



REFLECTION from *A Calendar of Wisdom*, pg. 316

October 28, 2020

A sense of self-importance so high that it surpasses all limits is a mental illness called *mania grandiosa*. People think that self-sacrifice violates your freedom. Those people do not know that sacrifice gives us complete freedom, and frees us from ourselves, from the slavery of our dissipation.

Our passions are the most terrible tyrants, and we can be the slave of them. Only self-sacrifice can free us from this slavery.

If you teach others how many insects exist in this world, or when you look at the spots on the sun, or when you write an opera or a novel – we do these things for different purposes. But to teach people goodness is done only for the purpose of self-sacrifice, service to others, and you cannot express this teaching without self-sacrifice. Christ gave his life on the cross for a great purpose, not in vain. And a sacrifice or suffering is never in vain, and it will triumph over everything.



CLOSING PRAYER

October 28, 2020

Be generous in prosperity, and thankful in adversity.
Be fair in thy judgment, and guarded in thy speech.
Be a lamp unto those who walk in darkness,
and a home to the stranger.
Be eyes to the blind, and a guiding light unto the feet of the erring.
Be a breath of life to the body of humankind, a dew to the soil
of the human heart, and a fruit upon the tree of humility.
Amen.

—*Baha'i Prayer for Peace*
Quoted in *Prayers for Peace*, page 35

BLESSING

O believers, be steadfast witnesses for God with justice. Do not let the hatred of the people make you act unjustly. Be just, for justice is next to piety. Amen.

—*The Qur'an*, verse 5:8
Quoted in *Prayers for Peace*, page 47



PRAYER INTERCESSIONS

October 28, 2020

1. Help us, O God, to know that sacrifice gives us complete freedom, and frees us from ourselves.
2. Help us to teach people goodness, only for the purpose of self-sacrifice.
3. Help the leaders of the nations to understand that sacrifice is never in vain, rather, it will triumph over everything.
4. Help us to walk in your light, and to shine that light on those who are in need.



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