

RASTAFARI IN COVENANT

ANBASSA

Month of the Revelation

(2nd November – 1st December 2020)

Psalm 72

St Matthew 25:31

Revelation 19:1-9



TEACHINGS OF HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY



FROM THE THRONE ~ THE WORD OF LEADERSHIP

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Rastafari Anbassa Blessings!

In this 4th edition of Anbassa we take a look at the teachings of His Imperial Majesty Haile Selassie 1st. We have taken a small number of his teaching extracted from his speeches that focus primarily on leadership.

Let I n I Rastafari write this knowledge and wisdom on the tablets of our hearts and apply them as we live, so that we will be fruit-bearing trees of righteousness in all seasons and prosper in all our being and doing (Psalm 1:3)

FROM THE THRONE ~ THE WORD OF LEADERSHIP

1. The True Leader

Leadership does not mean domination. The world is always well supplied with people who wish to rule and dominate others. The true leader is a different sort; he seeks effective activity which has a truly beneficent purpose. He inspires others to follow in his wake, and holding aloft the torch of wisdom, leads the way for society to realize its genuinely great aspirations.

2. Raise Your Standards

The art of leadership is in the ability to make people want to work for you, while they are really under no obligation to do so. Leaders are people, who raise the standards by which they judge themselves and by which they are willing to be judged. The goal chosen, the objective selected, the requirements imposed, are not mainly for their followers alone. They develop with consummate energy and devotion, their own skill and knowledge in order to reach the standard they themselves have set.

3. A Love of Higher Quality

This whole-hearted acceptance of the demands imposed by even higher standards is the basis of all human progress. A love of higher quality, we must remember, is essential in a leader. The true leader is one who realizes by faith that he is an instrument in the hands of God and dedicates himself to be a guide and inspirer of the nobler sentiments and aspirations of the people. He who would be a leader must pay the price in self-discipline and moral restraints. This details the correction and improvement of his personal character, the checking of passions and desires and an exemplary control of one's bodily needs and desires.

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4. Render Service to Others

To be first in place, one must be first in merit as well. He who has not learned to render prompt and willing service to others will find it difficult to win and keep the goodwill and cooperation of his subordinates. A leader will kindle interest, teach, aid, correct and inspire.

Those whom he leads will cooperate with him in maintaining discipline for the good of the group. He will instruct his followers in the goals towards which to strive and create in them a sense of mutual effort for attaining the goal.

5. Demand More of Ourselves

Nations and individuals alike are often more accurately judged not only by what they accomplished, but by what they attempted. A noble failure may be of more value than petty success. The man who sets his goals too low and who accepts too little as enough squanders the talents and abilities with which the Almighty God and nature have endowed him. Let us now...set our goals too high let us demand more of ourselves than we believe we possess.

6. Take Pride in All You do to Accomplish a Good Work

Let us from the greatest to the least, take pride in the performance of the tasks and duties assigned to us whether or not we believe them worthy of our talents, whether we labour silent or alone or in the crowd and illuminated by the glaring light of public opinion. The reward for a job well done is not in the recognition of others nor in public praise. Neither is it to be measured sole by the monetary return earned by the workman. It comes rather in the inner satisfaction that accompanies the knowledge that the work accomplished represents the best of which we are capable.

7. The Fruit of Honest Toil

There is neither shame nor disgrace in a day's work well and truly done, whatever the task and whatever the rank or status of the worker. The farmer and the labourer have toiled diligently throughout the day have earned their bread and honest sleep.

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8. The Fruit of Idleness

...The man whatever his task who has spent his time in idleness whose hand has been turned to little of profit or value during his waking hours, has earned only the scorn and disdain of his fellow men who he has cheated.

9. Work is a Commandment

...whoever doesn't work because he doesn't want to is poor...wealth has to be gained through hard work...those who don't work, starve...the capacity to earn depends on the individual: Each individual is responsible for his misfortunes, his fate. It is wrong to expect help to fall from above, as a gift: Wealth has to be deserved! Work is one of the commandments of Our Lord the Creator!

10. The Key to Attainment of Goals

As man's faculty attains a higher level of development and sophistication, so do his wants in life. The key to attainment of any goal lies in one's ability to learn to direct one's objectives towards clearly defined objectives towards clearly defined ends and to pursue them in an orderly rational and co-ordinated fashion. The means which modern economic philosophy have devised for the attainment of such goals is the preparation of long term projects and plans for their execution to the extent possible

11. Leaders Link the Past and the Future

"In this age of transition, characterized by rising expectations, the burden of leadership is heavier, all the more because leaders are a link between the past and the future.

12. Industry and Enthusiasm for the Common Good

"Today the tasks to be undertaken in various fields of national endeavour are not only becoming more complex but more pressing in character each day. It is for this reason that each one should fulfil his duties and shoulder his responsibilities with industry and enthusiasm so that the tasks undertaken will be satisfactorily executed.

Working and thinking for the common good are dictated by the times in which we live and are indispensable for the progress and development of a country.

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13. Collective Consideration and Discussion for Right and Desired Results

“...deliberation demands attentive listening, mutual comprehension, profound and far-sighted vision, understanding and the ability to convince in an orderly manner. Mature views based on inquiry and supported by good morals and self-discipline, apart from producing the desired results, will protect one from making errors or being judged wrongly by others.

14. Pursuing Information

“Inquiry is a magical power that opens the door to hidden rewards and must be pursued calmly, diligently and intelligently to achieve this goal.

15. Goal Unity

...Through all that has been said and written and done in these years the common theme Unity is the accepted goal. We argue about means, we discuss alternative paths to the same objectives, we engage in debate about techniques and tactics But when semantics are stripped away there is little argument between us.

16. A World Force

If we permit ourselves to be tempted by narrow self-interests and vain ambition, if we barter our beliefs for short term advantage, who will listen when we claim to speak for conscience and who will contend that our words deserve to be heeded?

We must speak out on world issues, courageously, openly, and honestly and in blunt terms of right and wrong. If we yield to blandishments or threats, if we compromise when no honourable compromise is possible our influence will be sadly diminished and our prestige woefully prejudiced and weakened.

Let us not deny our ideals or sacrifice our right to stand as champions of the poor, the ignorant and oppressed everywhere.

The acts by which we live and the attitude by which we act must be clear beyond question. Principles alone can endow our deed with force and meaning. Let us be true to what we believe that our beliefs may serve and honour us.

17. Leadership an Imperative

As you know, leadership is required in all fields and no field is without its usefulness....

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18. Guiding Hands

...We all know that the need for good leadership in every walk of life is much greater today than ever before. Every aspect of living demand guiding hands: business, the professions, the fine arts, the mechanical arts, all.

19. The Historical and Important Individual and Leader

...the story of nations is often told in terms of the accomplishments of individuals. In every significant event in history, you will find a courageous and determined leader, an inspiring goal or objective, and an adversary who sought to foil his efforts. In any normal society, everyone has some opportunity to show himself as a leader.

Even the mechanic or clerk who has an assistant assigned to him, not to speak of the doctor with all his helpers, or the officer who commands his troops, is a leader.

20. Mark of a Leader

Within his own sphere, each has the same opportunities for showing ability, and the same potential satisfactions as has the leader of a government. The leader is marked out by his individual craftsmanship, his sensibility and insight, his initiative and energy.

21. Dependability

Dependability is another requirement in a leader. To be dependable is to be willing to accept responsibility, and to carry it out faithfully. A leader will always be willing to take counsel from his people but will often have to act on what his own mind tells him is right. This demands that the leader has trained himself out of any inordinate fear of making mistakes.

22. Courageous and Determined Spirit

To embark successfully on a career involving leadership demands a courageous and determined spirit. Once a person has decided upon his life work, and is assured that in doing the work for which he is best endowed and equipped, he is filling a vital need, what he then needs is faith and integrity, coupled with a courageous spirit, so that, no longer preferring himself to the fulfilment of his task, he may address himself to the problems he must solve in order to be effective. One mark of the great leader is that he feels sufficiently secure to devote his thought and attention to the well-being of his

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subordinates and the perfection of his task, rather than being constantly worried about the approval or disapproval of others.

23. Rendering Willing Service to Others

It should not surprise Us then, to find that the greater number of acknowledged leaders have been people who trained themselves in the art of discipline and obedience. He who has not learned to render prompt and willing service to others will find it difficult to win and keep the goodwill and co-operation of his subordinates.

24. A Trend Setter

Further, a leader must possess initiative, which is the creative ability to think in new ways and do new things. The leader has always to stay ahead. He cannot afford to set up a procedure, and then fold his hands and linger lazily watching it work. He cannot be content merely to see new trends and take advantage of them. He must keep his imagination vividly alive, so as to originate ideas and start trends.

25. Cost of Harm to the Public Unacceptable

A word of warning is in order here. To help one's subordinates or dependents at the cost of harm to the public, is tantamount to sacrilege and blasphemy. It is unfortunate, that many in positions of leadership, both great and small, have been found guilty of such practices.

26. Devotion

A good leader is devoted to his work and will willingly forego even the demands of sleep to see its accomplishment. This does not mean that he is impetuous. On the other hand, he maintains a balance between emotional drive and sound thinking. His labours, which sometimes appear excessive, derive from his firm realization that unless a man undertakes more than he can possibly do he will never be able to do all he can do. It is his enthusiasm that stimulates his energy.

27. To Develop Oneself

To sum up, there is no power on earth, in this University or elsewhere, that can take a clerk from his desk or a mechanic from his bench, and easily mould him into a leader. To develop oneself, one has to develop one's own initiative and perseverance – a man has to strive in order to grow.

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28. The Need to Serve Others

Man, who is by nature selfish, must learn that only in serving others can he reach the full stature or attain the noble destinies for which God created him.

29. The Fruitlessness of Life Without God

Our Lord Yesus Kristus says: "What has a man profited if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" Why did the effort of those who tried to build the Tower of Babel come to nothing? Was it not because they tried to live apart from their Creator, and because, vaunting themselves in their wisdom, they tried to build a tower whose top was to reach unto heaven and thus make a name for themselves?

It is Our conviction that all the activities of the children of men which are not guided by the Spirit and counsel of God will bear no lasting fruit, they will not be acceptable in the sight of the Lord and will therefore come to nought as the Tower of Babel came to nought.

30. A Soul without Christ is a Ship without a Rudder

However wise or however mighty a person may be, he is like a ship without a rudder if he is without God. A rudderless ship is at the mercy of the waves and the wind, drifts wherever they take it and if there arises a whirlwind it is smashed against the rocks and becomes as if it has never existed. It is our firm belief that a soul without Christ is bound to meet with no better fate.



"The Lion of the Tribe of Judah, Root of David, Has Prevailed" (Revelation 5:5)

JAH! RAS TAFARI! HAILE SELASSIE II!