"Character And Reputation."

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"Character And Reputation." Matthew 7:1-2.

1-Judge not, that ye be not judged.

2-For with what judgement ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.

The injunction "judge not" cannot be construed to teach tolerance to falsehood or wrong,

decisions in civil courts. It does, however, forbid harsh as well as rash judgement.

1-Your character is what you are --- And your reputation is what people may think about you good or bad.

a-He pays his bills-He does not pay his bills.
b-He is a Christian--He is not a Christian.
c-His life is pure-his life is impure. Etc.

There are about five ways in which one may reveal his real character:

1-By what he says and the way he says what he says.

2-By what people say about him.

1-Consider who the people are who talk.

3-By what he does.

1-By what he does diliberately because action is a chief critic.

However;

Occasionally a strong character breaks down suddenly under some great sin, but most wrecks are the result of a gradual corroding of character.

4-By what other do to or for him.

1-To what extent does he influence others.

5-By his environment.

1-His manner of dress.

2-By the environment he purposely chooses, not that into which he may accidentally fall.

"Character and Reputation. "Proverbs 10:6-7:11 Proverbs 10:6-7:11: 6-Blessings are upon the head of the just: but violence covereth the mouth of the wicked. 7-The memory of the just is blessed: but the name of the wicked shall rot. 11-The mouth of a righteous man is a well of life: but violence covereth the mouth of the wicked. 1-Character: The Greek word from which we get the English word "character" means to: 1-"To cut;" to engrave, to make a furrow. a-A furrow is something different from a pencil mark. You might rub aut a pencil line, or even the mark of a pen, but a line cut with a tool, a furrow, ennot be rubbed out 2-Character defined: a-Gharacter is the sum total of one's habits. 1-Have you ever thought what the word habit means? It comes from a Latin word that means to have. So habit, literally, means that which has one.

2-Character: Two kinds; 1-Good moral character.

a-Man cannot run away from himself. Whereever he goes he carries his character with him. b-As we live, so we are; as we are, so is our character. Your character is your own

creation.

2-Bad moral character. a-Life determines character, and character determines destiny and the same is true throughout the whole catalogue of human action.

3-Character: How formed?

1-Have you ever noticed how an icicle is formed?

a-It froze one drop at a time until it was a foot or so long. If the water was clear it sparkled almost as brilliantly as diamonds in the sun. Slightly muddy water made the icicle look foul. So our character One little thought or feeling at a time. "Character And Reputation."

4-I said a moment ago that one's speech will reveal one's character.

Matthew 26:73:

Thy speech betrayeth thee.

Acts 2:7:

Behold, are not all of these which speak Galilaeans.

Col. 4:6:

Let your speech be alway with grace. seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

5-So opposite characters are revealed by a great contrast in speech.

1-When a righteous man opens his mouth, it is as if the cover was removed from a pure clear well of water:

a-He has no evil intentions to conceal. b-His words are an index to his heart.

e-By them men may read his thoughts with the same ease as they can what is at the bottom of a clear spring of water.

d-There is medicinal virtue in the words of the righteous-They heal as well as refresh

the spirits of man. (What a well of life have the words of Christ been for centuries to millions of the human race.)

2-A wicked man cannot let all the thoughts of his heart be laid open to the light of day.

a-His mouth conceals injury ---- And he must use his words not to reveal, but to hide

what is in his mind.

b-If he lets his tongue loose, and permits his thoughts to flow out into words, they do not bless his hearers, but are like a poisonious stream, carrying moral death wherever they flow.

3-Robert Louis Stevenson, Victorian Age 1850-1894, said, "I have a little shadow that goes in and out with me, and what can be the use of him is more than I can see."

## "Character And Reputation."

6-I would like to speak to you upon such subjects as:

Essential Elements of Character; Character as Security; Character and Thought; Growth of Character; Character and Life; but in closing I want to speak to you for just a few minutes concerning;

1-The value of Character:

- a-Corporations, individuals, inffact, everbody wants the man who has unblemished record.
  - 1-I want to drive this thought to the very granite of youth's heart: Be clean and you need not fear. Be clean and you need not be ashamed. Be clean and business men will feel you safe.
- b-Every few days I receive a letter from a business firm asking about the character of some one. They are asking a preacher about character. That is a preacher's specialty.

1-Last week I receive two telephone calls and one letter. The following questions

are usually asked:

1-Does your knowledge enable you to judge applicant's character and habits at present time.

2-What is character of applicant's

friends and associates.

3-Does Applicant gamble or given to drink.

7-The two most precious things we have have one this side of the grave are:

1-Our character and life itself and as death finds us so will be our eternal abode.

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