

King Wen (Ode 235)

1

King Wen is on high,
 Oh, he shines in Heaven!
 Zhou is an old people,
 but its Mandate is new.
 The leaders of Zhou became illustrious,
 was not God's Mandate timely given?
 King Wen ascends and descends
 on the left and right of God.

4

August was King Wen,
 continuously bright and reverent.
 Great, indeed, was the Mandate of Heaven.
 There were Shang's grandsons and sons,
 Shang's grandsons and sons.
 Was their number not a hundred thousand?
 But the High God gave his Mandate,
 and they bowed down to Zhou.

7

The Mandate is not easy to keep;
 may it not end in your persons.
 Display and make bright your good fame,
 and consider what Yin had received from Heaven.
 The doings of high Heaven
 have no sound, no smell.
 Make King Wen your pattern,
 and all the states will trust in you.

[From "Wenwang" *Da ya*, *Shijing* — BW]

Rich Year (Ode 279)

Rich is the year with much millet and rice;
 and we have tall granaries
 with hundreds and thousands and millions of sheaves.