Ahura Mazda – the First Choice Between Good and Evil

Subjects: English · Religious Studies · History | recommended from age 12 (B1) | Video: 8:39 min



Watch the video
youtu.be/E-6CPV5CzVE

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

A · Before watching

1. How can you tell a “good” decision? Write down your own rule.

B · While watching

1. What are the Gathas, and who was Zarathustra?

2. What choice did the twin spirits have – and what did they choose?

3. What happened when Angra Mainyu broke into creation?

4. Which principle do Zoroastrians still follow today?

5. What does the eternal flame in the fire temples stand for?

Useful words

wise	weise	choice	Wahl
truth	Wahrheit	prophet	Prophet
lie	Lüge	fire temple	Feuertempel
twin	Zwilling	deed	Tat

C · Put the story in order

Number the events from 1 to 8 in the order they happen in the video.

	Angra Mainyu breaks through the dome of the sky.
	Zarathustra meets “Good Thought” by the river.
	Two twin spirits come forth from Ahura Mazda.
	The first human couple grows from a plant.
	Spenta Mainyu chooses truth, Angra Mainyu the lie.
	King Vishtaspa accepts the new faith.
	Ahura Mazda creates sky, water, earth, plants and fire.
	Plants and animals come from the dying first bull.

D · Think and discuss

1. In Zoroastrianism every person fights in the struggle between good and evil. What does this idea change in everyday life?

2. Many historians suspect influence on Judaism, Christianity and Islam – but it isn't proven. Why is this caution important?

E · Key words of Zoroastrianism

Explain the terms in your own words.

	Meaning	Role in the story
Asha and Druj		
Spenta Mainyu and Angra Mainyu		
Amesha Spentas		
“good thoughts, good words, good deeds”		

F · Get creative

1. In your exercise book, describe three everyday situations in which you could choose between “Asha” and “Druj”, and what you would choose.