

## “Collection of Quotes” Library of Quotations

“Unshared joy is an unlighted candle.” — *Spanish proverb*

“The best place to find a helping hand is at the end of your own arm.” — *Swedish proverb*

“But rules cannot substitute for character.” — *Alan Greenspan, 20th/21st-century chairman of the U.S. Federal Reserve Board*

“Character is what you are in the dark.” — *Unknown*

“What lies behind us and what lies before us are small matters compared to what lies within us.” — *Ralph Waldo Emerson, 19th-century American essayist and poet*

“If you will think about what you ought to do for other people, your character will take care of itself. Character is a by-product, and any man who devotes himself to its cultivation in his own case will become a selfish prig.” — *Woodrow Wilson, 20th-century American president*

“We are what we seem to be.” — *Willard Gaylin, 20th-century American psychiatrist*

“Our lives teach us who we are.” — *Salman Rushdie, 20th-century Anglo-Indian novelist*

“If you don’t have enemies, you don’t have character.” — *Paul Newman, 20th-century American actor*

“What someone is, begins to be revealed when his talent abates, when he stops showing us what he can do.” — *Friedrich Nietzsche, 19th-century German philosopher*

“Character is like a tree and reputation like its shadow. The shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing.” — *Abraham Lincoln, mid-19th-century U.S. president*

“A person’s character is what it is. It’s a little like a marriage – only without the option of divorce. You can work on it and try to make it better, but basically you have to take the bitter with the sweet.” — *Henrik Hertzberg, 20th-century American editor and journalist*

“What a man’s mind can create, man’s character can control.” — *Thomas Edison, 19th/20th-century American inventor*

“The true test of civilization is not the census, nor the size of cities, nor the crops – no, but the kind of man the country turns out.” — *Ralph Waldo Emerson, 19th-century American essayist, public philosopher and poet*

“Character cannot be developed in ease and quiet. Only through experience of trial and suffering can the soul be strengthened, vision cleared, ambition inspired, and success achieved.” — *Helen Keller, 20th-century American social activist, public speaker and author*

“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically... Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.” — *Martin Luther King Jr., Nobel Prize-winning 20th-century American civil rights leader*

“The best index to a person’s character is (a) how he treats people who can’t do him any good, and (b) how he treats people who can’t fight back.” — *Abigail van Buren ("Dear Abby"), 20th-century American newspaper advice columnist*

“Character is that which reveals moral purpose, exposing the class of things a man chooses and avoids.” — *Aristotle, ancient Greek philosopher*

“Character is an essential tendency. It can be covered up, it can be messed with, it can be screwed around with, but it can’t be ultimately changed. It’s the structure of our bones, the blood that runs through our veins.” — *Sam Shepard, 20th-century American playwright*

“The measure of a man's character is what he would do if he knew he never would be found out.” — *Baron Thomas Babington Macauley, early 19th-century English historian*

“Fame is a vapor, popularity an accident, riches take wing, and only character endures.” — *Horace Greeley, 19th-century American journalist and educator*

"The proper time to influence the character of a child is about a hundred years before he’s born." — *William R. Inge*

"If we want our children to possess the traits of character we most admire, we need to teach them what those traits are and why they deserve both admiration and allegiance. Children must learn to identify the forms and content of those traits." — *William J. Bennett, former U.S. Secretary of Education, author*

"The formation of character in young people is educationally a different task from and a prior task to, the discussion of the great, difficult ethical controversies of the day." — *William J. Bennett, former U.S. Secretary of Education, author*

"Conviction is worthless unless it is converted into conduct." — *Thomas Carlyle, 19th-century Scots-English historian, author*

"Character is much easier kept than recovered." — *Thomas Paine, 18th-century American political activist*

"Every man has three characters: that which he shows, that which he has, and that which he thinks he has." — *Alphonse Karr*

"All paths lead to the same goal: to convey to others what we are." — *Pablo Neruda, 20th-century Nobel Prize-winning, Chilean poet and political activist*

"A man's character is his fate." — *Heraclitus, ancient Greek historian*

"Character is simply habit long continued." — *Plutarch, Roman biographer*

"One can acquire everything in solitude — except character." — *Henri Stendahl, 19th-century French author*

"Character is much easier kept than recovered." — *Thomas Paine, 18th-century American political activist*

"Character is that which can do without success." — *Ralph Waldo Emerson, 19th-century American essayist, public philosopher and poet*

"No change of circumstances can repair a defect of character." — *Ralph Waldo Emerson, 19th-century American essayist, public philosopher and poet*

"The force of character is cumulative." — *Ralph Waldo Emerson, 19th-century American essayist, public philosopher and poet*

"Not in time, place or circumstance but in the man lies success." — *James Joyce, 20th-century Irish novelist*

"The measure of a man's real character is what he would do if he knew he would never be found out." — *Baron Thomas Babington Macauley, early 19th-century English historian*

"It is with trifles, and when he is off guard, that a man best reveals his character." — *Arthur Schopenhauer, 19th-century German philosopher*

"If a man has any greatness in him, it comes to light, not in one flamboyant hour, but in the ledger of his daily work." — *Beryl Markham, 20th-century English adventurer and author*

"You can easily judge the character of a man by how he treats those who can do nothing for him." — *Goethe, 18th/19th-century German poet, novelist, playwright and philosopher*

"When you choose the lesser of two evils, always remember that it is still an evil." — *Max Lerner*

"He who has a choice has trouble." — *Dutch proverb*

There is a point at which everything becomes simple and there is no longer any question of choice, because all you have staked will be lost if you look back. Life's point of no return." — *Dag Hammarskjöld, 20th-century Swedish diplomat, U.N. Secretary*

## General

"Life is the sum of your choices." — *Albert Camus, Nobel Prize-winning, 20th-century French "existentialist" novelist*

"Liberty means responsibility. That's why most men dread it." — *George Bernard Shaw, 19th/20th-century Anglo-Irish dramatist and wit*

"Freedom is not procured by a full enjoyment of what is desired, but by controlling that desire." — *Epictetus, ancient Greek historian*

"Freedom means choosing your burden." — *Hephzibah Menuhin*

"In order to exist, man must rebel." — *Albert Camus, Nobel Prize-winning, 20th-century French "existentialist" novelist*

"What do I owe to my times, to my country, to my neighbors, to my friends? Such are the questions which a virtuous man ought often to ask himself." — *Lavater*

"What the people want is very simple. They want an America as good as its promise." — *Barbara Jordan, 20th-century congresswoman and professor*

"A nation, as a society, forms a moral person, and every member of it is personally responsible for his society." — *Thomas Jefferson, 18th-century American Founding Father, early 19th-century U.S. president (letter to George Hammond, 1792)*

"It is strangely absurd to suppose that a million of human beings, collected together, are not under the same moral laws which bind each of them separately." — *Thomas Jefferson, 18th-century American Founding Father, early 19th-century U.S. president (letter to George Logan, 1816)*

"Public virtue is a kind of ghost town into which anyone can move and declare himself sheriff." — *Saul Bellow, Nobel Prize-winning 20th-century American author*

"Americanism is a question of principles, of idealism, of character: it is not a matter of birthplace or creed or line of descent." — *Theodore Roosevelt, 19th/20th-century American adventurer and politician, Nobel Prize-winning U.S. president*

"If we are forced, at every hour, to watch or listen to horrible events, this constant stream of ghastly impressions will deprive even the most delicate among us of all respect for humanity." — *Cicero (Marcus Tullius), Roman orator, philosopher and statesman*

"Life is not so short but that there is always time enough for courtesy." — *Ralph Waldo Emerson, 19th-century American essayist, public philosopher and poet*

"In a time of social fragmentation, vulgarity becomes a way of life. To be shocking becomes more important — and often more profitable — than to be civil or creative or

truly original.” — *Al Gore, 20th-century American politician, vice president of the U.S.*

“Like the body that is made up of different limbs and organs, all moral creatures must depend on each other to exist.” — *Hindu proverb*

“Politeness is the art of choosing among one’s real thoughts.” — *Adlai Stevenson II, 20th-century American politician, presidential candidate*

“We are all angels with only one wing. We can only fly while embracing each other.” — *Luciano De Crescenzo*

"What has always made a hell on earth has been that man has tried to make it his heaven." — *Friedrich Holderin*

"It is in the shelter of each other that people live." — *Irish proverb*

“Life is a place of service, and in that service one has to suffer a great deal that is hard to bear, but more often to experience a great deal of joy. But that joy can be real only if people look upon their lives as a service and have a definite object in life outside themselves and their personal happiness.” — *Count Leo Tolstoy, 19th-century Nobel Prize-winning Russian novelist*

“But it was impossible to save the Great Republic. She was rotten to the heart. Lust of conquest had long ago done its work; trampling upon the helpless abroad had taught her, by a natural process, to endure with apathy the like at home; multitudes who had applauded the crushing of other people’s liberties, lived to suffer for their mistake in their own persons. The government was irrevocably in the hands of the prodigiously rich and their hangers-on; the suffrage was become a mere machine, which they used as they chose. There was no principle but commercialism, no patriotism but of the pocket.” — *Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens), 19th-century American humorist, author and journalist*

"A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory." — *Steven Wright, 20th-century comedian*

"Prudence reproaches; conscience accuses." — *Immanuel Kant, 18th-century Prussian geographer and philosopher*

"Trust that man in nothing who has not a conscience in everything." — *Laurence Sterne, 18th-century English novelist*

"Conscience is, in most, an anticipation of the opinion of others." — *Sir Henry Taylor*

"Most men sell their souls and live with a good conscience on the proceeds." — *Logan Pearsall Smith*

"A good conscience is a continual Christmas." — *Benjamin Franklin, 18th-century American Founding Father, inventor and statesman*

"Reason often makes mistakes but conscience never does." — *Josh Billings (Henry Wheeler Shaw), 19th-century American humorist*

"Conscience is thoroughly well-bred and soon leaves off talking to those who do not wish to hear it." — *Samuel Butler, 17th-century English poet*

"The difficulty is to know conscience from self-interest." — *William Dean Howells, 19th-century American journalist and novelist*

"When your intelligence don't tell you something ain't right, your conscience gives you a tap you on the shoulder and says 'Hold on.' If it don't, you're a snake." — *Elvis Presley, 20th-century American celebrity singer*

"There is no witness so terrible, no accuser so powerful as conscience which dwells within us." — *Sophocles, ancient Greek dramatist*

"Nobody is bored when he is trying to make something that is beautiful, or to discover something that is true." — *William Inge*

"Imagination is more important than knowledge." — *Albert Einstein, 20th-century Swiss mathematician, physicist and public philosopher*

"Analysis kills spontaneity. The grain once ground into flour germinates no more." — *Henri Amiel*

"It is with the heart that one sees rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye." — *Antoine de Saint-Exupery, The Little Prince*

"You can never solve a problem on the level on which it was created." — *Albert Einstein, 20th-century Swiss mathematician, physicist and public philosopher*

"No problem can stand the assault of sustained thinking." — *Francois Marie Arouet de Voltaire, 18th-century French author, wit and philosopher*

"Discovery is the ability to be puzzled by simple things." — *Noam Chomsky, 20th-century American linguist and political activist*

"To swear off making mistakes is very easy. All you have to do is swear off having ideas." — *Leo Burnett, 20th-century American advertising pioneer*

"Imagination was given to us to compensate for what we are not; a sense of humor was given to us to console us for what we are." — *Mack McGinnis*

"The greatest and most important problems in life are all in a certain sense insoluble. They can never be solved, but only outgrown." — *Carl Jung, 20th-century Swiss founder of analytical psychology*

"Worrying is like a rocking chair: it gives you something to do, but it doesn't get you anywhere." — *Unknown*

"Nurture your mind with great thoughts, for you will never go any higher than you think." — *Benjamin Disraeli, 19th-century British statesman and novelist*

"Courage is the price life exacts for peace." — *Amelia Earhart, 20th-century American aviator*

"Courage is being scared to death — and saddling up anyway." — *John Wayne, 20th-century actor*

"The mighty oak was once a little nut that stood its ground." — *Unknown*

"Courage is like a muscle; it is strengthened by use." — *Ruth Gordon*

"No one reaches a high position without daring." — *Syrus*

"Great occasions do not make heroes or cowards; they simply unveil them to the eyes. Silently and imperceptibly, as we wake or sleep, we grow strong or we grow weak, and at last some crisis shows us what we have become." — *Bishop Westcott*

"The one permanent emotion of the inferior man is fear — fear of the unknown, the complex, the inexplicable. What he wants beyond everything else is safety." — *H. L. Mencken, 20th-century American journalist and humorist*

"I believe that anyone can conquer fear by doing the things he fears to do, provided he keeps doing them until he gets a record of successful experiences behind him." — *Eleanor Roosevelt, 20th-century American stateswoman, First Lady*

"Life is a compromise of what your ego wants to do, what experience tells you to do, and what nerves let you do." — *Bruce Crampton*

"The art of living lies not in eliminating but in growing with troubles." — *Bernard M. Baruch, 20th-century American financier*

"All problems become smaller if you don't dodge them, but confront them. Touch a thistle timidly, and it pricks you; grasp it boldly, and its spines crumble." — *William S. Halsey*

"Fortunately for themselves and the world, nearly all men are cowards and dare not act on what they believe. Nearly all our disasters come of a few fools having the "courage of their convictions." — *Coventry Patmore*

"It isn't the absence of conscience or values that prevents us from being all we should be, it is simply the lack of moral courage." — *Michael Josephson, 20th/21st-century American ethicist*

"To see what is right and not to do it is cowardice." — *Confucius, ancient Chinese sage*

"One man with courage makes a majority." — *Andrew Jackson, early 19th-century American military hero and U.S. president*

"It is better to die on one's feet than to live on one's knees." — *Albert Camus, Nobel Prize-winning, 20th-century French "existentialist" novelist*

"Cowards die many times before their deaths; the valiant never taste of death but once." — *William Shakespeare, 16th-century English dramatist*

"Cowardice. . . is almost always simply a lack of ability to suspend the functioning of the imagination." — *Ernest Hemingway, 20th-century Nobel Prize-winning American novelist*

"Courage easily finds its own eloquence." — *Plautus*

"Fear comes from uncertainty. When we are absolutely certain, whether of our worth or worthlessness, we are almost impervious to fear." — *William Congreve, 17th/18th-century English dramatist*

"The basest of all things is to be afraid." — *William Faulkner, 20th-century Nobel Prize-winning American novelist*

"In times of stress, be bold and valiant." — *Horace, Roman poet*

"Grief has limits, whereas apprehension has none. For we grieve only for what we know has happened, but we fear all that possibly may happen." — *Pliny the Younger*

"Fear is an instructor of great sagacity, and the herald of all revolutions." — *Ralph Waldo Emerson, 19th-century American essayist, public philosopher and poet*

"The world has no room for cowards." — *Robert Louis Stevenson, 19th-century English novelist and adventurer*

"If you let fear of consequence prevent you from following your deepest instinct, then your life will be safe, expedient and thin." — *Katharine Butler Hathaway*

"What you are afraid to do is a clear indicator of the next thing you need to do." — *Unknown*

"When it comes to the pinch, human beings are heroic." — *George Orwell, 20th-century English journalist and novelist*

"If we could be heroes, if just for one day." — *David Bowie, 20th-century English pop music performer*

"One must think like a hero merely to behave like a decent human being." — *May*



*Barton*

"What worries you, masters you." — *Haddon W. Robinson*

"And each man stand with his face in the light of his own drawn sword. Ready to do what a hero can." — *Elizabeth Barrett Browning, 19th-century English poet*

"Necessity makes even the timid brave." — *Sallust*

"Never underestimate the effectiveness of a straight cash bribe." — *Claude Cockburn*

"The intention makes the crime." — *Aristotle, ancient Greek philosopher*

"He that's cheated twice by the same man is an accomplice with the cheater." — *Thomas Fuller*

"In an age that is utterly corrupt, the best policy is to do as others do." — *Marquis de Sade, 18th-century French moralist*

"A regard for reputation and the judgment of the world may sometimes be felt where conscience is dormant." — *Thomas Jefferson, 18th-century American Founding Father, early 19th-century U.S. president (letter to Edward Livingston, 1825)*

"There is no fate that cannot be surmounted by scorn." — *Albert Camus, Nobel Prize-winning, 20th-century French "existentialist" novelist*

"A critic is a man who knows the way but can't drive the car." — *Kenneth Tynan, 20th-century English art historian and critic*

"I criticize by creation, not by finding fault." — *Cicero (Marcus Tullius), Roman orator, philosopher and statesman*

"We judge ourselves by what we feel capable of doing, while others judge us by what we have already done." — *Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, 19th-century American poet*

"To arrive at a just estimate of a renowned man's character one must judge it by the standards of his time, not ours." — *Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens), 19th-century American humorist, author and journalist*

"To educate a person in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to society." — *Theodore Roosevelt, 19th/20<sup>th</sup>-century American adventurer and politician, Nobel Prize-winning U.S. president*

"Don't worry that children never listen to you. Worry that they are always watching you." — *Robert Fulghum, 20th-century American author*

"Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it." — *Proverbs, 22:6*

"You are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth." — *Kahlil Gibran*

"Parents wonder why the streams are bitter, when they themselves have poisoned the fountain." — *John Locke, 17th-century English philosopher*

"The value of marriage is not that adults produce children but that children produce adults." — *Peter de Vries*

"But if you ask what is the good of education in general, the answer is easy: that education makes good men, and that good men act nobly." — *Plato, ancient Greek philosopher*

"Children need models rather than critics." — *Joseph Joubert*

"It takes a long time to grow young." — *Pablo Picasso, 20th-century Spanish artist*

"Everybody gets so much information all day long that they lose their common sense." — *Gertrude Stein, 20th-century American writer*

"It takes a whole village to raise a child." — *Ashanti proverb*

"Educate the heart. Let us have good men." — *Hiram Powers*

"The best way to teach morality is to make it a habit with children." — *Aristotle, ancient Greek philosopher*

"The question for the child is not 'Do I want to be good?' but 'Whom do I want to be like?' " — *Bruno Bettelheim, 20th-century German/American child psychologist, author*

"Example has more followers than reason." — *Bovee*

"Education makes a people easy to lead, but difficult to drive; easy to govern, but impossible to enslave." — *Gen. Omar N. Bradley, 20th-century American military figure*

"If we are to reach real peace in this world ... we shall have to begin with the children." — *Mohandas Gandhi, 20th-century Indian nonviolent civil rights leader*

"Imitation is a necessity of human nature." — *Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., 19th/20th-century American jurist, Supreme Court justice*

"No one has yet fully realized the wealth of sympathy, kindness and generosity hidden in the soul of a child. The effort of every true education should be to unlock that treasure." — *Emma Goldman, 19th/20th-century Russian-American anarchist writer, lecturer and activist*

"There's a hole in the moral ozone and it's getting bigger." — *Michael Josephson, 20th/21st-century American ethicist*

"Art, like morality, consists of drawing the line somewhere." — *G.K. Chesterton, 19th-century English essayist and poet*

"That which is beautiful is moral. That is all, nothing more." — *Gustave Flaubert, 19th-century French novelist*

"Morality is the best of all devices for leading mankind by the nose." — *Friedrich Nietzsche, 19th-century German philosopher*

"Morality is simply the attitude we adopt toward people whom we personally dislike." — *Oscar Wilde, 19th-century English wit and author*

"The first step in the evolution of ethics is a sense of solidarity with other human beings." — *Albert Schweitzer, 20th-century German Nobel Peace Prize-winning mission doctor and theologian*

"In law a man is guilty when he violates the rights of others. In ethics he is guilty if he only thinks of doing so." — *Immanuel Kant, 18th-century Prussian geographer and philosopher*

"The foundation of morality is to have done, once and for all, with lying." — *Thomas Henry Huxley*

"Morality is stronger than tyrants." — *Saint-Just*

"Morality, when formal, devours." — *Albert Camus, Nobel Prize-winning, 20th-century French "existentialist" novelist*

"A moral being is one who is capable of comparing his past and future actions or motives, and of approving or disapproving of them." — *Charles Darwin*

"Morality begins at the point of a gun." — *Mao Tse-Tung, 20th-century revolutionary founder of modern China*

"Without civic morality communities perish; without personal morality their survival has no value." — *Bertrand Russell, 20th-century British mathematician and philosopher*

"The essence of morality is the subjugation of nature in obedience of social needs." — *John Morley, 19th-century British statesman*

"Ethics is a code of values which guide our choices and actions and determine the purpose and course of our lives." — *Ayn Rand, 20th-century Russian/American novelist and philosopher*

"Expecting the world to treat you fairly because you are a good person is a little like expecting the bull not to attack you because you are a vegetarian." — *Dennis Wholey, 20th/21st-century self-help author and journalist*

"It is reasonable that every one who asks justice should do justice." — *Thomas Jefferson, 18th-century American Founding Father, early 19th-century U.S. president (letter to George Hammond, 1792)*

"It is less important to redistribute wealth than it is to redistribute opportunity." — *Arthur Vandenberg, 20th-century American senator*

"Grub first, then ethics." — *Bertolt Brecht, 20th-century German dramatist*

"The belly comes before the soul." — *George Orwell, 20th-century British journalist and novelist*

"Principles have no real force except when one is well fed." — *Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens), 19th-century American journalist, author and humorist*

"Rise above principle and do what is right." — *Walter Heller, 20th-century American economist*

"You've got to have something to eat and a little love in your life before you can hold still for any damn body's sermon on how to behave." — *Billie Holiday, 20th-century American singer*

"The precepts of the law are these: to live honestly, to injure no one, and to give every man his due." — *Justinian I*

"A generous and noble spirit cannot be expected to dwell in the breasts of men who are struggling for their daily bread." — *Dioysius of Halicarnassus*

"All bad precedents begin as justifiable measures." — *Julius Caesar*

"Man's capacity for justice makes democracy possible, but man's inclination to injustice makes democracy necessary." — *Reinhold Niebuhr, 20th-century American theologian*

"I take it that what all men are really after is some form of, perhaps only some formula of, peace." — *Joseph Conrad, 19th-century Polish/English novelist*