

# COURAGE

## *Bravery, Daring, Heroism and Valor*

### 1. ESSENCE

- 385 Courage consists not in hazarding without fear,  
but being resolutely minded in a just cause.  
Plutarch (46-120 A.D.)
- 386 True bravery is shown by performing without witness  
what one might be capable of doing before all the world.  
La Rochefoucauld (1613-1680)
- 387 Courage consists not in blindly overlooking danger,  
but in seeing it, and conquering it.  
Richter (1763-1825)
- 388 Self-truth is the essence of heroism.  
Emerson (1803-1882)
- 389 Courage - a perfect sensibility of the measure of danger,  
and a mental willingness to endure it.  
William T. Sherman (1820-1891)
- 390 Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear,  
not absence of fear.  
Mark Twain (1835-1910)
- 391 Courage is fear holding on a minute longer.  
George S. Patton (1885-1945)

### 2. OPPOSITES

- 392 The wicked flee when no one pursues,  
but the righteous are bold as a lion.  
Proverbs (B.C. 1000?-200?)
- 393 He who is brave in daring will be killed.  
He who is brave in not daring will live.  
Of these two, one is advantageous and one is harmful.  
Who knows why Heaven dislikes what it dislikes?  
Even the sage considers it a difficult question...  
Lao-Tzu (fl. B.C. 600)
- 394 There is a wide difference between true courage and a mere  
contempt of life.  
Cato the Elder (B.C. 234-149)

- 395 No man can be brave who thinks pain the greatest evil;  
nor temperate, who considers pleasure the highest good  
Cicero (B.C. 106-43)
- 396 Courage leads to heaven; fear, to death.  
Seneca (B.C. 3-65 A.D.)
- 397 Courage stands halfway between cowardice and rashness,  
one of which is a lack, the other an excess, of courage.  
Plutarch (46-120 A.D.)
- 398 A timid person is frightened before a danger, a coward  
during the time, and a courageous person afterwards.  
Richter (1763-1825)
- 399 Courage is fire, and bullying is smoke.  
Disraeli (1804-1881)
- 400 Courage enlarges, cowardice diminishes resources.  
In desperate straits the fears of the timid  
aggravate the dangers that imperil the brave.  
Bovee (1820-1904)
- 401 The more thou dost advance, the more thy feet pitfalls will  
meet. The Path that leadeth on is lighted by one fire-  
the light of daring burning in the heart. The more one  
dares, the more he shall obtain. The more he fears, the  
more that light shall pale - and that alone can guide.  
H. P. Blavatsky (1831-1891)
- 402 The paradox of courage is that a man must be a little  
careless of his life in order to keep it.  
G. K. Chesterton (1874-1936)

### 3. INSIGHT

- 403 Say not that honour is the child of boldness, nor believe  
thou that the hazard of life alone can pay the price of it:  
it is not to the action that it is due, but to the manner  
of performing it.  
Akhenaton? (c. B.C. 1375)
- 404 I count him braver who overcomes his desires than him who  
conquers his enemies; for the hardest victory is over self.  
Aristotle (B.C. 384-322)
- 405 A man of courage is also full of faith.  
Cicero (B.C. 106-43)
- 406 Fortune can take away riches, but not courage.  
Seneca (B.C. 3-65 A.D.)

- 407 A true knight is fuller of bravery in the midst,  
than in the beginning of danger.  
Philip Sidney (1554-1586)
- 408 Most men have more courage than even they themselves  
think they have.  
Greville (1554-1628)
- 409 We can never be certain of our courage until we have  
faced danger.  
La Rochefoucauld (1613-1680)
- 410 Courage from hearts and not from numbers grows.  
Dryden (1631-1700)
- 411 It is in great dangers that we see great courage.  
Jean Francois Regnard (1655-1709)
- 412 Courage is poorly housed that dwells in numbers;  
the lion never counts the herd that are about him,  
nor weighs how many flocks he has to scatter.  
Aaron Hill (1685-1750)
- 413 One man with courage makes a majority.  
Andrew Jackson (1767-1845)
- 414 The courage we desire and prize is not the courage to die  
decently, but to live manfully.  
Carlyle (1795-1881)
- 415 All brave men love;  
for he only is brave who has affections to fight for,  
whether in the daily battle of life,  
or in physical contests.  
Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804-1864)

#### 4. POSITIVE

- 416 A decent boldness ever meets with friends.  
Homer (c. B.C. 700)
- 417 Courage conquers all things: it even gives strength  
to the body.  
Ovid (B.C. 43-18 A.D.)
- 418 Fortune and love favor the brave.  
Ovid (B.C. 43-18 A.D.)

- 419 There is nothing in the world so much admired as a man  
who knows how to bear unhappiness with courage.  
Seneca (B.C. 3-65 A.D.)
- 420 True courage is cool and calm.  
The bravest of men have the least of a brutal, bullying  
insolence, and in the very time of danger are found the most  
serene and free.  
Shaftesbury III (1671-1713)
- 421 The brave love mercy, and delight to save.  
Gay (1688-1732)
- 422 Courage and modesty are the most unequivocal of virtues,  
for they are of a kind that hypocrisy cannot imitate;  
they too have this quality in common,  
that they are expressed by the same color.  
Goethe (1749-1832)
- 423 Heroism - the divine relation which, in all times,  
unites a great man to other men.  
Carlyle (1795-1881)
- 424 There is always safety in valor.  
Emerson (1803-1882)
- 425 You will never do anything in this world without courage.  
It is the greatest quality of the mind next to honor.  
James L. Allen (1849-1925)
- 426 Courage is the first of human qualities because it is the  
quality which guarantees all the others.  
Winston Churchill (1874-1965)

## 5. NEGATIVE

- 427 To see what is right, and not do it, is want of courage,  
or of principle.  
Confucius (B.C. 551-479)
- 428 The human race afraid of nothing,  
rushes on through every crime.  
Horace (B.C. 65-8)
- 429 Take away ambitions and vanity, and where will be your  
heroes and patriots?  
Seneca (B.C. 3-65 A.D.)

- 430 Valor hath its bounds, as well as other virtues, which once transgressed, the next step is into the territories of vice, so that, by having too large a proportion of this heroic virtue...may unawares run into temerity, obstinacy, and folly.  
Montaigne (1533-1592)
- 431 He who loses wealth loses much;  
he who loses a friend loses more;  
but he that loses his courage loses all.  
Cervantes (1547-1616)
- 432 Valor employed in an ill quarrel, turns to cowardice;  
and virtue then puts on foul vice's vizor.  
Philip Massinger (1583-1640)
- 433 Valor that parleys is near yielding.  
Herbert (1593-1632)
- 434 The more wit the less courage.  
Thomas Fuller (1608-1661)
- 435 No man is a hero to his valet.  
Cornuel (1614-1694)
- 436 Who combats bravely is not therefore brave:  
He dreads a deathbed like the meanest slave.  
Pope (1688-1744)
- 437 Personal courage is really a very subordinate virtue...  
in which we are surpassed by the lower animals.  
Schopenhauer (1788-1860)
- 438 It is an error to suppose that courage means courage in everything. Most people are brave only in the dangers to which they accustom themselves, either in imagination or practice.  
Bulwer-Lytton (1803-1873)

## 6. ADVICE

- 439 Never ask the gods for life set free from grief,  
but ask for courage that endureth long.  
Menander (B.C. 342-291)
- 440 The burden which is well borne becomes light.  
Ovid (B.C. 43-18 A.D.)
- 441 No one reaches a high position without daring.  
Publilius Syrus (fl. B.C. 42)

- 442 The brave and bold persist even against fortune;  
the timid and cowardly rush to despair though fear alone.  
Tacitus (55-117 A.D.)
- 443 Aspire rather to be a hero than merely appear one.  
Baltasar Gracian (1601-1658)
- 444 Rest not! Life is sweeping by; go and dare before you die.  
Something mighty and sublime, leave behind to conquer time.  
Goethe (1749-1832)
- 445 A hero is no braver than an ordinary man,  
but he is braver five minutes longer.  
Emerson (1803-1882)
- 446 Nurture your minds with great thoughts,  
to believe in the heroic makes heroes.  
Disraeli (1804-1881)
- 447 Write on your doors the saying wise and old.  
"Be bold!" and everywhere - "Be bold;  
Be not too bold!" Yet better the excess  
Than the defect; better the more than less...  
Longfellow (1807-1882)

## 7. POTPOURRI

- 448 As a rock on the seashore he standeth firm, and the dashing  
of the waves disturbeth him not. He raiseth his head like  
a tower on a hill, and the arrows of fortune drop at his  
feet. In the instant of danger, the courage of his heart  
sustaineth him; and the steadiness of his mind beareth him  
out.  
Akhenaton? (c. B.C. 1375)
- 449 O friends, be men; so act that none may feel ashamed to  
meet the eyes of other men. Think each one of his children  
and his wife, his home, his parents, living yet or dead.  
For them, the absent ones, I supplicate, and bid you rally  
here, and scorn to fly.  
Homer (c. B.C. 700)
- 450 And what he greatly thought, he nobly dared.  
Homer (c. B.C. 700)
- 451 Valour, glory, firmness, skill, generosity, steadiness in  
battle and ability to rule - these constitute the duty of a  
soldier. They flow from his own nature.  
Bhagavad Gita (c. B.C. 400)

- 452 Courage in danger is half the battle.  
Plautus (B.C. 254-184)
- 453 Go on and increase in valor, O boy!  
this is the path to immortality.  
Vergil (B.C. 70-19)
- 454 That's a valiant flea that dares eat his breakfast on the  
lip of a lion.  
Shakespeare (1564-1616)
- 455 He either fears his fate too much,  
Or his deserts are small,  
That dares not put it to the touch,  
To gain or lose it all.  
James Graham (1612-1650)
- 456 He was a bold man that first ate an oyster.  
Swift (1667-1745)
- 457 Tender handed stroke a nettle,  
And it stings you for your pains;  
Grasp it like a man of mettle,  
And it soft as silk remains.  
Aaron Hill (1685-1750)
- 458 A light supper, a good night's sleep, and a fine morning  
have often made a hero of the same man who, by indigestion,  
a restless night, and a rainy morning, would have proved  
a coward.  
Chesterfield (1694-1773)
- 459 The prudent see only the difficulties, the bold only the  
advantages, of a great enterprise; the hero sees both;  
diminishes the former and makes the latter preponderate,  
and so conquers.  
Lavater (1741-1801)
- 460 No man is a hero to his valet. This is not because the hero  
is no hero, but because the valet is a valet.  
Hegel (1770-1831)
- 461 The hero is not fed on sweets,  
Daily his own heart he eats;  
Chambers of the great are jails,  
And head-winds right for royal sails.  
Emerson (1803-1882)

462 One who never turned his back but marched breast forward,  
never doubted clouds would break,  
Never dreamed, though right were worsted,  
wrong would triumph,  
Held we fall to rise, are baffled to fight better,  
sleep to wake.

Robert Browning (1812-1889)

463 In the world's broad field of battle,  
In the bivouac of Life,  
Be not like dumb, driven cattle!  
Be a hero in the strife.

Longfellow (1807-1882)

464 Stand upright, speak thy thoughts, declare  
The truth thou hast, that all may share;  
Be bold, proclaim it everywhere:  
They only live who dare.

Lewis Morris (1835-1907)

465 A man not perfect, but of heart  
So high, of such heroic rage,  
That even his hopes became a part  
Of earth's eternal heritage.

Richard Gilder (1844-1909)

466 Out of the night that covers me,  
Black as the pit from pole to pole,  
I thank whatever gods may be  
For my unconquerable soul.

William Henley (1849-1903)