

Our Ignorance of History-- and What to Do About It

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In this course, veteran history educator Wes Callihan traces the history of history, explores its purpose and value in the classical tradition, and discusses the best means for growing as a student of history—and so becoming an effective teacher of history. You will also enjoy interviews and discussions between Christopher Perrin and Wes Callihan in addition to the course lectures.



Wes Callihan is the featured instructor of the Old Western Culture Great Books curriculum produced by Roman Roads Media.



Wesley Callihan grew up on a farm in Idaho and graduated with a degree in history from the University of Idaho. He has taught at Logos School, New Saint Andrews College, and Veritas Academy. In 1997 he founded Schola Classical Tutorials where he teaches online classes on the Great Books, astronomy, Church history,

Greek, and Latin. He is now working with [Roman Roads Media](#) to produce Old Western Culture, a 4-year integrated humanities curriculum designed to equip homeschoolers and their families with the tools to tackle the Great Books that shaped Western civilization.

Wes and his wife, Dani, have 6 children, 4 of them married, and 5 grandchildren. Wes and Dani



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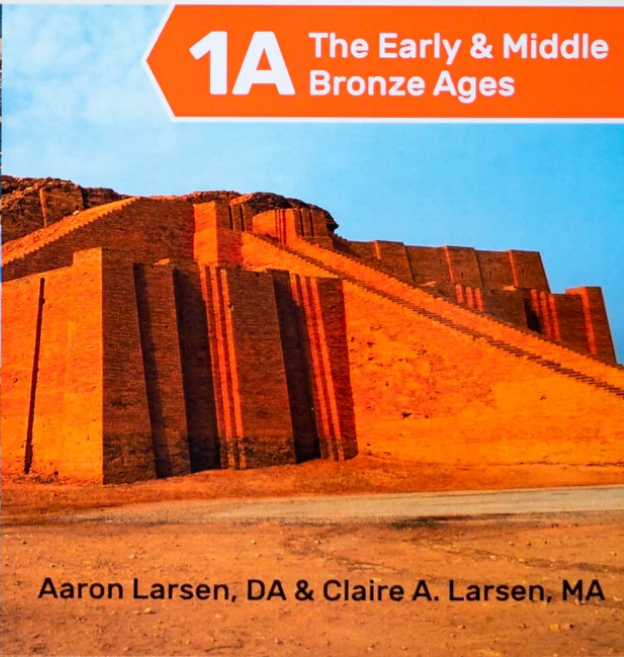
Classical Subjects Creatively Taught™

The Curious Historian

History & Culture
of the Ancient World



1A The Early & Middle
Bronze Ages



Aaron Larsen, DA & Claire A. Larsen, MA

What is History

History Makes Us Prudent

Folly

- Repeating folly
- History doesn't repeat itself...
- People, leaders, nations, acting contrary to their own best interest
- Democracy is the worst form of government...
- The American founders
- The British overlords









Temperance



Fortitude



Prudence



Justice















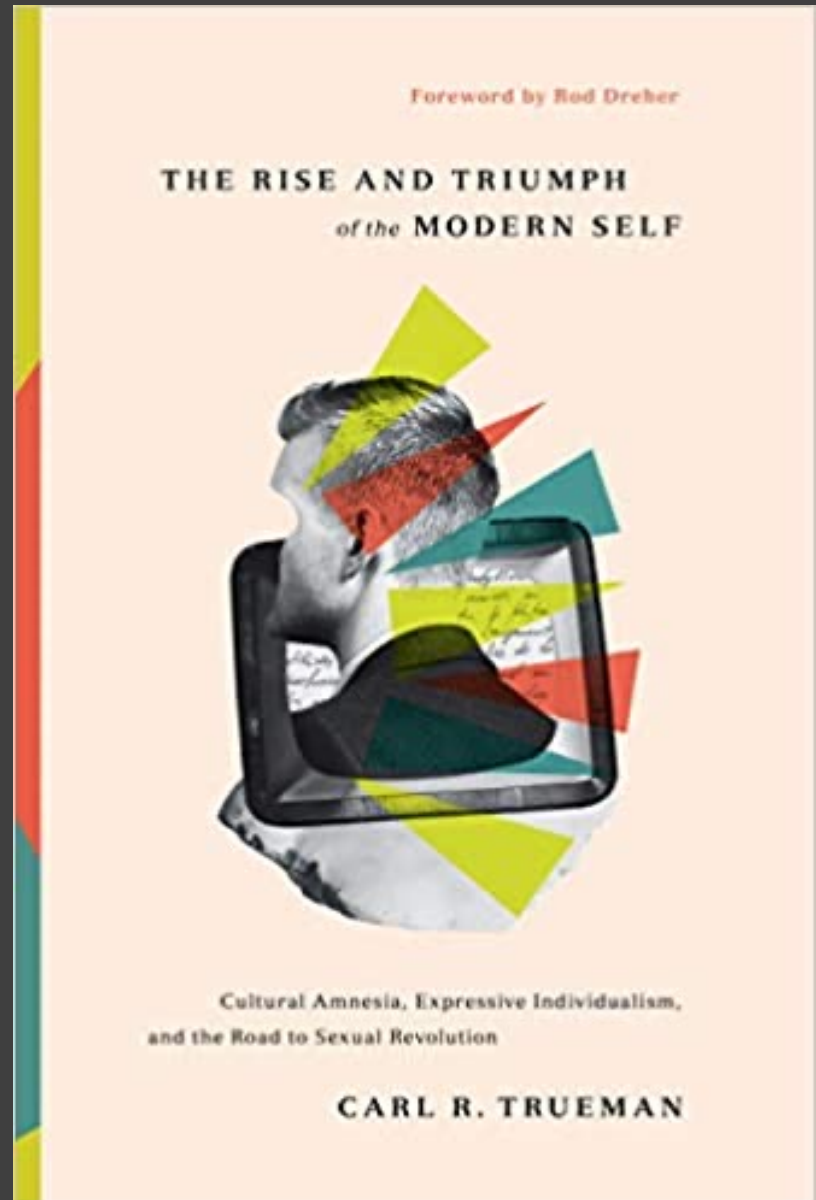




Why We Are Ignorant

- Amnesia
- Reductionist View of History
- Romanticism
- Marxism
- Therapeutic Expressionism
- Progressivism

The Obsession with Self



History Imparts Virtue

Bede: Ecclesiastical History

- *For if history records of the good things of good men, the thoughtful hearer is encouraged to imitate what is good; or if it records evil of wicked men, the devout, religious listener or reader is encouraged to avoid all that is sinful and perverse and to follow what he knows to be good and pleasing to God.*

History Grants Community

Democracy of ...

History Makes Us Prophetic

- Newman

Cardinal John Newman



- 1801-1890
- Priest, professor
- Poet, theologian, cardinal
- *The Idea of a University*

The Perfection of the Intellect

That perfection of the Intellect which is the result of education, and its beau ideal, to be imparted in their respective measures, is the clear, calm, accurate vision and comprehension of all things, as far as the fine mind can embrace them, each in its place, and with its own characteristics upon it.

--John Henry Newman

It is almost prophetic from its knowledge of history; it is almost heart-searching from its knowledge of human nature; it has almost supernatural charity from its freedom from littleness and prejudice; it has almost the repose of faith, because nothing can startle it; it has almost the beauty and harmony of heavenly contemplation, so intimate is it with the eternal order of things and the music of the spheres.

History Humanizes

- Sympathy
- Community
- Lament
- Repentance

History is His Story

- The importance of church history
- Leads us to glorify God
- Cultivates gratitude
- Leads us to repentance

Example: Invasion of Ukraine

Example: Transgenderism

What to Do

- What is history? It is the study of the past. But we
- don't have direct access to the past—we only have
- access to records.
- ☐ What are the records to which we have access?
- o Written records, material records, oral
- tradition
- o These records are witnesses to what
- happened in the past.
- o We have to listen to the witnesses, and
- read and evaluate them.
- o Law court analogy: since we cannot
- replay the actual event, we call on
- witnesses.

- History is an art, as much as it is science.
- ? As an art, history involves artifacts, skills, and a maker/producer.
- ? Habits of a historian: addressing particular questions, making historical judgments
- ? What are the chief historical questions?
- ? Genres of history: political, military, biographical, social
 - o Political history is the history of human civilization.
 - o Military history is a kind of political history.
 - o Biography focuses on the lives of single individuals.
 - o Social history is the study of art, literature, philosophy, and of the study of history.
- ? Why study history at all?
 - o Christians should be concerned with church history.
 - o History is the beginning of us now.
 - o Think of history as a tree, our current time is the new growth of a great flowering tree. We are the end result of a long process that is upholding us.

- The modern disregard for history, and this is to deny the trunk that
- upholds the tree.
- o Modern examples of what has made us what we are and why:
- Knowing about parents and grandparents help us to know
- ourselves.
- We need to study the history of literature to understand clichés.

History and the cultivation of virtue and character: the testimony of Plutarch, Thucydides, Livy

-
- History is behind the seven liberal arts.
- History serves the purpose of giving us moral examples, examples that show us how virtue and vice are embodied.
- Plutarch is famous for writing about the lives of famous Greeks and Romans. Plutarch says that he is giving character sketches. The little things are often far more illuminating than great deeds. .
- When we read about the lives of virtuous men, there something about the way the soul is made. It is in the nature of the case for men to struggle after virtue.
- We still have the nature God gave us, and Jesus comes to restore the nature He gave us. There is a part of us that still longs for virtue.

- **History senses a moral purpose.**
- Thucydides is writing as an essay for all time for those people who understand that the future will reflect the past. There is one thing in history that never changes, and that is human nature (humans will be tempted to cowardice, corruption, and abuse).
- Livy, in his history of Rome, says, “History is the best medicine for a sick mind; for in history you have a record of the infinite variety of human experiences plainly set out for all to see; and in that record you can find for yourself and your country both examples and warnings; fine things to take as models, base things, rotten through and through to avoid.”
- History is medicine for a sick mind. The kind of sickness is the sickness of heart of mind that cultural conservatives see seep away.
- How did people pull out of the downhill slide? How did individuals survive to the next age? How did people deal with the terrible problems of the past?

- Aristotle on wisdom
- ☐ Aristotle says that wisdom is like the art of an architect.
- ☐ The architect has the arts rendering of what the job should look like at the end. He brings in the tradesmen in the correct order.
- ☐ Aristotle says wisdom is the art of judging and ordering rightly in order to achieve our final end (Aquinas).
- ☐ Aristotle says happiness is the chief end of man.
- ☐ I am to build my life because He is at work in me.
-
- History gives us a perspective that leads to wisdom.
- ☐ Everything in our life is for the purpose of arriving at God in the end.
- ☐ The study of history is an essential background for the liberal arts because it gives us wisdom.

Example: Virtue

Review

Basil's Letter to Young Men

Deuteronomy on Welcoming the Stranger

10:18-19: He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the **foreigner** residing among you, giving them food and clothing.

And you are to love those who are **foreigners**, for you yourselves were **foreigners** in Egypt.

26:11: Then you and the Levites and the **foreigners** residing among you shall rejoice in all the good things the LORD your God has given to you and your household.

Virtue

- *Arete*
- Excellence
- Human capacity fully developed
- *Vir—Virtus*
- *Virile, Virility, Virtue, Virtuous, Virtuosity*

Kinds of Virtues

Moral Virtues: *moralis* (manner, character, proper behavior); avoiding extremes of excess and deficiency

Civic Virtues: *civilis* (civil, courteous); cultivation of habits important for the success of a community

Intellectual Virtues: *intellectus* (understanding); deep personal qualities or character strengths required for good thinking and learning

Kinds of Virtues

Cardinal Virtues: *cardo, cardanis*

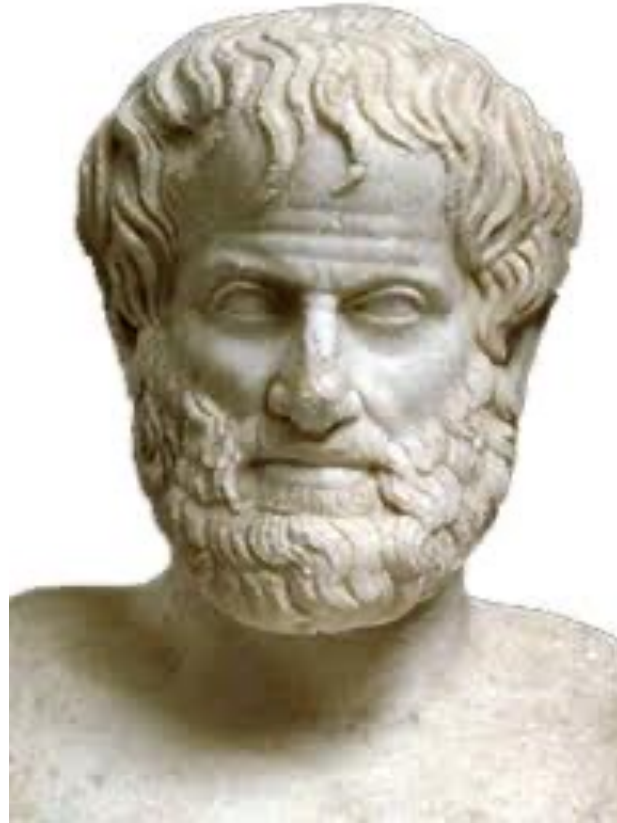
(hinge); four classic, natural, moral virtues that humans can cultivate by imitation and practice. **Prudence, Fortitude, Temperance, Justice**

Theological Virtues: three supernatural virtues that humans can cultivate with divine aid. **Faith, Hope, Love**

Virtue as Habit

What Is Virtue?

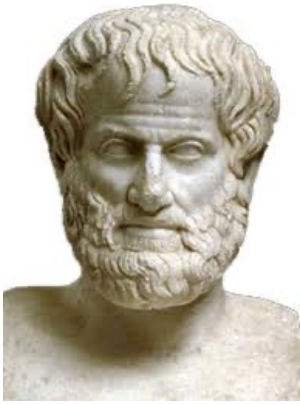
- **Definition of Virtues:** Virtues are dispositional properties along with the concerns and capacities for judgment and action that constitute them. Virtues are deeply embedded parts of our character that readily dispose us to feel, think and act in morally appropriate ways as our changing circumstances require.
- **Plato:** we think with our whole soul; it is not the mind that thinks but the man. S: “How will you manage to think rightly with a sick soul, a heart ravaged by vice, pulled this way and that by passion, dragged astray by violent or guilty love? ...passions and vices relax attention and scatter it, lead it astray, and they injure the judgment in roundabout ways...knowledge depends on the direction given to our passions and on our moral habits.”
- **Compare CS Lewis:** *You don't have a soul—you are a soul. You have a body*



It is by doing just acts that a just man is produced,
and by doing temperate acts the temperate man.
--Aristotle

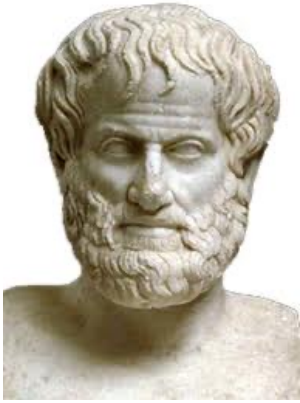


"We are what we repeatedly do.
Excellence is not an act, but a habit."
--Will Durant



Born to.... Know

- Aristotle: all human beings “by nature desire to know” (*Metaphysics*, Book I). All people are born curious.
- Book II of the *Nichomachean Ethics*: Every virtue has two corresponding vices or defects: a vice of deficiency and a vice of excess.

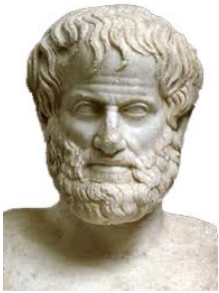


Extreme—Mean--Extreme

Cowardice

Courage

Rashness



Deficiency—Mean--Excess

Aristotle's Concept of the Golden Mean

Deficiency (-)	BALANCE	Excess (+)
cowardice	COURAGE	rashness
stinginess/miserliness	GENEROSITY	extravagance
sloth	AMBITION	greed
humility	MODESTY	pride
secrecy	HONESTY	loquacity
moroseness	GOOD HUMOR	absurdity
quarrelsomeness	FRIENDSHIP	flattery
self-indulgence	TEMPERANCE	insensibility
apathy	COMPOSURE	irritability
indecisiveness	SELF CONTROL	impulsiveness

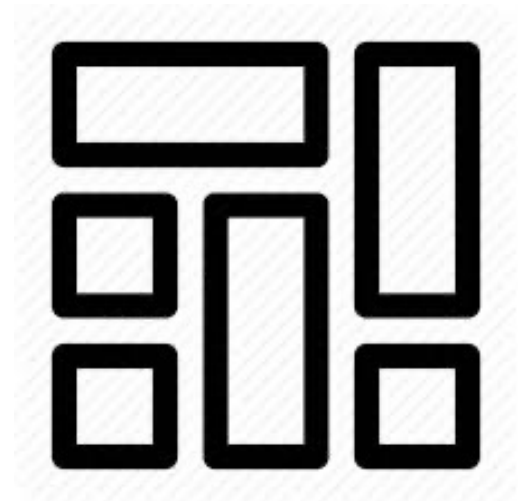
Habit

- Where one dwells
- ***Habito***: I dwell, reside, abide, live
- Habitation
- Inhabit



Disposition

- State of mind regarding something
- Inclination
- Prevailing tendency
- ***Dispono***: to set out, arrange



Discipline

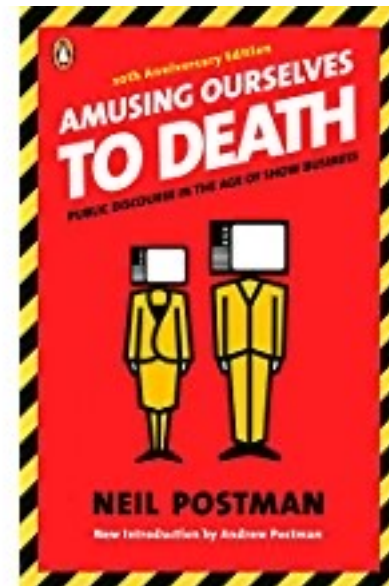
- Training to act in accordance with rules
- A regimen that develops or improves a skill
- ***Disciplina***: system, training, discipline, habits, teaching, instruction
- ***Discipulus***: pupil, apprentice, student



Intellectual Virtue

Anti-Intellectual Spirit of Our Age

- Subjective
- Pluralistic
- Individualistic
- Amused



Anti-Intellectual Spirit of Our Age

- Anti-intellectualism gives rise to the most extreme, the most morally deplorable form of sloth. It is to be found in persons for whom the ultimate objectives in life are the maximization of pleasure, money, fame, or power and who, thus motivated, express their contempt for those who waste their lives in purely intellectual pursuits. It is almost as if they wished they did not have the burden of having intellects that might distract them from their fanatical devotion to nonintellectual aims.
- --Mortimer Adler, *Intellect: Mind over Matter*



Newman

1. **Clear, calm, accurate vision**
2. **Comprehension** of all things
3. Each in its place
4. With its own characteristics
5. **Prophetic** from history
6. **Heart-searching** from knowl. of human nature
7. **Supernatural charity** from lack or prejudice
8. **Repose of faith** because it can't be startled
9. **Beauty and harmony** because of contemplating harmony

Ordered Harmony

- *Ordiri*: Weave, row of threads in a loom
- Rightly order the city, the church, the school
- Rightly order the soul
- Ordered Loves / *Ordo Amoris*





Augustine

- But living a just and holy life requires one to be capable of an objective and impartial evaluation of things: to love things, that is to say, in the right order, so that you do not love what is not to be loved, or fail to love what is to be loved, or have a greater love for what should be loved less, or an equal love for things that should be loved less or more, or a lesser or greater love for things that should be loved equally. (*On Christian Doctrine*, I.27-28)

Intellectual Vices and Virtues

Vices	Virtues
Sloth	Love
Sensuality	Humility
Pride	Constancy/Studiousness
Envy	Patience
Irritation	Perseverance/Courage
	Prayer

Intellectual Vices

DISORDERED PASSIONS: Prevent and hinder the acquisition of knowledge.

- Passions and vices relax attention
- Passions and vices injure judgment
- Knowledge depends on the direction given to our passions and on our moral habits

Intellectual Vices

- **Sloth:** The grave of the best gifts (because they are not used)
- **Sensuality:** Makes the body weak and lethargic, befogs the imagination, dulls the intelligence, scatters the memory

Intellectual Vices

- **Pride:** Sometimes dazzles and sometimes darkens, so drives us in the direction of our own opinion that the universal sense escapes us
- **Envy:** Obstinate refusal to acknowledge some light other than our own
- **Irritation:** Which repels criticism and comes to grief on the rock of error

Intellectual Vices

- **Vices Gang Up:** they bring one another...lead to one another, are interconnected.
- **Antidote:** Purity of thought requires purity of soul.

Combatting Vices

- **Virtues Unite Too:** The True and the Good are interconnected, dwell together at the summit to which we climb. We climb and labor out of a love for the truth, which is always connected to what is good.

Civic Virtues and Vices

Civic Virtues

- **Civilized Behavior**
- **Discourse/Conversation/Agreement**
- **Contribution/Work**
- **Staying Informed**
- **Generosity**

Civic Virtues

On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country
and to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake, and morally straight.

Civic Virtues

A Scout is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly,
Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty,
Brave, Clean, and Reverent.

Moral Virtues and Vices

Moral Virtues and Vices

Virtue ◆	Latin ◆	Gloss ◆	Sin ◆	Latin ◆
Chastity	<i>Castitas</i>	Purity, abstinence	Lust	<i>Luxuria</i>
Temperance	<i>Temperantia</i>	Humanity, equanimity	Gluttony	<i>Gula</i>
Charity	<i>Caritas</i>	Will, benevolence, generosity, sacrifice	Greed	<i>Avaritia</i>
Diligence	<i>Industria</i>	Persistence, effortfulness, ethics	Sloth	<i>Acedia</i>
Patience	<i>Patientia</i>	Forgiveness, mercy	Wrath	<i>Ira</i>
Kindness	<i>Humanitas</i>	Satisfaction, compassion	Envy	<i>Invidia</i>
Humility	<i>Humilitas</i>	Bravery, modesty, reverence	Pride	<i>Superbia</i>

Moral Virtues and Vices

Capital Sins

Fountain Sins

Root Sins

Source Sins

Deadly Sins

“When good things are wrongly pursued, sin happens.”

The Four Cardinal Virtues



Prudence

Justice

Fortitude

Temperance



The Four Cardinal Virtues

1. Good that exists by the act of reason: **Prudence**
2. Good put into order in operations: **Justice**
3. Good imposed into order by curbing passions: **Temperance**
4. Good imposed into order by strengthening against fear: **Fortitude**





The Four Cardinal Virtues

Prudence: All reality

Justice: Fellow man

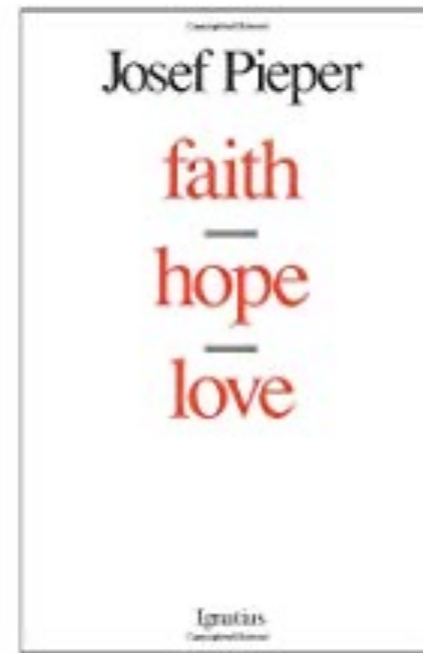
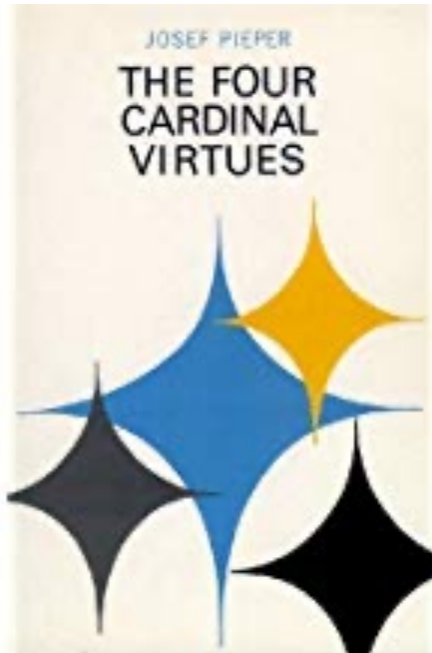
Fortitude: Possessions, outer life

Temperance: Man himself, inner life





Josef Pieper





The Four Cardinal Virtues as Love

For these four virtues ... I should have no hesitation in defining them: that **temperance** is love giving itself entirely to that which is loved; **fortitude** is love readily bearing all things for the sake of the loved object; **justice** is love serving only the loved object and therefore ruling rightly; **prudence** is love distinguishing with sagacity between what hinders it and what helps it. (*De moribus eccl.*, Chap. xv)



Three Theological Virtues

Faith

Hope

Love



Virtues in Art









Temperance



Fortitude



Prudence



Justice



















Master Virtues: Love

Proverbs 2

1. My son, if you accept my words
and store up my commands within you,
2. turning your ear to wisdom
and applying your heart to understanding,
3. and if you call out for insight
and cry aloud for understanding,
4. and if you look for it as for silver
and search for it as for hidden treasure,
5. then you will understand the fear of the LORD
and find the knowledge of God.

Master Virtues: Love

- John 5:41-42: I know that you do not have the love of God in your hearts....I have come in my Father's name and you do not accept me. How can you believe if you accept praise from one another, yet make no effort to obtain the praise that comes from the only God? **MORAL→**
INTELLECTUAL
- John 7:17: If anyone chooses to do God's will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own.

Master Virtues: Love

- John 8: If you hold to my teachings you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth shall set you free (over the library at the Univ. of VA).
- Jer. 29:13: You will seek me and find me...when you seek me with all your heart...I will be found by you.
- Matthew: 7: 7: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

Master Virtues: Love

- In religious and moral realms: If one loves the truth, one will do the truth one knows; if one does the truth one knows, one will be rewarded with more truth.
- THEREFORE: Obey what we know.
- Students: Use your rhetoric, logic, etc. Use your writing skill.
Frustrated Teacher: You know that...I taught you that!
Think...Recollect...Call up...Do what you know.
- Other Subjects: Athletics, Music, Language, Martial Arts
- Matt. 25: Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has ten talents. For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him.



Unity of the True and Good

- **LOVE:** Love is the source of unity of life... “Tell me what you love and I will tell you what you are.”
Truth visits those who love her.
- **THE GOOD:** The true springs up in the same soil as the good—their roots communicate



Multiplication of Virtue

- **LINKAGE OF TRUTH TO TRUTH:** By doing the good we know. All truths are linked together—when we pay that homage by living the truth of life, we draw near to the supreme light and to all that flows from it. By practicing what we know we merit the truth we don't know. If I embark on the tributary, I reach the river, and then the sea.



Orientation of the Virtues

- **PYRAMID OF THE GOOD AND TRUE:** Each one face of the pyramid leading up to God. Pursuing God eliminates pride, etc.



The Chief Virtue: Humility

- Height is the measure of littleness. Always conscious of the immensity of the true and of the slenderness of our resources, we shall not undertake anything beyond our power. We shall rejoice then, in what has been given us in our measure.
- Humility: We simply cannot know what don't know unless someone who knows what we can't know tells us.



The Chief Virtue: Humility

- Response to Smart People: Progress requires peace and cooperation; greatly hindered by pettiness of mind. In face of other's superiority, there is only one honorable attitude, to be glad of it, and then it becomes our own joy, our own good fortune.

The Chief Virtue: Humility

- **Others Are More Important:** Compare to Phil 2: Regard others as more important than yourselves...
- **Entertain Other Thoughts:** Never ignore, refuse what may be thought against your own thought. Never unduly prefer one's own opinion.
- **Guard Your Conclusions:** What we have won by study and considered carefully must be guarded against unjustified second thoughts and scruples.

The Chief Virtue: Humility

- **Acknowledge Your Limitations:** Don't over-extend one's field of research.
- **Acknowledge Limitation of Reason:** Reason cannot do everything. It's last step is to recognize its limitations. Compare Pascal: The heart has its reasons, the reason of which reason knows nothing.
- **Your Mind is a Tool:** The intellect is only a tool: the handling of it determines the nature of its effects.

Intellectual Virtues: Virtues Proper to the Student

- **Temperance/Studiousness**
- **Constancy**
- **Patience**
- **Perseverance/Courage**

Intellectual Virtues: Virtues Proper to the Student

- **Temperance/Studiousness:** temper our studies
- **Excess:** Excess in negligence
- **Excess:** Excess in vain curiosity/ambition (**Studium** versus **Curiositas**)
- **Balance:** Study needs to be balanced with other duties/responsibilities
- **Excess:** Going beyond one's powers: leads to errors and waste of capacity:
 - Go to the sea by the streams, not directly
 - If you want to see things grow big, plant small
 - Start at the beginning, master each step
- **Constancy:** which keeps steadily at the task
- **Patience:** which bears difficulties well
- **Perseverance/Courage:** which prevents the will from flagging

Prayer

- But study must leave room for worship, prayer and direct meditation on the things of God. **A divine office:** it seeks out and honors the traces of the creator or his images—it must make way at the right moment for direct intercourse with him.
- The order of the mind must correspond to the order of things. In the world of reality, everything rises toward the divine, everything depends on it.
- Every study is a study of eternity
- Behind all our dependence is study of eternity
- Behind all our dependences is the primal dependence
 - Supreme Bond
 - The Gift
 - The Spring
 - The Heart

Prayer

- Must not the mind refer back to it unceasingly, and never for a minute lose touch with what is thus the ALL of all things, and consequently of all knowledge?
- Each truth is a fragment which does not stand alone but reveals connections on every side. Truth in itself is one and Truth is God.
- One might say a particular truth is only a symbol, a symbol that is real, a sacrament of the absolute....it is a sign, but not of itself...it live by what it borrows.
- We retrace the footsteps of the Divine Walker.
- ***Study = Prayer for the Truth***

Another Helpful Chart

Starting/Beginning Study

- Curiosity
- Intellectual Humility
- Intellectual Autonomy

Executing Well

- Attentiveness
- Intellectual Carefulness
- Intellectual Thoroughness

Intellectual Virtues Academy
www.intellectualvirtues.org

Handling Challenges

- Open-Mindedness
- Intellectual Courage
- Intellectual Tenacity

The Intellectual Virtues: The Cultivation of Right Educational Habits

How to Teach the Virtues

Chart of Virtues

Acquisition Virtues:

passion for truth

inquisitiveness

teachableness

persistence

humility

Application Virtues:

passion for holiness

will to do what one knows

love

fortitude

integrity

humility

Maintenance Virtues:

passion for consistency

perseverance

courage

constancy

tenacity

patience

humility

Communication Virtues:

compassion for others

clarity of expression

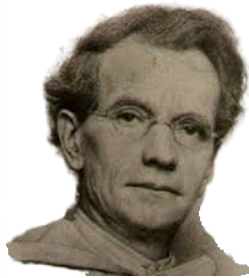
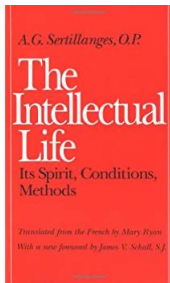
orderliness of presentation

aptness of illustration

humility

Intellectual Vices and Virtues

Vices	Virtues
Sloth	Love
Sensuality	Humility
Pride	Constancy/Studiousness
Envy	Patience
Irritation	Perseverance/Courage
	Prayer

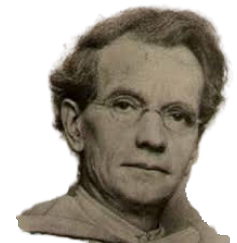


Body and Mind

- Minds can only communicate through the body; first then, do not be ashamed to endeavor to keep well. “A sound mind in a sound body.” Sound hygiene, is almost for you and intellectual virtue.
- S: Open air, deep breathing, rhythmic stretching, frequent walks (before and after work). EVERY DAY YOU SHOULD TAKE EXERCISE. Those who do not take time to exercise must take time to be ill. Easy manual work. Take time for real vacations = the predominance of rest, fresh air, and exercise out of doors.
- Diet: Light and moderate.
- Sleep: Neither too much nor too little.
- For an intellectual/thinker: The care of the body, which is the instrument of the soul is virtue and wisdom.

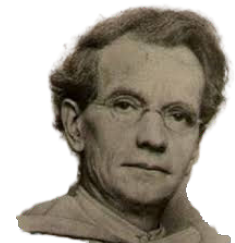
The Organization of One's Life

- **Simplify:** beware of society-life; Vocation is concentration
- **Solitude:** Exterior and Interior: Thomas: "I want you to be slow to speaking and slow to going to the parlor. Don't not busy yourself about the words and actions of those in the world" (= People magazine) Avoid useless outings above everything. Love your cell, if you desire to be admitted to the wine-cellar"
- **Quiet Recollection.** Solitude and silence. Without retirement there is no inspiration. Peace—the tranquility of order, puts order in your thoughts, feelings and investigations. Compare Jesus: he preserved his solitude. Great discoveries are but the reflections on facts common to all. 77
- **Friends/Fellows:** kinship of minds. Friendship: Friendship is an obstetric art; it draws out our riches and deepest resources; it unfolds the wings of our dreams and hidden indeterminate thoughts; it serves as a check on our judgments, tries out our new ideas, keeps up our ardor, and inflames our enthusiasm. (Cf. Lewis, Tolkien, Williams)



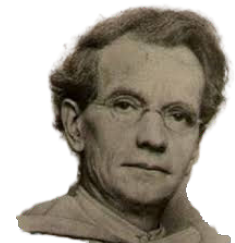
Excursus on Solitude: Frame of Mind & Spirit

- **WITHDRAW/ACT:** ZONE OF SILENCE: Do you want to do intellectual work? Begin by creating within you a zone of silence, a habit of recollection, a will to renunciation and detachment which puts you entirely at the disposal of the work.
- **APPLICATION:** Music, space, homework
- **Ecstasy**: Intellectual work begins by a moment of ecstasy—only in the second place does the talent of arrangement, the technique of transitions, connection of ideas come into play. Now what is this ecstasy but a flight upwards, away from self, a forgetting to live our poor life, in order that the object of our delight may live in our thought and in our heart?
- **Meditating** on the truth of our eternity—that our true being lies...revealed to us only in the silence of our souls—that is in the exclusion of foolish thoughts which lead to a puerile and dissipating indulgence in distraction in the repression of the murmured suggestions that our disordered passions never weary of uttering



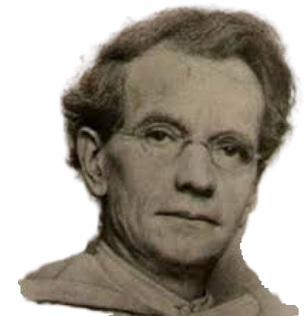
Rest and Joy

- PASCAL: The whole calamity of man comes from one single thing, that he cannot keep quiet in a room.
- THOMAS: contemplation begins in love and ends in joy; it begins in the love of the object and the love of knowledge as an act of life; it ends in the joy of ideal possession and of the ecstasy it causes. 255
“To see the order of the universe and the dispositions of divine Providence is an eminently delightful activity.” ..To think God’s thought after him, walk after the Divine Walker.
- Rest to S: Giving up all effort and withdrawing to the Fount of Life...a return to our origins, the origins of life, of strength, of inspiration...Can include restful activities, recreation, conversation, etc.



Intellectual Disciplines

- Solitude
- Time
- Attention
- Lateral Thinking
- Prayer



Taxonomy of Intellectual Virtues

STARTING STUDY

- **Curiosity:** a disposition to wonder, ponder, and ask why. A thirst for understanding and a desire to explore. **Slogan:** Ask questions!
- **Intellectual humility:** a willingness to “own” one’s intellectual limitations and mistakes. Unconcerned with intellectual status or prestige. **Slogan:** Admit what you don’t know!
- **Intellectual autonomy:** a capacity for active, self-directed thinking. An ability to think and reason for oneself. **Slogan:** Think for yourself!

Taxonomy of Intellectual Virtues

EXECUTING WELL

- **Attentiveness:** a capacity for being “present” while learning. Notices and attends to important details. **Slogan:** Look and listen!
- **Intellectual carefulness:** a sensitivity to the requirements of good thinking. Quick to notice and avoid intellectual pitfalls and mistakes. **Slogan:** Avoid errors!
- **Intellectual thoroughness:** a willingness to probe for deeper meaning and understanding. Unsatisfied with mere appearances or easy answers. **Slogan:** Go deep!

Taxonomy of Intellectual Virtues

HANDLING CHALLENGES

- **Open-mindedness:** an ability to think outside the box. Gives a fair and honest hearing to competing perspectives. **Slogan:** Think outside the box!
- **Intellectual courage:** a readiness to persist in thinking or communicating in the face of fear, including fear of embarrassment or failure. **Slogan:** Take risks!
- **Intellectual tenacity:** a willingness to embrace intellectual challenge and struggle. Keeps its “eyes on the prize” and doesn’t give up. **Slogan:** Embrace struggle!