

HUMILITY

Humbleness, Modesty and Sacrifice

1. ESSENCE

- 2349 Humility is the solid foundation of all virtues.
Confucius (B.C. 551-479)
- 2350 Modesty is the color of virtue.
Diogenes (B.C. 412-323)
- 2351 Modesty is the citadel of beauty and virtue.
Demades (B.C. 380-318)
- 2352 Lowliness is the base of every virtue,
And he who goes the lowest builds the safest.
Bailey (1816-1902)
- 2353 Humility is to make a right estimate of oneself.
Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892)
- 2354 Life is a long lesson in humility.
James Matthew Barrie (1860-1937)

2. OPPOSITES

- 2355 The sage wears clothes of coarse cloth but carries jewels
in his bosom;
He knows himself but does not display himself;
He loves himself but does not hold himself in high esteem.
Thus he rejects the latter and takes the former.
Lao-Tzu (fl. B.C. 600)
- 2356 When possessed of wealth or learning,
Low people become proud.
But even when doubly honored,
The wise become more humble.
Nagarjuna (c. 100-200 A.D.)
- 2357 The beloved of the Almighty are:
the rich who have the humility of the poor,
and the poor who have the magnanimity of the rich.
Saadi (1184-1291)
- 2358 It is easier to sacrifice great than little things.
Montaigne (1533-1592)

- 2359 It is what we give up, not what we lay up, that adds to our lasting store.
Hosea Ballou (1771-1852)
- 2360 The Devil did grin, for his darling sin
Is pride that apes humility.
Samuel Coleridge (1772-1834)
- 2361 We cannot think too highly of our nature,
nor too humbly of ourselves.
Colton (1780-1832)
- 2362 The more humble a man is before God,
the more he will be exalted;
the more humble he is before man,
the more he will get rode roughshod.
Josh Billings (1815-1885)
- 2363 The higher a man is in grace,
the lower he will be in his own esteem.
Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892)

3. INSIGHT

- 2364 Modesty is at the core of the man's being and reveals
itself in his outward behavior.
I Ching (B.C. 1150?)
- 2365 I have three precious things which I hold fast and prize.
The first is gentleness; the second is frugality; the
third is humility, which keeps me from putting myself before
others. Be gentle and you can be bold; be frugal and you
can be liberal; avoid putting yourself before others and
you can become a leader among men.
Lao-Tzu (fl. B.C. 600)
- 2366 Humble things become the humble.
Horace (B.C. 65-8)
- 2367 Modesty once extinguished knows not how to return.
Seneca (B.C. 3-65 A.D.)
- 2368 Modesty is to merit, what shade is to figures in a picture;
it gives it strength and makes it stand out.
La Bruyere (1645-1696)
- 2369 To be humble to Superiors is Duty, to Equals Courtesy,
to Inferiors Nobleness.
Franklin (1706-1790)

- 2370 The boughs that bear most hang lowest.
David Garrick (1716-1779)
- 2371 Humility does not consist in hiding our talents and virtues,
in thinking ourselves worse and more ordinary than we are,
but in possessing a clear knowledge of all that is lacking
in us and in not exalting ourselves for that which we have..
Lacordaire (1802-1861)
- 2372 I believe the first test of a truly great man is in his
humility.
John Ruskin (1819-1900)

4. POSITIVE

- 2373 The unassuming youth seeking instruction with humility
gains good fortune.
I Ching (B.C. 1150?)
- 2374 Humble station is the basis of honor.
The low is the foundation of the high.
Lao-Tzu (fl. B.C. 600)
- 2375 What can be found equal to modesty, uncorrupt faith,
the sister of justice, and undisguised truth?
Horace (B.C. 65-8)
- 2376 Modesty is a sweet song-bird no open cage-door can tempt to
flight.
Hafiz (1325?-1390?)
- 2377 Sense shines with a double luster when it is set in
humility. An able and yet humble man is a jewel worth a
kingdom.
William Penn (1614-1718)
- 2378 Humility makes great men twice honourable.
Franklin (1706-1790)
- 2379 Modesty seldom resides in a breast that is not
enriched with nobler virtues.
Goldsmith (1728-1774)
- 2380 He who does not think too much of himself
is much more esteemed than he imagines.
Goethe (1749-1832)
- 2381 Modesty is a shining light;
it prepares the mind to receive knowledge,
and the heart for truth.
Guizot (1787-1874)

- 2382 Humility, like darkness, reveals the heavenly lights. 4 of 6
 Thoreau (1817-1862)

5. NEGATIVE

- 2383 Modesty is of no use to a beggar.
 Homer (c. B.C. 700)
- 2384 It is hard, indeed, to feel humble, to know respect and honor, to get rid of all attachments, to keep pure in thought and deed, and to become wise.
 Buddha (B.C. 568-488)
- 2385 It is often found that modesty and humility not only do no good, but are positively hurtful, when they are shown to the arrogant who have taken up a prejudice against you, either from envy or from any other cause.
 Machiavelli (1469-1527)
- 2386 One may be humble out of pride.
 Montaigne (1533-1592)
- 2387 False modesty is the refinement of vanity.
 It is a lie.
 La Bruyere (1645-1696)
- 2388 If man makes himself a worm he must not complain when he is trodden on.
 Immanuel Kant (1724-1804)
- 2389 Modesty is the lowest of the virtues, and is a confession of the deficiency it indicates. He who undervalues himself is justly overvalued by others.
 Hazlitt (1778-1830)
- 2390 Never to talk about oneself is a very refined form of hypocrisy.
 Nietzsche (1844-1900)

6. ADVICE

- 2391 Manifest plainness,
 Embrace simplicity,
 Reduce selfishness,
 Have few desires.
 Lao-Tzu (fl. B.C. 600)
- 2392 Be of an exceedingly humble spirit,
 for the end of man is the worm.
 The Talmud (B.C. 500?-400? A.D.)

- 2393 Demand not that events should happen as you wish, but wish them to happen as they do, and you will go on well.
Epictetus (50-138 A.D.)
- 2394 A modesty in delivering our sentiments leaves us a liberty of changing them without blushing.
Thomas Wilson (1525?-1581)
- 2395 Be wise; soar not too high to fall,
but stoop to rise.
Philip Massinger (1583-1640)
- 2396 Search others for their virtues, and thyself for thy vices.
Thomas Fuller (1608-1661)
- 2397 A modest man never talks of himself.
La Bruyere (1645-1696)
- 2398 O be very sure
That no man will learn anything at all,
Unless he first will learn humility.
Owen Meredith (1831-1891)
- 2399 Be humble, if thou would'st attain to Wisdom.
Be humbler still, when Wisdom thou hast mastered.
H. P. Blavatsky (1831-1891)
- 2400 Bear all and do nothing
Hear all and say nothing
Abandon all and be nothing.
Hazrat Inayat Khan (1882-1927)
- 2401 Be humble as the blade of grass that is being trodden
underneath the feet. The little ant tastes joyously the
sweetness of honey and sugar. The mighty elephant trembles
in pain under the agony of sharp goad.
Sivananda (born 1887)

7. POTPOURRI

- 2402 I have offended God and mankind because my work didn't
reach the quality it should have.
Leonardo Da Vinci (1452-1519)
- 2403 After crosses and losses men grow humbler and wiser.
Franklin (1706-1790)
- 2404 The bird of wisdom flies low, and seeks her food under
hedges; the eagle himself would be starved if he always
soared aloft and against the sun.
Landor (1775-1864)

- 2405 Humility, that low, sweet root,
From which all heavenly virtues shoot.
Thomas Moore (1779-1852)
- 2406 At least I have the modesty to admit that lack of modesty
is one of my failings.
Hector Berlioz (1803-1869)
- 2407 Good taste is the modesty of the mind;
that is why it cannot be either imitated or acquired.
Emile de Girardin (1806-1881)
- 2408 The violet droops its soft and bashful brow,
But from its heart sweet incense fills the air;
So rich within - so pure without - art thou,
With modest mien and soul of virtue rare.
Frances Osgood (1811-1850)
- 2409 In the world's audience hall, the simple blade of grass sits
on the same carpet with the sunbeams, and the stars of
midnight.
Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941)
- 2410 The tumult and the shouting dies;
The Captains and the Kings depart:
Still stands Thine ancient sacrifice,
An humble and a contrite heart.
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget - lest we forget!
Kipling (1865-1936)