

Taoism & Christianity

Inter-faith Harmony



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Taoism

&

Christianity

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Series introduction

Suppose, a person is living in an isolated island and he has tasted only bananas in his whole life. Although he has heard about other fruits like mangoes, apples and grapes but never tasted them. If he claims that banana is the best fruit on this planet, yes, he can claim but his claim is not based on any logic or rational because he has never tasted other fruits in this world. In the same way, well is the whole world for a frog living in it.

Similarly, people follow the religion of their parent and they consider that their religion is right and superior and all other religions are wrong and inferior, without having any knowledge about them. The purpose of this book is to create positive attitude about other religions and their followers.

The verses and sayings of scholars from Taoism and Christianity are put together in a logical sequence so that readers can understanding both the religions and also pursue righteousness to achieve the ultimate goal of Eternal life. Mostly, people are wasting their precious time on useless, unproductive and worthless issues. We should concentrate in

improving our own spiritual life and try to fulfill various obligations and responsibilities which our own religion demands. Some scholars talk less in the favour of their own religion but talk more against other religion. No person has any right to criticize other faith. Our words and actions should strengthen love not hatred in the society. If a person is hurting others by his words, then he should understand that his words are not from the Almighty God. May God gives us wisdom and power to shed away all types of evil and wickedness in our lives and enable us to pursue holiness, goodness and purity which God demands from every human being.

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One

Taoism

The hidden and manifest are one, they have a single origin.

Lao Tzu

That which is invisible, inaudible and intangible is one.

Lao Tzu

Christianity

God is one and there is no other but him.

Mk 12:32

There is only one God. Rom 3:30

Everlasting

Taoism

There is an entity that contains every thing. It existed before heaven and earth. It is self sufficient. It pervades all that exists and all that happens. Lao Tzu

Christianity

Before the mountains were created, before you made the earth and the world, you are God, without beginning or end. Ps 90:2

Great

Taoism

There is an entity that contains everything. If it must be named let its name be great. Lao Tzu.

Christianity

Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. Ps 145:3

Light**Taoism**

Wise people are guided by the light that shines out of chaos that is why they see things with clarity. Chuang Tzu

Christianity

Let us walk in the light of the Lord. Isa 2:5

I value the scriptures precisely because they were written by the same light that illuminates my life.

George fox : Journal 1648

Mother**Taoism**

There is an entity that contains every thing. It is the mother and father of every thing. Lao Tzu

Christianity

As a mother comforts her child so I will comfort you. Isa 66:13

Confession**Taoism**

Wise people say, by regarding yourself as a sinner, you become virtuous. Lao Tzu

Christianity

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 1Jn 1:9

Violence

Taoism

That which others teach, I also say, that violence and aggression destroy themselves. That is the summary of my teaching. Lao Tzu

Christianity

Do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek turn to him the other also. Mt 5:39

Harm

Taoism

Wise people do not harm others, they do nothing for the sake of personal profit and they despise no one. Chuang Tzu

Christianity

Love does no harm to its neighbour. Rom 13:10

Quarrel

Taoism

Good people are not contentions (quarrelsome). Lao Tzu

Christianity

And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone. 2Ti 2:24

Thoughts

Taoism

If you allow your mind to fill with corrupt thoughts, or allow your soul to fill with corrupt feelings, you put your eternal existence in danger. Chuang Tzu

Christianity

Constantly fill your mind with thoughts of his glory, and do not allow your imagination to lure your mind away from God.

Basil of Caesarea

For the word of God is living and active. It judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Heb 4:12

Judging

Taoism

Wise people do not pass judgment. Chuang Tzu

Christianity

Therefore let us stop passing Judgment on one another.

Rom 14 :13

Do not Judge, and you will not be Judged. Lk 6:37

Despise

Taoism

Wise people despise nothing that lives. They are guided by a hidden light. Lao Tzu

Christianity

We should despise nothing that God has created.

Julian of Norwich : Divine Showings

Argument

Taoism

An argument has no value. Arguments take people on the wrong path.

Chuang Tzu

Christianity

Don't have any thing to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. 2 Ti 2:23

Desires

Taoism

But the desire for wealth contaminates the soul, the desire for fame stirs up the soul and desire for power blocks the soul.

Chuang Tzu

Christianity

Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul.

1Pe 2:11

Boast

Taoism

If you wish to prove your prowess (talent) do not boast. Simply follow heaven's lead.

Lao Tzu

Christianity

As it is, you boast and brag. All such boasting is evil. Jas 4:16

Clever**Taoism**

Close the door of achievement and shut the window of cleverness, then in old age nothing will trouble you. Lao Tzu

Christianity

Destruction is certain for those who think they are wise and consider themselves to be clever. Isa 5:21

Pride**Taoism**

Knowing my own smallness I am free from pride. Chuang Tzu

Christianity

If anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. Gal 6:3

Selfishness**Taoism**

Wise people value their relatives and friends, but never use friends and relatives for their own advantages. Chuang Tzu

Christianity

Where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice. Jas 3:16

Greed

Taoism

The greatest evil is to want more. The worst misfortune is discontent. The most terrible curse is greed. Lao Tzu

Christianity

Then Jesus said to them, watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed. Lk 12:15

Fools

Taoism

Wise people hear about the way and try hard to follow it. Foolish people hear about the way and make jokes about it.

Lao Tzu

Christianity

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline. Pr 1:7

Rich

Taoism

Lieh said to his disciples, you cannot talk to people in their prime about the way. Lieh Tzu

Christianity

Jesus said, "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

Mt 19:24

Dead

Taoism

Men and woman with hard hearts are dead, even while they remain alive. Lao Tzu

Christianity

You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ. He forgave all our sins. Col 2:13

Goodness

Taoism

If you are wise, you are good to good people and good to bad people. By this means you become good. Lao Tzu

Christianity

But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. Lk 6:27,28

Purity

Taoism

Without purity of mind, it is impossible to follow the right way. Chuang Tzu

Christianity

Set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity. 1 Ti 4:12

A pure intention is the source and purpose of virtue.

Jan van Ruusbroec : Spiritual Espousals

Actions

Taoism

Love and hatred are the shadows of action. If your conduct is generous the shadow is love, if your conduct is mean, the shadow is hatred. Lieh Tzu

Christianity

Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. 1 Co 10:31
Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else. Gal 6:4

Doing Good

Taoism

Work well and do good, but ask for neither honour nor reward, then you will be truly blessed. Lao Tzu

Yang Chu said to his disciples, if you strive to do good without any expectation of reward, you may win a high reputation, high office and a great wealth. Yang Chu

Christianity

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people.
Gal 6:10

God will give eternal life to those who persist in doing what is good seeking after the glory and honour and immortality that God offers. Rom 2:7

Generosity

Taoism

In order to have compassion on the living, you should not merely feel for them. When you see people hungry, you give them food. When you see people cold, you give them warm clothes. When you see people in any kind of trouble you help them. Yang Chu

Christianity

Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs what good is it? Jas 2:15

Giving

Taoism

Wise people do not make any show of giving. Chuang Tzu

Christianity

When you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing. Mt 6:3

Wealth

Taoism

Those who strive for wealth and status, bring ruin on themselves. Lao Tzu

Wise people make no effort to accumulate wealth or goods.

Chuang Tzu

Christianity

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth. Mt 6:19

Favoritism

Taoism

Wise person never puts people or things into categories, but treats them all the same. Chuang Tzu

Christianity

My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favouritism. Jas 2:1

But if you show favouritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. Jas 2:9

Parents

Taoism

Look after your parents and enjoy the years left to you.

Chuang Tzu

Christianity

Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Col 3:20

If you obey the Lord by Honouring your father and making your mother happy, you will live a long life. Sir 3:6

Speech

Taoism

It is natural to speak with brevity and people should be brief.

Lao Tzu

Christianity

If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. Jas 1:26

Self - Control**Taoism**

If you are able to overcome other people you are strong. If you can overcome yourself, you are stronger. Lao Tzu

Christianity

It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age. Tit 2:12

Kindness**Taoism**

Benevolence (kindness) is the essence of being human. If you understand this, then you understand the way. Meng Tzu

Christianity

A kind man benefits himself, but a cruel man brings trouble on himself. Pr 11:17

Humble**Taoism**

The way brings down the high and mighty, and raises up the humble. It takes from those who have much and gives to those who have little. Lao Tzu

Christianity

For whoever exalts himself will be humbled and whoever humbles himself will be exalted. Mt 23:12

Gentle

Taoism

The higher your reputation, the humbler you must become. The greater your power, the gentler you must become. Lieh Tzu

Christianity

Be completely humble and gentle, be patient, bearing with one another in love. Eph 4:2

Humility

Taoism

Those possessing both wisdom and humility enjoy the highest respect of all. Lieh Tzu

Christianity

All of you clothe yourselves with humility toward one another. 1 Pe 5:5

Cautious

Taoism

The person, who is both brave and cautious, is likely to live long. Lao Tzu

Christianity

A righteous man is cautious in friendship, but the way of the wicked leads them astray. Pr 12:26

Restraint

Taoism

Restraint is the best protection against danger and will sustain you for a long time. Lao Tzu

Christianity

A man of knowledge uses words with restraint. Pr 17:27

Contentment

Taoism

If you are content with your circumstances, you are fortunate.
If you are content with yourself, you are rich. Lao Tzu

Christianity

I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. Php 4:12

Praise

Taoism

Do not allow yourself to be influenced by praise or disgrace.
Lao Tzu

Christianity

How can you believe if you accept praise from one another, yet make no effort to obtain the praise that comes from the only God. Jn 5:44

Perfection

Taoism

Perfect people are the true leaders of humanity. They have no thought of personal gain. Perfect people have their souls set on what is right. Chuang Tzu

Christianity

Brothers, strive for perfection. 2Co 13:11

You must be perfect as your father in heaven is perfect.

Mt 5:48

Ancient Paths

Taoism

Hold fast to the way that people of old times followed. Let your wheels move only along old ruts (track). There is a sacred mystery in doing the same as people have always done. You will be honoured by heaven. Lao Tzu

Christianity

This is what the Lord says: “Stands at the crossroads and look, ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it and you will find rest for your souls”. Jer 6:16

Easy

Taoism

My words are easy to understand and easy to follow. Lao Tzu

Christianity

Now what I am commanding you today is not too difficult for you or beyond your reach. Dt 30:11

Take my yoke upon you, for my yoke is easy and my burden is light. Mt 11:29, 30

Child

Taoism

If you can be like a baby, then you are following the way.

Chaung Tzu

Christianity

I tell you the truth; anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” Mk 10:15

Broken

Taoism

It is certainly true that those who are broken are most likely to flourish. Lao Tzu

Christianity

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. Ps 147:3

Display

Taoism

Don't try to elevate yourself through acts of benevolence and righteousness and do not sink into idiocy and folly.

Chaung Tzu

Christianity

Be careful, not to do your acts of righteousness before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. Mt 6:1

Ceremonies

Taoism

Human beings have a natural sense of the oneness of all that exists, so religious ceremonies are useless to them and besides, they naturally dislike fussing over rituals. Chuang Tzu

Christianity

And Christ said to them; “you have a fine way of setting a side the commands of God in order to observe your own tradition.”

Mk 7:9

Your religious festivals, your new moon celebrations, or your circumcision ceremonies mean nothing to me. 2Esd 1:31

Peace

Taoism

Wise people, who follow the way, are at rest, nothing can disturb their peace of mind. Chuang Tzu

Christianity

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. Col 3:15

Wisdom

Taoism

Wise people encompass the whole world in their wisdom so nothing can be taken from them. Chuang Tzu

Men and woman of wisdom can see in the darkness of ignorance and hear in the silence of stupidity. Chuang Tzu

Christianity

Encourage the young men to live wisely in all they do.

Titus 2:6

Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Col 4:5

Study**Taoism**

No material thing can be hidden. Only truth is hidden, it is veiled by the words that wise people utter. But if you study that veil with care you will eventually see through it. Lieh Tzu

Christianity

Blessed is the one who reads the words of this prophesy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it. Rev 1:3

Friends**Taoism**

Wise people are shrewd in choosing their friends and shrewd in avoiding potential enemies. Lao Tzu

Christianity

Beware of your friends. Jer 9:4

Love**Taoism**

On the true path, which is the way, people do not regard differences between themselves and others as causes of

division. They accept themselves and others as they are.

Chuang Tzu

Christianity

Do for others what you would like them to do for you. This is a summary of all that is taught in the Law and the Prophets.

Mt 7:12

Man and Woman

Taoism

Nothing can be built on a female foundation alone, and nothing can be built on a male foundation alone. Lao Tzu

Christianity

In the Lord, however, woman is not independent of man, nor is man independent of woman. For, as woman came from man, so also man is born of woman. But every thing comes from God.

1Cor 11:11,12

Imposition

Taoism

The imposition of religion and morality, are unnatural to human beings and brings about great distress and misery.

Chuang Tzu

Christianity

They are based on human commands and teachings. Such regulations indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence. Col 2:23

Limit

Taoism

When the mind distinguishes most sharply between right and wrong, it is about to go astray. So do not push yourself to the limit. Lieh Tzu

Christianity

Do not be over righteous, neither be over wise. Why destroy yourself? Do not be over wicked, and do not be a fool. Why die before your time? Ecc 7:16,17

Leading

Taoism

To lead a whole nation in following the way is abundant virtue.

Lao Tzu

Righteous men and women devote themselves to making others conform to their standards. Chuang Tzu

Christianity

Multitudes, who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake. Some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever. Da 12:2-3

Leaders

Taoism

Wise people can be shaped into great leaders. Lao Tzu

Christianity

And David became more and more powerful, because the Lord God Almighty was with him. 2Sa 5:10

Truth

Taoism

People are often devoted to their ruler and are willing to die for him. How much, willing they should to die for the sake of truth. Chung Tzu

Christianity

Jesus answered, "I am the way, and the truth and the life."

Jn 14:6

For whoever wants to save his life will lose it but whoever loses his life for me will find it. Mt 16:25

Virtue

Taoism

Since so much care is devoted to the body, how much more care should be devoted to the cultivation of virtue. If virtue is absent misery disease and death are imminent. Virtue consists in following the way. Chuang Tzu

Christianity

Virtue provides an example for people to follow. Wis 4:2

To love virtue brings great joy and strength. We should work for God with ready and faithful hands, practicing every kind of virtue. Hadewijch of Brabant

Self - Denial

Taoism

The wise person leaves self behind, and moves forward on the way. The self is extraneous (nonessential) to human life, and by leaving it behind the wise person reaches the centre of life.

Lao Tzu

Christianity

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." Mt 10:24

Sharing

Taoism

Those with greatest wisdom share their spiritual possessions with others. Those next in wisdom share their material possessions with others. Lieh Tzu

Christianity

Command them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share with others. 1 Ti 6:18

Gift

Taoism

Every person has a special gift. Lieh Tzu

Christianity

Each man has his own gift from God. 1 Co 7:7

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. 1 Pe 4:10

Gratis

Taoism

The wise person takes no credit. Chuang Tzu

Christianity

Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.

Mt 10:8

Harm

Taoism

The wise person can cope with anything and is harmed by nothing. Chuang Tzu

Christianity

I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy, nothing will harm you. Lk 10:19

One with the Lord

Taoism

Wise people have minds that are strong and broad, so they are at one with heaven. Chuang Tzu

Christianity

But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit. 1 Cor 6:17

Fire and Water**Taoism**

Yet if you follow the way and thence acquire perfect virtue, fire will not be able to burn you and water will not be able to drown you. Chuang Tzu

Christianity

When you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. Isa 43:2

Success**Taoism**

If you follow the way you will gain, succeed and win. Lao Tzu

Christianity

Always do what is right and never get involved in anything evil. Be honest, and you will succeed in whatever you do.

Tob 4:5,6

Nothing Impossible**Taoism**

If you follow the way, laid down by heaven, you will win and be able to perform difficult tasks. Lao Tzu

Christianity

I tell you the truth, if you have faith, nothing will be impossible for you. Mr 17:20,21

Everything

Taoism

The people who follow the way seem to know nothing and yet they discern everything. They seem to do nothing and yet they possess the world. Chuang Tzu

Christianity

As servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; having nothing and yet possessing everything. 2 Co 6:4,10

Wise

Taoism

Wise people accomplish much. Lao Tzu

Christianity

The path of life leads upward for the wise to keep him from going down to the grave. Pr 15:24

Feast

Taoism

Men and women from miles around came to the mountain and the prince gave them as much dried fish as they could carry. Even when every person in the land had received a load of dried fish, there was still some left over. Chuang Tzu

Christianity

Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then Christ gave them to the disciples and the disciples gave them to the people. They all ate and were satisfied and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. Those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Mt 14:19-21

Eternal Life**Taoism**

Men and woman with soft and tender hearts are alive, even after they have died. Lao Tzu

Christianity

Jesus said to Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies." Jn 11:25

Shine**Taoism**

Those people who are gentle and tolerant, never quarrel or argue, never proud and envious, their complexions are bright and clear. Lieh Tzu

Christianity

The righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their father. Mt 13:43

Favouritism

Taoism

The way has no favorites; it is on the side of goodness.

Lao Tzu

Christianity

Any one who does wrong will be repaid for his wrong and there is no favoritism. Col 3:25

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