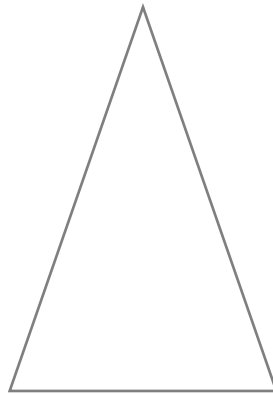

Character in the Kingdom

1 Hope an Apostolic Arrow



Christian Publication

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Character in the kingdom

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Key Note

Word of impartation on Character in the Kingdom.

The character of God is shown in His Son Jesus Christ who was everything other than what the world expected. Therefore the scriptures say, 'He is the same, yesterday, today, and forever' and in another scripture 'The Lord your God is One'. Jesus character is the prototype, the only begotten Son of God revealed as the word in the flesh. This is the character of a mature son of God.

Character is defined by consistency, principles, laws, trust, loyalty, values, respect, standards, conviction, talent, gifts, integrity, your word, fruit of life, and image.

Character does not change

The alphabets are made of characters, from a-z and can never be changed, {z} will never be {a} and {a} will never be {z} these characters remain unchangeable. In the same way principles are laws rendered as unchangeable, for e.g gravity is a law, one can chose to ignore it or acknowledge it but its there. If one attempts to violate the principle or law of gravity by jumping off a building after praying and fasting you will still die because one would have violated the law of gravity. So ones character should be consistent with ones standards and principle, it should not change even if the environment changers one must remain true the to values of moral and ethical standards in your person as prescribed in Christ Jesus.

Can you be trusted?

When we pursue things in a manner that is uncharacteristic in church or in life for that matter we are bound to violate certain principles and therefore cannot be trusted. Maintaining character matters even if it seems unpopular.

We know that God's word is based on principles and if we compromised those principles by teaching, preaching or living otherwise other than the prescribed truth of the word, can we be trusted.

Can God trust us with His word, are we confident in our administration of His word that we will not compromise it by teaching other doctrines for the benefit self gain, creating a following or just to be seen doing ministry work. Trust is a big issue and many have violated the trust of others by doing things that were uncharacteristic of the standard, the benchmark which is Christ. Are we trustworthy? Can God trust you and I.

Consistence

People will follow only if they can trust you so character attracts loyalty. Character is a commitment to a set of values without compromise.

What are the things you value?

So what are values? its simply the things you and I value or what is important to us. If you value your marriage vow, you will not commit adultery but if you don't value your marriage vows you will commit the act. One can be respected and lose that respect because of inconsistency. Here is the thing, what you value as a principle in your character will protect you, it will show in your character.

Character is a dedication to a set of standards without wavering or compromise.

What standards do you live by?

If ones outward standards exceeds ones inward conviction then that person is in moral decay. Ones standards should be consistent with ones own convictions, let your *no* be *no* and *yes* be *yes*. In the workplace for e.g do we bend rules for gain. In church do we compromise the word for the sake of buildings, numbers, and cash.

Check your character, can you be trusted, are you consistent, what do you value, do you live by your standards.

Character is self imposed discipline, for the sake of moral conviction. A person of character does not need to be checked they keep themselves in check. This person locks themselves in their own conviction. These people are not FOR SALE.

Your future depends on your character not popularity or charisma nor whats good and in. Most leaders try to live off charisma, their talent and gift only but the one and only thing that can protect you is your character.

To protect your character you must at times be willing to lose somethings even if its friendships, to maintain your principles. Your word, deed and actions must be integrated as one into your character. You should not be schizophrenia whereby you will say one thing, do another, and promise something else this is not a person of character.

If someone offers you money in exchange for sacrificing your standards would you? or would you compromise on that vow you took at marriage?

You must show and have integrity

Integrity

This word '**integrity**' is an important word, just as the word 'integrate' therefore your words, deeds, and actions must be one, this is very important.

Just as the character of God 'The Lord God is One' the most important confession in the bible. So you do not have a multi personality, why, your character must be un-changeable no matter what the circumstance is. The root word for Holy is integrity meaning One, your word is your bond as the foundation of trust is integrity. Just as the Bible says be Holy because GOD is Holy, He is One therefore you must be Holy you must be one, a person of integrity.

Holy

Holiness is not a dress code

Some of the proponents of dress code create an assumption that it creates character and maybe thats true like 'superman or sipder-man' these characters have double lives. The one is characterized by the outfit and power and the other is ordinary, so maybe some religious man have this concept of holy as a character so when in dress code they feel powerful and without dress code they feel ordinary. Its the same thing with a title, a title does not produce character, if a person has a title it does not make him honorable and been honorable does not mean you need a title. If fact a person of character does not even have to speak he just shows up and you see character on two legs.

- **Never change your convictions**
- **Character protects your words**
- **Image came before dominion**

Genesis 1:26 Read

People who desire dominion without having character will be destroyed. The word image is the word used for character, therefore God said, 'let us make man in our Image and likeness' {image is character} therefore God say, 'He is the same yesterday, today and forever' because His character and image never changes. Your life is the weight of your words. Therefore privately and publicly there must be consistency so your words can be believed.

Therefore the image in which you are formed creates the capacity in your character {likeness} to lead from your gifting in leadership which attracts people even if they don't like you, because its your gift that make room for you and its God with whom you will find favor with including man.

Gifting

Its good to study and educate yourself however its in your gifting where you will find your ability to lead. Most people reinvent themselves or take on a persona to suit a work life-style, they become something they are not. Some of the greatest leaders in history didn't finish off their studying because they found they gifting early and pursued it with hard work despite the intolerance of others trying to diminish their gift. If you look at certain industries you will find many people who revolutionized the way we live today most of them lead by their gifting. Many christians fail to grasp this truth because of not understanding gifting, which is limited to their own religious understanding of what God has put in them. Find your gift and it will make room for you. The word of God does not say your degree or your certification will make room for you it says your 'gift'. Deploy yourself get rid of cultural, traditional, and institutional stigmata's these things don't define you.

When you find your Gift

You gift is actual your leadership fruit tree. Your gift when it bears fruit there is an attraction to the tree. No person can tell you what you are gifted in, you must trust God and allow the Holy Spirit to show you. One problem I have discovered is the issue of coveting someone else's gift for whatever reason its simply because we have no confidence in ourselves or we just rely on others who are gifted. Serve your gift, what is important to note is true leaders never seek followers. Followers are attracted to true leaders, not the person but gift, so when you gift is given the fruit is given.

Issues of Trust

Can you be trusted?

Character is the essence of who God is, He is the same yesterday, today and forever, the question is are you. God declares He never changes in His character because He is One. He can be trusted.

Some folk want the anointing without having character, little do they realize it will destroy them. Can God trust you with his anointing? Something to note is that having character is more important than having power. God gave man image before anything so the prerequisite for dominion, rulership and reign is Image and image is your character, the image you were formed in is unchanged and remains the same forever. Image is character.

There are three things which will most certainly test your character

1. The lust of the flesh
2. The lust of the eye
3. The pride of life

Let me put it in these terms

1. Power
2. Money
3. Sex

People without character who had risen in stature had fallen in these areas, you got to work this out of your character.

The rise to the top is not a race, the only race is that of endurance, the one who endures till the end.

The only way your character is tested is through temptation. There is no escape from temptation, check your character and see if it is as strong as the temptation you fell for.

Your greatest ignorance is not knowing who are {Image and likeness}, see one cannot be tempted by what he already knows. When we are ignorant we tempted to test our character.

God gave character before power, hence we have dominion with God's character.

There is a saying absolute power corrupts, the truth is power reveals corruption, just give someone power and see what happens.

The thing with power is that its pure. Man is defective, he lost his self-worth {image}.

Image consultant

Everything is defined by its image and appearance, and even some have created a image, just look at pastors who are like performers, mans image produces mere man, but God's image produces son's with His characteristics, after his own heart. If you don't know who you are you will consult and image consultant, work this one out.

Most people only ask forgiveness when they are caught, unpredictable cannot predict a sinner, he is unstable in all his ways. You are as safe as your character allows you to be.

Values

What you believe in creates you values and what you value creates your morals. Morality is a product of your values so your morality informs your ethics and your morals dictates that you cannot break your values. So protect your character. Your character protects your destiny and vision.

Institute personal discipline in your life, people who don't break the law don't need to be policed.
Don't allow your private life to destroy your public vision.

Lead with your life.

Special Thanks to the inspiration of Holy Spirit in the Life of Dr Myles Munroe. I am a recipient of this message and these are my notes from his teaching.