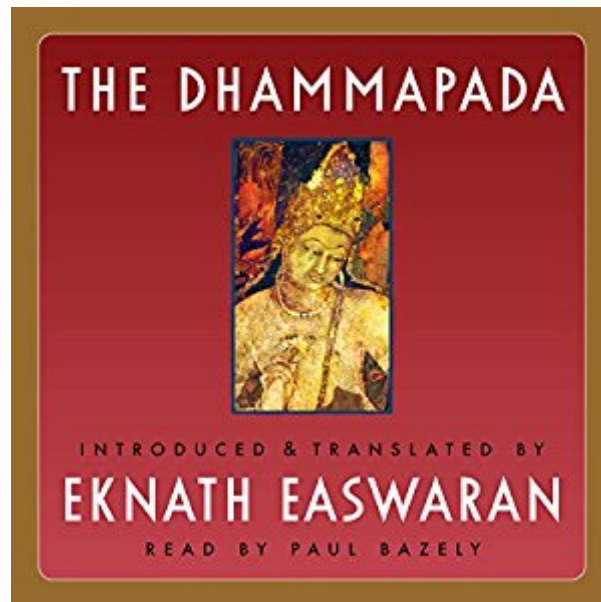




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The Dhammapada



Synopsis

Dhammapada means "the path of dharma", the path of harmony and righteousness that anyone can follow to reach the highest good. This classic Buddhist scripture is a collection of vivid, practical verses gathered from direct disciples who wanted to preserve what they had heard from the Buddha himself. Easwaran's translation of this classic Buddhist text is the best-selling translation in the US. In the comprehensive introduction, he brings the story of the young Prince Siddhartha and his heroic spiritual quest vividly to life. His overview of the Buddha's teachings is reliable, penetrating, and accessible. The Buddha rejected superstition on the one hand and philosophical speculation on the other. He taught the path to the end of suffering and showed how we can achieve lasting joy. In The Dhammapada he spells out our choices with a refreshing realism and frankness.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Easwaran is always the best for today's readers of the great traditions: easy to understand, good depth to give it context. I love his Bhagavad Gita, as my favorite version of that work. Good to read with groups and good to give as gifts.

There is nothing negative to say about a book of positive thinking. Its teachings are true and we are all reading this looking to better ourselves. To me pulling from this book is just as good as some advice and other "self help" books I've read. I keep the book with me and read it often to remind me of things I need to put in perspective..

I hardly knew anything about the Buddha and his teachings except for a few sayings of his I found over the internet. When I decided to get Eknath Easwaran's collection of The Upanishads and The Bhagavad Gita, I decided to also get The Dhammapada. I am through with reading The Dhammapada and I am simply amazed at the wisdom of the man who lived about 550 years before Christ called Siddhartha, the awakened soul called the Buddha. To quote a couple of my favourite verses that have touched my soul (from Easwaran's translation): "As irrigators lead water where they want, as archers make their arrows straight, as carpenters carve wood, the wise shape their minds." And, "One who conquers himself is greater than another who conquers a thousand times a thousand men on the battlefield. Be victorious over yourself and not over others. When you attain victory over yourself, not even the gods can turn it into defeat." I need say no more. For anyone who is interested in knowing about the life and the message of the Buddha, you HAVE TO get Eknath Easwaran's amazing translation of this profound scripture. As a bonus, you get a 100 page introduction into the life and message of the remarkable soul the world has recognized to be 'The one who is Awake'.

One of the classics of Indian mysticism. Beautiful to read and re-read and re-read some more.....

I found this very easy to read, in spite of the technical information about the genesis of Buddha and the basic tenets and philosophies and the Eightfold path of Buddhism. I'd recommend it to anyone who is curious about Buddhism or Buddha himself. I'm a Docent for our local Art museum and preparing a talk on Buddhist spirituality in Art, so I read this book as research. But, I'm also very curious about the practice of Buddhism and was pleased to find myself really caught up in it.

I sent this to my son that is incarcerated. His entire way of being and thinking is constantly being challenged, and I want to give him some positive direction. He has read this back and front. Also Sent the Bhagavad Gita and a book on meditation. He seems to relate to much of the wisdom. The point being that wherever in the world one resides, TRUTH is TRUTH.

I am just beginning my walk on The Path. I absolutely love the introduction and the introductions to each part of this Dhammapada. This book has been written in a way that makes it easy for me to understand the concepts of Buddhism and Buddha's words. I'll be purchasing his other two books soon!

I have read dozens of books on philosophy and self help. After reading the Dhammapada I feel all that was in vain. This little book contains all the wisdom you need to change your life and be happy. Ofcourse reading alone won't help, you will need to build the habit of living this wisdom every day.

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