

Volume 6, Day 24: The Source of Personal Character

Your personal character is largely determined by how others perceive you, not by how purely you live. However, the character which is observed in you comes from one of two spirits. If you only have one spirit (the flesh and blood natural spirit) you are stuck with only one character source. Our character flows from the abundance of the feelings in our soul. And those feelings come from choices which we make. So, in order to have elevated character, it will come from feelings elevated by choice. The best news in this regard is for 'born again' believers in Jesus, the choices can be made by the most elevated of all spirits in the Universe, God's Holy Spirit.

Development of true character does not come from the activities in which we engage or the expressions coming from within. These are the evidences of character. The golden rule is often thought of as limiting our expressions to what we desire to be expressed to us by others. However, the best application of the golden rule rests in the understanding of what we really want from others. It is not their resources or toleration which we desire. It is rather to be accepted by them without needing to change a thing. Being accepted "as-is" as a person of value in spite of our idiosyncrasies and lunacies.

We can twist our idea of holiness beyond what flesh and blood could ever achieve. It then becomes a spiritual acrobatic performance. You are poised and dare not move. But when God's Holy Spirit elevates your character by your surrender to His present power, instead of finding a pinnacle to cling to, you find a high plateau of character where it is easy to encourage others.

Growth in grace is measured not by the fact that you have not abandoned God, but that you have abandoned yourself more, even if only a little bit. You are constantly conscious of where you are spiritually and how much more the character of God will be formed in you by greater surrender to His Holy Spirit. This is the attainment of the highest possible character.

My Confirming Scriptures: Aligning Experiences:

DEEPER Every Day -- John Henry Alan