ruin your life, nor an obsession with romance tempt you from the goodly work)

Do not poke the fire with a sword (Neither inflame the quarrelsome, ponder over an offence, nor rationalise anger)

Having arrived at the frontiers, do not turn back (Do not abandon a spiritual path because of fondness for sluggards, nor have second thoughts in a good cause)

Do not go by the popular route (Seek to walk the paths of the tree of life, rather than the ways of the crowd, seeking personal excellence rather than group approval)

Do not suffer swallows around your house (Do not associate with those that chatter vainly, nor let them divert you from your duties)

Do not wear the image of God on your ring (Keep the Father's higher laws secret, and your worship discreet, speaking the name of God with care)

Do not unload people, but load them up (Do not encourage idleness, but instead encourage virtue and spiritual discipline)

Do not easily shake hands with anyone (Avoid worldly contacts that weaken your spiritual drive, and spurn obligations not centered in the covenant)

Do not leave even the smallest imprint of the pot on the ashes (Do not confuse means with ends, graduate upward through leaving off all resentment)

Sow mallows, but never eat them (Be mild to others, but script on yourself)

Do not wipe out the place of the torch (Leave lesser religions alone, and do not destroy the faith of the superstitious, for lesser churches and schools are needful to those in great darkness)

Do not wear a tight ring (Do not accept less than that which is virtuous and freeing, nor let your spouse impose undue restrictions on you out of insecurity)

Do not feed the animals with crooked claws (Do not teach the undisciplined and the ungrateful, nor directly or indirectly support unholy organisations)

Abstain from voting with beans (Avoid democracy, fallen politics and identification with the opinions of the crowd, being most careful not to let your opinions be swayed by idle gossip)

Do not eat fish whose tails are black (Do not follow those whose fruits are questionable and whose ways are dubious)

Never eat the gurnard fish (Avoid holding onto revenge or resentment)

Do not eat the womb of animals (Avoid those whose sense of self comes from flirtation, and who, in lustful heat, rove about seeking seduction)

Abstain from flesh of animals that die of themselves (Do not live the customs nor indulge in the entertainments of the world and its false culture)

Abstain from eating animals (Do not have conversations with unreasonable and satiated people)

Always place salt on the table (Never over eat, but with wisdom judge all your actions)

Never divide the loaf into parts (Do not divide up the inheritance, but seek common ownership)

Do not spill oil on the seat (Do not flatter leaders, but the Father only)

Do not put food in a foul vessel (Do not initiate the undisciplined and the immoral into the secret doctrine)

Feed the cock, but sacrifice it not, for it is sacred to the sun and to the moon (Recompense those who give warning and accept those with limited roles, and do not be too quick to bring all things to a conclusion)

Do not break the teeth (Be neither reviling nor bitterly sarcastic)

Keep the vinegar bottle far from you (Avoid acquiring a sour pessimistic outlook on life)

Spit upon the clippings of your nails, and on the trimmings of your hair (Cast off your animalistic drives and closed off nature, and each dark moon make a full end to all grudges)

Do not urinate against the sun (Do not complain and unload resentments on leaders and counselors, but instead soak up their warming rays)

Do not speak in the face of the sun (Listen gently to wise advice, being slow to argue or speak your opinion)

Do not sleep at noon (Pay attention to the advice of spiritual guides)

Make the bed as soon as you arise, leaving no imprint of your body (Be refreshed and hopeful, forget the past and focus on the future)

Never sing without harp accompaniment (Never preach an unlived law)

Always keep your things packed up (Do not get comfortable in your spiritual progress, nor lean on security, but continue to push yourself into places uncomfortable)

Do not quit your post without your overseer's order (Neither cease to function in your role nor desire to exit life until all your work is done, and seek inspiration in all your activities)

Do not cut wood on a public road (Do not selfishly use that which is designated as communal, nor seek to comfort yourself with the unoffered toil of others, but carry your own weight)

Do not roast what is boiled (Once a matter has been resolved, let it be forgotten)

Avoid the two-edged sword (Do not have any association with slanderers or the two-faced)

Do not pick up what has fallen from the table (Always designate resources for the lacking, but do not waste ear on embittered apostates)

Abstain even from the cypress chest (Take refuge in holy places walled off from the corpse of the world)

To the Father offer an odd number of gifts, but to the Son an even (Crucify the drives of the flesh on the cross, offering pure aspirations upward to the Father)

Do not offer to the Gods the wine of an unpruned vine (Do not accept into inner orders those who have not yet been refined in monastic fires, nor ask for blessings without first offering on the altar)

Never sacrifice without cakes (Never ask for the impractical, nor offer to the Father's inner order one who has not been ground to flour in the dark night of the soul)

Adore the Gods, and sacrifice bare foot (Worship the Father through a natural and humble Essene life purified by the angels of the earthly mother)

Turn around when you worship (Be a mediator and teacher, let the Father purify all sides of your nature, and look for the divine in all things)

Sit down when you worship (Set aside large blocks of time for worship, and do not be restless nor in a hurry to fly through a ritual)

Do not trim your nails during the sacrifice (Do not pray in detail, nor become distracted with petty thoughts during mass)

When it thunders, touch the ground (Keep grounded during exciting times, and do not abandon your principles when deeply stirred by another)

Do not groom by torchlight (Look at things with divine standards, avoiding vanity and the worldly definitions of beauty and value)

One, two (Let there be a harmonic balance between the masculine and the feminine, between the needs of nature and the necessities of the spirit)

Honour symbols of dignity, the throne, and the trinity (Build and sustain a spiritual culture that honours spiritual values and principles, and which speaks to the unconscious through symbols, gestures and ceremonies of holiness)

When the wind blows, adore echo (Flee to refuges in out-of-the-way places where spirituality can be imitated)

Do not eat in a vehicle (Do not be restless, nor take pleasure in travel, diversion and chatter, but rather seek excitement in deep inner communion with the Father)

Put on your right shoe first, and wash the left foot first (Be assertive and active in a good cause, and slow to seek ease and comfort in an unproductive lifestyle)

Do not eat the brain (Do not think too much with the intellect, but seek the wisdom of the heart)

Do not plant the palm tree (Weigh your ways well, so that your life bears much fruit as an offering to others)

Make your libations to the Gods by the ear (Beautify your life and worship with daily music, and offer yourself upward as a silent empty receptacle)

Never catch the cuttle fish (Do not undertake dark intricate affairs that may wound you)

Do not hesitate at the threshold (When you know a course is wise, do not hesitate nor block the way for others)

Give way to a flock that goes by (Do not argue nor engage the foolishness of the crowd)

Avoid the weasel (Do not be less than sincere, and avoid the gossip)

Refuse the weapons a woman offers you (Emotional arguments are useless in the light of true reason and principled judgment)

Do not kill the serpent who tries to fall within your walls (Do not be afraid to utilise cunning means in your limited relations with the world)

It is a crime to throw stones into fountains (Do not make shallow use of ancient sources of wisdom, nor fail to honour the sages among you)

Do not feed yourself with your left hand (Do not rationalise or support yourself with dishonourable means)

It is a horrible crime to wipe off the seat with iron (Do not force people to change or try to establish virtue)

Do not stick iron into footsteps (Do not enforce tradition nor mangle the memory of someone)

Do not sleep on a grave (Do not relax on the merits of ancestors or let your spiritual tradition grow cold)

Do not lay the whole log on the fire (Teach principles and enter marriages gradually)

Do not leap from a vehicle with your feet close together (Re-evaluate situations at every turn, and recalculate at various stages of the journey)

Do not threaten the stars (Accept your role and vocation in the holy family with patience and trust)

Do not place the candle against the wall (Reinterpret law and ancient truths in the context of modern situations)

Do not write in the snow (Do not waste your time instructing the half-hearted nor trust your principles to cold or inconstant characters, but give to those with warm hearts)

## THE GOLDEN VERSES OF V.M. PYTHAGORAS

First worship the Immortal Gods, as the Law commands. Honour the Oath, and next the Heroes, who are full of goodness and light. Honour likewise the Terrestrial Demons by rendering them the worship that is lawfully due to them. Honour likewise your parents, and those most nearly related to you.

Of all the rest of mankind, befriend those who excel in virtue. Always listen to their kind advice, and take example from their virtuous and useful actions. Avoid as much as possible hating your friend for a slight fault. For power is a near neighbour to necessity.

Know that all these things are as I have told you; and accustom yourself to overcome and defeat these passions: First gluttony, sloth, lust, and anger.

Do nothing evil, neither in the presence of others, nor privately; but above all things respect yourself.

Practice justice in your actions and in your words. And do not accustom yourself to take part in anything without first being mindful of the consequences. But always make this reflection, that it is established by destiny that all men shall die, and that material goods are uncertain; and that as they may be acquired, they may also be lost.

Concerning all of the disasters that men suffer by divine fortune, support your lot with patience, be it what it may, and never complain about it, but do what you can to correct it; and bear in mind that fate does not impart the greatest portion of these misfortunes to good men.

Among men there are many sorts of reasonings, good and bad. Do not admire them too easily, nor reject them. If untruths are told, hear them with caution and arm yourself with patience.

Observe well, on every occasion, what I am going to tell you: Let no man either by his words, or by his deeds, ever seduce you, nor entice you to say or to do what is not good for you. Be cautious and considerate before acting so as to avoid foolish actions: it is the part of a miserable man to speak and to act without reflection. But do that which will not distress you afterwards, nor require you to repent. Never do anything that you do not understand, but learn what you need to know, and in this way you will lead a very pleasant life.

Do not neglect the health of your body; but give it drink and meat in moderation, and also the exercise of which it needs. Now by moderation I mean that which will not injure you.

Accustom yourself to a way of living that is neat and decent without luxury. Avoid all things that create envy. Do not spend carelessly, like someone who does not know what is good. Be neither desirous nor stingy; moderation is excellent in these matters.

Do only the things that cannot hurt you, and prudent before you do them.

Never close your eyes and fall asleep until you have gone over all your actions of the day. What have I done wrong? What have I accomplished? What have I failed to do which I should have done? Start from the beginning and go through to the end. If you have found that you have done something wrong, scold yourself severely for it; and take pleasure if you have done something good.

Practise thoroughly all of these things; meditate on them well; you ought to love them with all your heart. They are what will put you in the way of Divine Virtue. I swear it by he who has put in our souls the Sacred Quaternion, the source of nature, whose cause is eternal.

Never begin any work without first praying to the Gods to accomplish what you are going to begin. When you have made this habit familiar to you, you will know the constitution of the Immortal Gods and of mortal men. Even how far the different beings extend, and what contains and binds them together. You shall likewise know that according to the Law, nature is alike in all things, so that you shall not entertain unreasonable hopes nor be neglectful; and nothing in this world shall be hidden from you.

You will also know that men draw their own misfortunes upon themselves and of their own free will. Wretches! They neither see nor understand the good that is near them. Few know how to free themselves from their own misfortunes. Such is the fate that takes away their senses. Like huge cylinders, they roll to and fro, and are always burdened with countless defects. For fatal strife pursues them everywhere, tossing them up and down. They do not perceive this. Instead of provoking and stirring this up, they should, by yielding, avoid it. Oh Jupiter, our Father! You would deliver men from all the evils that burden them if you showed them what demons they are.

But do not dismay; the race of man is divine. Sacred Nature reveals to them the most hidden mysteries. If She imparts to you Her secrets, you will easily perform all the things that I have commanded you to do. And by the healing of your soul, you will deliver it from all evils, from all afflictions.

But abstain from the meats that are forbidden in The Purifications and in The Deliverance of the Soul; distinguish them well and examine all things well. Leaving yourself always to be guided and directed by the understanding that comes from Above, and that should hold the reins.

And when, after having stripped yourself of your mortal body, you arrive at the realms of the most pure ether, you shall be a God, immortal, incorruptible, and Death shall have no more dominion over you.