



Wisdom of the Ages: A Modern Master Brings Eternal Truths into Everyday Life

By Wayne W. Dyer

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In this inspiring audiobook, bestselling author Wayne W. Dyer poses the question, “What do our ancestral scholars, whom we consider the wisest and most spiritually advanced, have to say to us today?”

The answer lies in this powerful collection of writings, poems and phrases by some of the greatest thinkers of the past twenty-five centuries. In succinct original essays, Dr. Wayne W. Dyer sets out to explain the meaning and context of each piece of wisdom, and most important, to explain how we can actively apply these teachings to our modern lives.

From ancestral masters including Buddha, Michelangelo, Rumi, Whitman, Emily Dickinson, and Jesus, here are treasured passages on a variety of subjects, including solitude, time, and passion. Among the contributions are thoughts about the importance of action written by Mother Theresa, words in inspiration from Patanjali, author of the Hindu classic Yoga Sutras, and teachings about the power of prayer from thirteenth century monk St. Francis of Assisi.

The voices collected here cut across a wide range of historical eras and cultures, yet they communicate universal truths about the human experience. Wisdom of the Ages provides us with a marvelous dual opportunity: to receive guidance from our great ancestors and to recognize our own potential for greatness.

Read by the Author

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Wisdom of the Ages reads like a workshop on "What the Masters can Teach You." Author Wayne Dyer offers wisdom taught by the world's "great teachers" (such as Buddha, Jesus, Confucius, Michelangelo, and Emily Dickinson) and then provides an easy-to-digest interpretation for modern readers. The book is formatted into daily, quoted passages (around a page in length) from 60 of these teachers--the "60 Days to Enlightenment" in the book's title. After each quote, Dyer offers his own thoughts on how the "lesson" can be applied to contemporary life. After his essay, the author includes a list of exercises to put the teacher's advice to use. Each passage includes a heading--"Soulcenter" for a quote from Herman Melville's *Moby Dick*, or "Communication" for William Blake's poem "A Poison Tree," for example.

While his tone is always reverent, Dyer's interpretations occasionally sound flat and obvious--as if he is dumbing down the language for his audience, rather than elevating readers to a higher consciousness (or at least a higher education). This is a shame, because when Dyer writes with the eloquent and enthusiastic voice that earned him his huge popularity--glimpses of that voice do appear in this book--one sees why so many consider him a "master teacher" in his own right. --*Gail Hudson*

From Publishers Weekly

Veteran self-help author and speaker Dyer (*Manifest Your Destiny*, etc.) chooses a new format in which to present his familiar material. Here, he offers essays inspired by 60 quotations from poetry and literature that express "life's greatest lessons." Intended as a daily inspirational, each essay focuses on a topic such as patience, leadership, divinity, prayer, grief, humanity, nonconformity, enthusiasm and forgiveness. The quotes are mostly recognizable, from such luminaries as Emerson, Thoreau, Shelley, Shakespeare, Yeats, Kipling, Melville and Shaw. Within this collection dominated by white men are a few surprises, including words from Chief Seattle, Confucius, Langston Hughes and Dorothy Parker. Each essay contains some biographical information about the source and is followed by suggestions for practicing the principle expressed in the quote and Dyer's discussion, such as "reverence for nature" and "unity consciousness." Dyer's pieces are of uneven quality, sometimes vague and undeveloped, simplistic or lacking the clear compassion and positive view required to offer readers genuine help or encouragement. Although the quotations themselves are inspiring, overall, Dyer's ruminations add little of worth. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Library Journal

This is intended as a handbook of wisdom gleaned from 60 sources, ancient and contemporary, ranging from novelists, poets, sages, and saints to statesmen, including the likes of Herman Melville, Dorothy Parker, Shakespeare, Buddha, Jesus, Mother Teresa, and Mahatma Gandhi. Each chapter, prefaced by a quotation from an individual whose contribution to history is summed up in a few lines, revolves around a specific theme, such as forgiveness, work, family and home, divinity, individuality, and so forth. These writings are often rambling and take inspiration from individuals who have no bearing on the selected quotations. This book is self-actualization guru Dyer at his presumptuous best, capitalizing on the wisdom of others and devoting the final chapter to himself as a master worthy of the last word. Not much to recommend here. ABernadette McGrath, Vancouver P.L. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Users Review

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