

SAYINGS OF CONFUCIUS, PART I

Without an acquaintance with the rules of propriety, it is impossible for the character to be established.
Confucius, The Confucian Analects

The superior man] acts before he speaks, and afterwards speaks according to his actions.
Confucius, The Confucian Analects

While you are not able to serve men, how can you serve spirits [of the dead]?...While you do not know life, how can you know about death?
Confucius, The Confucian Analects, bk. 11:11

I have not seen a person who loved virtue, or one who hated what was not virtuous. He who loved virtue would esteem nothing above it.
Confucius, The Confucian Analects

If a man takes no thought about what is distant, he will find sorrow near at hand.
Confucius, The Confucian Analects

Is virtue a thing remote? I wish to be virtuous, and lo! Virtue is at hand.
Confucius, The Confucian Analects

Learning without thought is labor lost; thought without learning is perilous.
Confucius, The Confucian Analects

Recompense injury with justice, and recompense kindness with kindness.
Confucius, The Confucian Analects

The cautious seldom err.
Confucius, The Confucian Analects

The people may be made to follow a path of action, but they may not be made to understand it.
Confucius, The Confucian Analects

The scholar who cherishes the love of comfort is not fit to be deemed a scholar.
Confucius, The Confucian Analects

The superior man is modest in his speech, but exceeds in his actions.
Confucius, The Confucian Analects

The superior man is satisfied and composed; the mean man is always full of distress.
Confucius, The Confucian Analects

The superior man...does not set his mind either for anything, or against anything; what is right he will follow.
Confucius, The Confucian Analects

Things that are done, it is needless to speak about...things that are past, it is needless to blame.
Confucius, The Confucian Analects

To go beyond is as wrong as to fall short.
Confucius, The Confucian Analects

SAYINGS OF CONFUCIUS, PART II

To be able to practice five things everywhere under heaven constitutes perfect virtue...[They are] gravity, generosity of soul, sincerity, earnestness, and kindness.

Confucius, *The Confucian Analects*

The man of virtue makes the difficulty to be overcome his first business, and success only a subsequent consideration.

Confucius, *The Confucian Analects*

Virtue is more to man than either water or fire. I have seen men die from treading on water and fire, but I have never seen a man die from treading the course of virtue.

Confucius, *The Confucian Analects*

Virtue is not left to stand alone. He who practices it will have neighbors.

Confucius, *The Confucian Analects*

What the superior man seeks is in himself. What the mean man seeks is in others.

Confucius, *The Confucian Analects*

What you do not want done to yourself, do not do to others.

Confucius, *The Confucian Analects*

When a man's knowledge is sufficient to attain, and his virtue is not sufficient to enable him to hold, whatever he may have gained, he will lose again.

Confucius, *The Confucian Analects*

When we see men of worth, we should think of equaling them; when we see men of a contrary character, we should turn inwards and examine ourselves.

Confucius, *The Confucian Analects*

When you have faults, do not fear to abandon them.

Confucius, *The Confucian Analects*

I hear and I forget. I see and I remember. I do and I understand.

Confucius

Be not ashamed of mistakes and thus make them crimes.

Confucius

Before you embark on a journey of revenge, dig two graves.

Confucius

Everything has its beauty but not everyone sees it.

Confucius

He who will not economize will have to agonize.

Confucius

Forget injuries, never forget kindnesses.

Confucius

SAYINGS OF CONFUCIUS, PART III

When you know a thing, to hold that you know it; and when you do not know a thing, to allow that you do not know it - this is knowledge.
-- Confucius, The Confucian Analects

With coarse rice to eat, with water to drink, and my bended arm for a pillow - I have still joy in the midst of these things. Riches and honors acquired by unrighteousness are to me as a floating cloud.
Confucius, The Confucian Analects

Ignorance is the night of the mind, but a night without moon and star. -- Confucius

It does not matter how slowly you go so long as you do not stop. -- Confucius

Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in getting up every time we do. -- Confucius

Respect yourself and others will respect you. -- Confucius

Study the past if you would define the future. -- Confucius

He who speaks without modesty will find it difficult to make his words good.
Confucius, The Confucian Analects

To see what is right, and not to do it, is want of courage or of principle. -- Confucius

What the superior man seeks is in himself; what the small man seeks is in others. -- Confucius

When anger rises, think of the consequences. -- Confucius

When we see men of a contrary character, we should turn inwards and examine ourselves. -- Confucius

Wheresoever you go, go with all your heart. -- Confucius

They must often change who would be constant in happiness or wisdom. -- Confucius, Analects

By nature, men are nearly alike; by practice, they get to be wide apart. -- Confucius, The Confucian Analects

Have no friends not equal to yourself. -- Confucius, The Confucian Analects

He who exercises government by means of his virtue may be compared to the north polar star, which keeps its place and all the stars turn towards it.
Confucius, The Confucian Analects

To be able under all circumstances to practice five things constitutes perfect virtue; these five things are gravity, generosity of soul, sincerity, earnestness and kindness. -- Confucius

He with whom neither slander that gradually soaks into the mind, nor statements that startle like a wound in the flesh, are successful may be called intelligent indeed.
Confucius, The Confucian Analects

Hold faithfulness and sincerity as first principles. -- Confucius, The Confucian Analects

I am not one who was born in the possession of knowledge; I am one who is fond of antiquity, and earnest in seeking it there.
Confucius, The Confucian Analects