

QUALITIES, QUALITY

When Achan saw a **quality** garment from Babylon in the defeated city of Jericho, he took it. (That decision got him killed.)

- **Joshua 7:21:** "When I saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, then I coveted them, and took them; and, behold, they are hid in the earth in the midst of my tent, and the silver under it."

The items from the first temple that the Jews transported from Babylon to Jerusalem included 410 basins of silver, which were of a lesser **quality** than the first.

- **Ezra 1:10:** "Thirty basons of gold, silver basons of a second sort four hundred and ten, and other vessels a thousand."

Gold comes in a variety of **qualities**.

- **Psalms 19:10:** "More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb."

Mercy is a good **quality** to have, not a bad one.

- **Proverbs 3:3:** "Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart:"

If we lack wisdom then that can impact the **quality** of our sleep.

- **Proverbs 3:21, 24:** "My son, let not them depart from thine eyes: keep sound wisdom and discretion: ... When thou liest down, thou shalt not be afraid: yea, thou shalt lie down, and thy sleep shall be sweet."

The health of a city depends on the **quality** of its residents.

- **Proverbs 11:10:** "When it goeth well with the righteous, the city rejoiceth: and when the wicked perish, there is shouting."

Sellers need to understand that their customers may lie about the **quality** of their merchandise.

- **Proverbs 20:14:** "It is naught, it is naught, saith the buyer: but when he is gone his way, then he boasteth."

It's better to be poor than rich, if those riches make the **quality** of your life worse (by introducing strife into it).

- **Proverbs 25:24:** "It is better to dwell in the corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman and in a wide house."

A virtuous woman makes sure her merchandise is high **quality**.

- **Proverbs 31:18:** "She perceiveth that her merchandise is good: her candle goeth not out by night."

What matters isn't how many items you possess, but rather the **quality** of your life. (A peaceful life is better than great wealth that's accompanied by strife.)

- **Ecclesiastes 4:6:** "Better is an handful with quietness, than both the hands full with travail and vexation of spirit."

God required the Jews to bring forth good fruit (good character **qualities**). Instead the people were wicked.

- **Isaiah 5:2, 7:** "And he fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a winepress therein: and he looked that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth wild grapes. ... For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant: and he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry."

In the millennium, even the animals of the Jews will have **quality** food to eat.

- **Isaiah 30:24:** "The oxen likewise and the young asses that ear the ground shall eat clean provender, which hath been winnowed with the shovel and with the fan."

Nebuchadnezzar personally worked with each eunuch, to test them and evaluate their **quality**.

- **Daniel 1:19:** "And the king communed with them; and among them all was found none like Daniel, Hananiah,

Mishael, and Azariah: therefore stood they before the king."

The character of a nation impacts the **quality** of their spiritual leaders. Sinful nations will produce sinful leaders. (This is because wicked people won't tolerate godly leaders.)

- **Hosea 9:7:** "The days of visitation are come, the days of recompence are come; Israel shall know it: the prophet is a fool, the spiritual man is mad, for the multitude of thine iniquity, and the great hatred."

God values meekness. That's a **quality** He requires Christians to have.

- **Zephaniah 2:3:** "Seek ye the LORD, all ye meek of the earth, which have wrought his judgment; seek righteousness, seek meekness: it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the LORD's anger."

God compared the house of Judah (in the end times) to a **quality** horse that's ready for battle.

- **Zechariah 10:3:** "Mine anger was kindled against the shepherds, and I punished the goats: for the LORD of hosts hath visited his flock the house of Judah, and hath made them as his goodly horse in the battle."

Those who vow to the Lord and have a high **quality** gift to give Him, and instead give something that's so polluted no one wants it, is a deceiver.

- **Malachi 1:14:** "But cursed be the deceiver, which hath in

his flock a male, and voweth, and sacrificeth unto the LORD a corrupt thing: for I am a great King, saith the LORD of hosts, and my name is dreadful among the heathen."

Meekness is a good thing, not a bad thing. It's a good character **quality**.

- **Matthew 5:5**: "Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth."

Jesus provided high **quality** wine for the people at the marriage in Cana to drink.

- **John 2:10**: "And saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: but thou hast kept the good wine until now."

At weddings in ancient times, people provided lower **quality** wine after people had drank a lot of wine.

- **John 2:10**: "And saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: but thou hast kept the good wine until now."

Not everyone builds the church with the same **quality** of materials. Some people's additions are very valuable, while other contributions are worthless or vile.

- **1 Corinthians 3:10-12**: "According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have

laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;"

One day God will test the **quality** of our work with fire.

- **1 Corinthians 3:13:** "Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is."

The **quality** of our work directly impacts whether we'll receive a reward for it. Worthless work won't be rewarded.

- **1 Corinthians 3:14-15:** "If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire."

It's not enough for a church to have one or two good **qualities**. Churches must abound in *all* good works.

- **2 Corinthians 8:7:** "Therefore, as ye abound in every thing, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also."

The **quality** of our life must not impact our ability to be content. We must learn to be content regardless of how well off we are.

- **Philippians 4:12:** "I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need."

Boldness is a good **quality** for Christians and church leaders to have.

- **1 Timothy 3:13:** "For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus."

Christians are commanded to turn away from people who are wicked and depraved, and avoid them. This is especially true if there are people within the church who have these depraved **qualities**.

- **2 Timothy 3:5:** "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away."

The Bible teaches that Christians must pursue godliness and other character **qualities**. It doesn't say we'll be judged by the size of our ministries or by how many people responded to our preaching.

- **2 Peter 1:5-9:** "And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind,

and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins."

If we want to bear fruit then we must pursue the character **qualities** that God wants us to have, because they're the key to being fruitful.

- **2 Peter 1:8:** "For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Christians who lack the character **qualities** that God commands us to pursue have forgotten that they've been purged from their old sins.

- **2 Peter 1:9:** "But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins."

Christians who lack the character **qualities** that God commands us to pursue are blind.

- **2 Peter 1:9:** "But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins."

If your life doesn't demonstrate the character **qualities** that God commands us to pursue then there's no reason to believe your salvation is genuine. (This is because genuine salvation *always* produces good works, because good works are the fruits of the Holy Spirit.)

- **2 Peter 1:10:** "Wherefore the rather, brethren, give

diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:"

The key to living a Christian life that God considers to be successful is one that demonstrates the character **qualities** He cares about. It's *not* a life of health, wealth, or fame, and it's also not having a large ministry.

- **2 Peter 1:10**: "Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:"

Peter considered it to be negligent if Christians weren't regularly reminded of the importance of pursuing the character **qualities** that God cares about.

- **2 Peter 1:12**: "Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth."