CHAPTER 3. AUTHORS WITH B.C.E. BIRTHDATES

And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat. And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.

* * *

And God spake unto Noah, and to his sons with him, saying,...behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you; And with every living creature that is with you, of the fowl, of the cattle, and of every beast of the earth with you; from all that go out of the ark, to every beast of the earth. This is the token of the covenant, which I have established between me and all flesh that is upon the earth.  

**Genesis 1:29-31; 9:8-17 King James Bible**
Thou shalt not kill.
(Exodus 20:13 King James Bible)

Thou shalt not steal.
(Exodus 20:15 King James Bible)

[on the angel speaking to Balaam]
"Wherefore hast thou smitten thine ass these three times? behold, I went out to withstand thee, because thy way is perverse before me:

And the ass saw me, and turned from me these three times: unless she had turned from me, surely now also I had slain thee, and saved her alive."
(Numbers 22:22-33 King James Bible)

Moses (c. 1500 B.C.E.)
Hebrew prophet and leader, author of the Pentatuch

The butcher relenteth not at the bleating of the lamb; neither is the heart of the cruel moved with distress. But the tears of the compassionate are sweeter than dew-drops, falling from roses on the bosom of spring.

Akhenaten, Amenhotep IV (1353-1335 B.C.E.)
Egyptian pharaoh, "The Heretic King" who banned animal sacrifice
The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.
(Psalms 24:1 King James Bible)

O Lord, thou preservest man and beast.
(Psalms 36:6 King James Bible)

* * *

O Lord, how manifold are thy works!
in wisdom hast thou made them all:
the earth is full of thy riches.
So is this great and wide sea,
wherein are things creeping innumerable,
both small and great beasts.
[There] is that leviathan,
whom thou hast made to play therein.
These wait all upon thee;
that thou mayest give them their meat in due season.
That thou givest them they gather:
thou openest thine hand, they are filled with good.
[The] Lord shall rejoice in his works.
(Psalms 104:24-28 King James Bible)

* * *

The Lord is good to all
and His tender mercies
are over all of His creatures.
(Psalms 145:9 King James Bible)

* * *
Praise the Lord from the earth, ye dragons, and all deeps:
...Beasts, and all cattle; creeping things, and flying fowl:
(Psalms 148:7,10 King James Bible)
* * *
Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord.
(Psalms 150:6 King James Bible)
King David (c. 1037-970 B.C.E.)
Second Hebrew king of the united Kingdom of Israel

These...are an abomination to [the Lord]:
A proud look, a lying tongue,
and hands that shed innocent blood.
(Proverbs 6:16,17 King James Bible)
* * *
The merciful man doeth good to his own soul:
but he that is cruel troubleth his own flesh.
(Proverbs 11:17 King James Bible)
* * *
A righteous person regardeth the life of his beast,
but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.
(Proverbs 12:10 King James Bible)
* * *
Open thy mouth for the dumb
in the cause of all such as are appointed to destruction.
(Proverbs 31:8 King James Bible)
King Solomon (c. 1011-c. 970 B.C.E.)
Third Hebrew king of the united Kingdom of Israel

Though ye offer me burnt offerings and your meat offerings,
I will not accept them:
neither will I regard the peace offerings of your fat beasts.
(Amos 5:22 King James Bible)
Amos (c. 770-755 B.C.E.)
Hebrew minor prophet, author of the Book of Amos

To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices unto me?
I am full of the burnt offering of rams, and the fat of fed beasts;
and I delight not in the blood of bullocks, lambs, or he-goats....
Bring no more vain oblations.
(Isaiah 1:11-15 King James Bible)
* * *
The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, 
and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; 
and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together;

and a little child shall lead them. 
And the cow and the bear shall feed; 
their young ones shall lie down together: 
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 
And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, 
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice's den. 
They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: 
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, 
as the waters cover the sea. 
(Isaiah 11:6-9 King James Bible)

* * *

Is not this the fast that I have chosen? 
to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, 
and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? 
(Isaiah 58:6 King James Bible)

* * *

He that killeth an ox is as if he slew a man; 
he that sacrificeth a lamb, as if he cut off a dog's neck; 
he that offereth an oblation, as if he offered swine's blood; 
(Isaiah 66:3 King James Bible)

Isaiah (c. 740-c. 685 B.C.E.) 
Hebrew major prophet, author of the Book of Isaiah 

.................
Wherewith shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before the high God? shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? ... He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God? (Micah 6:6-8 King James Bible) 

Micah (c. 735-725 B.C.E.) 
Hebrew minor prophet, author of the Book of Micah

O fools! they know not in their selfish soul, How far the half is better than the whole: The good which Asphodel and Mallows yield, The feast of herbs, the dainties of the field. And now a third, a brazen people rise, Unlike the former, men of monstrous size. On the crude flesh of beasts, they feed alone, savage their nature, and their hearts of stone. (Hesiod (c. 700 B.C.E.) Greek epic poet

My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt. (Daniel 6:22 King James Bible) 

Daniel (c. 606-535 B.C.E.) Hebrew major prophet, author of the Book of Daniel

♦ A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. (Lao Tzu, "Old Man" (6th Century B.C.E.)) Chinese founder of Taoism, author of Tao text Tao te ching

Non-violence and kindness to living beings is kindness to oneself. For thereby one's own self is saved from various kinds of sins and resultant sufferings and is able to secure his own welfare.
<>
The worthy men of the past, present and the future all say thus, speak thus, explain thus: all breathing, existing living and sentient creatures should not be slain, nor treated with violence, nor abused, nor tormented. This is the pure, eternal and unchangeable law. 
Lord Mahavira, Prince Vardhamana (599-527 B.C.E.) Indian founder of Jainism

..................

Alas, what wickedness to have one living creature fed by the death of another in the midst of such wealth as Earth, the best of Mothers, provides. <>
For as long as man continues to be the ruthless destroyer of lower living beings, he will never know health or peace. <>
For as long as men massacre animals, they will kill each other. Indeed he who sows the seeds of murder and pain cannot reap joy and love. <>
Alas, what wickedness to swallow flesh into our own flesh, to fatten our greedy bodies by cramming in other bodies, to have one living creature fed by the death of another! In the midst of such wealth as earth, the best of Mothers, provides, nothing forsooth satisfies you, but to behave like the Cyclopes, inflicting sorry wounds with cruel teeth! You cannot appease the hungry cravings of your wicked, gluttonous stomachs except by destroying some other life. The animals share with us the privilege of having a soul. <>
[on seeing a man abusing a puppy] Do not kick him. In his body is the soul of a friend of mine. I recognized the voice when he cried out. 
Pythagoras (582-507 B.C.E.) Greek philosopher and mathematician 
 ..................

Will ye not cease from this great din of slaughter? Will ye not see, unthinking as ye are, how ye rend one another unbeknoweth? Empodocles (5th century B.C.E.) Greek philosopher 
 ..................
The eating of meat extinguishes the seed of great compassion. All beings tremble before violence. All fear death. All love life.

See yourself in others. Then whom can you hurt? What harm can you do?

<> There may be in time to come people who make foolish remarks about meat-eating, saying, "Meat is proper to eat, unobjectionable, and permitted by the Buddha." When I teach to regard food as if it were eating the flesh of one's own child how can I permit my disciples... to eat food consisting of flesh and blood, which is gratifying to the unwise but is abhorred by the wise, which brings many evils and keeps away many merits... and is altogether unsuitable? Thus...meat-eating I have not permitted to anyone, I do not permit, I will not permit.

* * *
Wherever there is the evolution of living beings, let people cherish the thought of kinship with them, and, thinking that all beings are [to be loved as if they were] an only child, let them refrain from eating meat.

* * *
For the sake of love of purity...refrain from eating flesh.

* * *
For fear of causing terror to living beings...refrain from eating flesh.

* * *
[W]ho is ever desirous of purity in his discipline... refrain from eating meat.
* * *  
If...meat is not eaten...for any reason, there will be no destroyer of life.  
* * *  
In the majority of cases the slaughtering of innocent living beings is done for pride and very rarely for other causes. Alas...one addicted to the love of [meat] taste should eat human flesh!  
* * *  
From eating [meat] arrogance is born, from arrogance erroneous imaginations issue, and from imagination is born greed; and for this reason refrain from eating [meat].... For profit sentient beings are destroyed, for flesh money is paid out.  
[T]hey are both evil-doers.  
("On Meat Eating" The Lankavatara Sutra)  
Buddha Siddhartha Gautama (563-483 B.C.E.) Nepalese founder of Buddhism

The wildest colts only make the best horses.  
(quoted in Life of Themistocles by Plutarch)  
Themistocles (c. 524-457 B.C.E.) Greek politician and general

..........
♦ The highest realms of thought are impossible to reach without first attaining an understanding of compassion.
<>
♦ Whenever, therefore, people are deceived and form opinions wide of the truth, it is clear that the error has slid into their minds through the medium of certain resemblances to that truth.
<>
Bad men live that they may eat and drink, whereas good men eat and drink that they may live.
**Socrates (469-399 B.C.E.)**
Greek philosopher and teacher

The soul is the same in all living creatures, although the body of each is different.
**Hippocrates (460-370 B.C.E.)**
Greek physician, "The Father of Medicine"

[on Paradise]
God was supreme governor....
So it befell that savagery was nowhere to be found nor preying of creature on creature,....
[T]hey had fruits without stint from trees and bushes.
(Eleatic Stranger, the hero in Statesman, 360 B.C.E.)
<> The Gods created certain kinds of beings to replenish our bodies...
they are the trees and the plants and the seeds.
Plato (c. 427-347 B.C.E.)
Greek philosopher
..............

I have enforced the law against killing
certain animals and many others,
but the greatest progress of righteousness among men
comes from the exhortation in favor of non-injury to life
and abstention from killing all living beings.
(Ahsoka's Edicts)
Ashoka the Great (304-232 B.C.E.)
Indian emperor of the Maurya Dynasty
..............

For that which befalleth the sons of men
befalleth beasts...
they have all one breath,
so that man hath no preeminence above a beast:
(Ecclesiastes 3:19 King James Bible)
A descendent of King David (c. 250 B.C.E.)
..............

♦ Nothing cruel is useful or expedient.
Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.E.)
Roman statesman, lawyer, philosopher
..............

How can one,
who eats the flesh of others to swell his flesh,
show compassion?
(Tirukkural)
Tiruvalluvar (c. 1st century B.C.E.)
Indian poet-saint
..............

Dare to be wise!
Stop killing animals!
Horace (65-8 B.C.E.)
Roman lyric poet
..............
Mortals, refrain from defiling your bodies with sinful feasting, for you have the fruits of the earth and of arbors, whose branches bow with their burden.

* * *

Earth is abundantly wealthy and freely provides you Her gentle sustenance, offered without any bloodshed.... So great is the human hunger to eat what's forbidden, you mortals will dare even to feed upon this! Don't you do it, I beg you! Pay close attention to my admonition, and when you devour this flesh of your fresh-butchered cattle,

taste it and know you are eating your labor's companion!

(Metamorphoses, Book XV)
Ovid (43 B.C.E.-17 C.E.)
Roman poet

♦ All cruelty springs from weakness.
<> To abstain from the flesh of animals is to foster and to encourage innocence.
<> I resolved to abstain from flesh meat, and at the end of a year the habit of abstinence was not only easy but delightful.
<> We are members of one great body.

* * *
Let us ask what is best, not what is customary. Let us love temperance —let us be just— let us refrain from bloodshed. (Epistola)

Seneca (c. 8 B.C.E.—65 C.E.)
Roman statesman, philosopher, dramatist

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness:
for they shall be filled.
Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. (Matthew 5:3-9 King James Bible)

* * *

I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: (Matthew 9:13 King James Bible)

* * *

[on throwing the merchants of doves and lambs out of the temple] Is it not written, My house shall be called of all nations the house of prayer? but ye have made it a den of thieves. (Mark 11:17 King James Bible)

* * *

Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. * * *
I am the good shepherd:
the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.
But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd,
whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming,
and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth:
and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep.
The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling,
and careth not for the sheep.
I am the good shepherd,
and know my sheep, and am known of mine.
As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father:
and I lay down my life for the sheep.
And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold:
them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice;
and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

(John 10:7-16 King James Bible)
Christ Jesus (c. 4 B.C.E.-33 C.E.)
Bethlehem-born Hebrew from Nazareth
Founder of Christianity

END OF CHAPTER 3. B.C.E. BIRTHDATES
Photo Credits for Chapter 3. B.C.E. Birthdates

P 1 NOAH’S ARK (1846)
Oil painting by Edward Hicks (1780-1849) of Bucks County, Pennsylvania
Public Domain photo of artwork

P 2 "L’ÂNE" DONKEY (Equus asinus asinus)
Location: France
Photo by Loïc/Flickr
Photo seen here: www.flickr.com/photos/loicf1-8/4307151144
Photostream: www.flickr.com/photos/loicf1-8

P 3 THE CORNELL FARM (1848)
Location: National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.
Oil painting by Edward Hicks (1780-1849) of Bucks County, Pennsylvania
Public Domain photo of artwork
Artwork seen here: en.wikipedia.org/Edward_Hicks_The_Cornell-Farm

P 5 PEACEABLE KINGDOM (circa 1834)
Location: National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.
Oil painting by Edward Hicks (1780-1849) of Bucks County, Pennsylvania
Public Domain photo of artwork
Artwork seen here: en.wikipedia.org/Edward_Hicks_-_Peaceable_Kingdom

P 8 "HANDSOME TONY" THE GOAT (Capra aegagus hircus)
Location: Animal Place Sanctuary, Grass Valley, California, U.S.A.
Photo by Marji Beach — rinalia/Flickr
Photo seen here: www.flickr.com/photos/rinalia/3129434814
Photostream: www.flickr.com/photos/rinalia

P 8 SHEEP IN A FIELD (Ovis aries)
Location: Germany
Photo by Andreas Helke/Flickr
Photo seen here: www.flickr.com/photos/andreas_helke/404017960/
Photostream: www.flickr.com/photos/andreas_helke

P 9 THEMISTOCLES' "WILDEST COLT" KEEPS PACE WITH MOM (Equus ferus caballus)
Location: Sand Wash Basin HMA, Colorado, U.S.A.
Photo by Bob Schillereff/© Bob Schillereff Photography, Washington, U.S.A.
Photo seen here: www.bobschillereff.com/p797930665/h29cbd36b#h29cbd36b
Photographer's website: www.bobschillereff.com

P 10 GREEN TURTLE (Chelonia mydas)
Location: Hawaii, U.S.A.
Photo by Mila Zinkova/Wikimedia User (GNU Free Documentation License 1.2 Version)
Photo seen here: commons.wikimedia.org/Picture_of_the_Year/2007

(PHOTO CREDITS CONTINUED ON PAGE 16)
(PHOTO CREDITS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15)

P 12 OXEN PLOUGHING (1902) (Bos taurus)
Location: National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
Etching and drypoint by Clarence Alphonse Gagnon (1881-1942) of Quebec, Canada
Artwork seen here: http://cybermuse.gallery.ca and http://nationalgallery.ca
CyberMuse is the art education research site of the National Gallery of Canada; its material may be used without permission for non-commercial, educational purposes.

P 14 "JESUS THE GOOD SHEPHERD" STAINED-GLASS WINDOW
Location: Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, Hopatcong, New Jersey, U.S.A.
Photo by Loci B. Lenar / © 2009 Flickr and © Miracles of Faith
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