Zazen on Ching-t'ing Mountain

The birds have vanished down the sky.
Now the last cloud drains away.
We sit together, the mountain and me,
until only the mountain remains.

Staying the Night at a Mountain Temple

The high tower is a hundred feet tall,
From here one's hand could pluck the stars.
I do not dare to speak in a loud voice,
I fear to disturb the people in heaven.

Question and Answer on the Mountain

You ask for what reason I stay on the green mountain,
I smile, but do not answer, my heart is at leisure.
Peach blossom is carried far off by flowing water,
Apart, I have heaven and earth in the human world.

Ancient Air

I climb up high and look on the four seas,
Heaven and earth spreading out so far.
Frost blankets all the stuff of autumn,
The wind blows with the great desert's cold.
The eastward-flowing water is immense,
All the ten thousand things billow.
The white sun's passing brightness fades,
Floating clouds seem to have no end.
Swallows and sparrows nest in the wutong tree,
Yuan and luan birds perch among jujube thorns.
Now it's time to head on back again,
I flick my sword and sing Taking the Hard Road.

The Golden Rule

Confucius: “Do not impose on others what you do not wish for yourself.”

Luke 6:31 (NIV): “Do to others as you would have them do to you.”

Knowledge vs. Foolishness

Confucius: “Real knowledge is to know the extent of one’s ignorance.”

Proverbs 1:7: “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; but fools despise wisdom and instruction.”

Being True to Your Word

Confucius: “The superior man is modest in his speech, but exceeds in his actions.”

Matthew 5:37: “Let your ‘Yes’ be yes and your ‘No,’ no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.”

Choosing Friends

Confucius: “Do not be friends with anyone who is not better than yourself.”

Proverbs 13:20: “Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.”

Patience vs. Anger

Confucius: “When anger rises, think of the consequences.”

Ecclesiastes 7:9 (NIV): “Do not be quickly provoked in your spirit, for anger resides in the lap of fools.”

Humility

Confucius: “Humility is the solid foundation of all virtues.”

1 Peter 5:5-6: “...be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble. Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time.”

Hard Work & Diligence

Confucius: “It does not matter how slowly you go as long as you do not stop.”

Proverbs 12:24: “The hand of the diligent will rule, while the slothful will be put to forced labor.”

Self-Control

Confucius: “He who conquers himself is the mightiest warrior.”

Proverbs 16:32: “Whoever is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.”

Integrity

Confucius: “The superior man understands what is right; the inferior man understands what will sell.”

Proverbs 19:1: “Better is a poor person who walks in his integrity than one who is crooked in speech and is a fool.”

Learning

Confucius: “Is it not a pleasure, having learned something, to try it out at due intervals?”

Proverbs 1:5: “Let the wise hear and increase in learning.”

Honoring Your Parents

Confucius: “Filial piety and fraternal submission—are they not the root of all benevolent actions?”

Ephesians 6:1-3: “Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother, which is the first commandment with promise: that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.”

Self-Examination

Confucius: "When we see men of a contrary character, we should turn inward and examine ourselves."

2 Corinthians 13:5 (NIV) "Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you—unless, of course, you fail the test?"

The Lord's Prayer
Matthew 6:9-13

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Proverbs 4:7

Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

James 3:17

But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.