And **Vizan**, the son of king Mazdai, came and said to the attendants: “Give him to me that I may talk with him until the king comes.” And they gave him to him. And he took Judas and went within to (the place) where the king used to sit and judge. Vizan says to him: “You know that I am the son of king Mazdai and that I have liberty to say to the king all that I wish and that if I tell the king he will let you live and if I tell him he will kill you. Now tell me, who is your God? And by whose power do you hold fast and glory (in it)? And if it be **witchcraft**, teach it to me and I will speak to the king and he will let you go.”

Judas says to Vizan: “You are the son of Mazdai, this king who **passes away and I am the servant of Jesus, the king who abides for ever**. You have power to speak to your father and to preserve alive those whom you please in this short life in which men do not abide, even when you have given it to them and both you and your father are mortal. And I beg of my Lord and beseech of him on behalf of men and he gives them the new life which lasts for ever. You glory in men and in slaves and in riches and garments and attendants and in concubines and in meats which pass away and in the bed of uncleanness and I glory in poverty and **ascetism** and contempt and in fasting and prayer and great thanksgiving and in the communion of the brothers and of the Spirit of holiness and in the intercourse of the brothers who are **worthy** before God to live in everlasting life. You take **refuge** with a man like unto you who cannot even deliver his own soul from **judgment** and from death and I take refuge with him who is the Condemner and the Absolver and the Great and who is Judge of all men. You and he with whom you take refuge are to-day and to-morrow and after a time you are not. And I take refuge with him who is for ever and who knows all times and seasons. You too, therefore, my son, if you wish to become the servant of this God whom I serve can become his quickly. And you are seen to be his servant by these things which I mention to you,—by **purity**, the chief of all good qualities and the great beginning and the returning to a better state and the communion of this God whom I preach and by **cleanliness** and by **temperance**
and by love and by faith and by hope in Him and by simplicity of pure life.”

Commentary. Vizan, Վիզան, Greek: Վիզանի and Եոտան Latin: Zuza
dnes. See Justi, Iran. Namenbuch, p. 367, s.v. Wezan. witchcraft. See ch. 16
passes away ... abides for ever. See ch. 36. asceticism, ἀσκησις. See ch. 20 and 85. worthy. See ch. 24. refuge. See ch. 10. judgment. See ch. 30. purity, ἁρμοσαμα. See ch. 20 and 85. cleanness, ἁρμοσαμα, see ch. 30 and 52. temperance, ἁρμοσαμα, see ch. 20 and 85. In Greek: ἁγιωσύνη θλησση. Cf. Infancy Gospel of Thomas, Greek, see J.K. Elliott, The Apocr. New Testament 75: “The Account of Thomas the Israelite, the Philosopher ...”. by simplicity of pure life, ἀσκησις ὑπὸ ἀσκησις ἡ ἑοταν ἡ ᾄσια Greek: ἐνότητι καθαρός τροφής, which may be original, see ch. 20.

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And the youth Vizan was persuaded through our Lord and was seeking some way by which he might rescue Judas.

And whilst he was considering, the king came. And the attendants came and took Judas and led him out. And Vizan too went out with him and was standing beside him. And the king took his seat and sent (and) had Judas brought in, with his hands bound behind him. And when he stood before him, the king said to him: “Tell me, who you are and by whose power do you do these things?” Judas says to him: “I am a man like to you, and I do these things by the power of Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God.” Mazdai says to him: “Speak truly, before I destroy you.” Judas says to him: “You have no power over me as you think and you cannot make me suffer.” And when Judas had said these things, king Mazdai was enraged and gave orders to heat two plates of iron and to make him stand upon them barefoot. And when they had made him sit down, they drew off and took away his shoes and he was laughing and saying: “Far better is your wisdom Jesus than all the wisdoms of all men. Do you take counsel against them and let your loving-kindness make preparation against the anger of these (men).” And they brought the plates (glowing) like fire, and laid hold of Judas to make him step upon them. And suddenly much water rose out of the earth and the plates were immersed in it and the men let him go and fled.