

RUIN

Calamity, Disaster, Loss and Poverty

1. ESSENCE

- 4039 Not he who has little, but he who wishes for more, is poor.
Seneca (B.C. 3-65 A.D.)
- 4040 The lowest ebb is the turn of the tide.
Longfellow (1807-1882)

2. OPPOSITES

- 4041 It is more difficult to be well with riches, than to be at ease under the want of them. Man governeth himself much easier in poverty than in abundance.
Akhenaton? (c. B.C. 1375)
- 4042 If the wicked flourished, and thou suffer, be not discouraged; they are fatted for destruction, thou art dieted for health.
Thomas Fuller (1608-1661)
- 4043 And plenty makes us poor.
Dryden (1631-1700)
- 4044 The poor man must walk to get meat for his stomach, the rich man to get a stomach to his meat.
Franklin (1706-1790)
- 4045 Poverty and wealth are comparative sins.
Victor Hugo (1802-1885)
- 4046 Very few people can afford to be poor.
G. B. Shaw (1856-1950)
- 4047 People come to poverty in two ways: accumulating debts and paying them off.
Jewish Proverb

3. INSIGHT

- 4048 From its beginning, the world has been filled with a succession of calamities; over and above the unavoidable facts of illness, decrepitude and death.
Buddha (B.C. 568-488)

- 4049 If all our misfortunes were laid in one common heap whence everyone must take an equal portion, most people would be contented to take their own and depart.
Socrates (B.C. 469-399)
- 4050 He is not poor who has the use of necessary things.
Horace (B.C. 65-8)
- 4051 On the touchstone of misfortune a man discovers the strength of understanding and of spirit in kinsmen, wife, servants, and himself.
The Hitopadesa (600?-1100? A.D.)
- 4052 A wise man loses nothing, if he but saves himself.
Montaigne (1533-1592)
- 4053 Poverty is no vice, but an inconvenience.
John Florio (1553?-1625)
- 4054 Things that are not at all, are never lost.
Christopher Marlowe (1564-1593)
- 4055 The worst is not
So long as we can say "This is the worst."
Shakespeare (1564-1616)
- 4056 No man can lose what he never had.
Izaak Walton (1593-1683)
- 4057 No man is poor who does not think himself so. But if in a full fortune with impatience he desires more, he proclaims his wants and his beggarly condition.
Jeremy Taylor (1613-1667)
- 4058 Our greatest misfortunes come to us from ourselves.
Rousseau (1712-1778)
- 4059 Humanity may endure the loss of everything; all its possessions may be torn away without infringing its true dignity - all but the possibility of improvement.
Immanuel von Fichte (1796-1879)
- 4060 All the great and beneficent operations of Nature are produced by slow and often imperceptible degrees. The work of destruction and devastation only is violent and rapid. The Volcano and the Earthquake, the Tornado and the Avalanche, leap suddenly into full life and fearful energy, and smite with an unexpected blow.
Albert Pike (1809-1891)

- 4061 It is indeed astonishing how many great men have been poor. 3 of 7
 Lubbock (1834-1913)

4. POSITIVE

- 4062 When Heaven is about to confer a great office on any man, it first disciplines his mind with suffering, and his bones and sinews with toil. It exposes him to want and subjects him to extreme poverty. It confounds his undertakings. By all these methods it stimulates his mind, hardens him, and supplies his incompetencies.
Mencius (B.C. 371-288)
- 4063 Poverty is the discoverer of all the arts.
Apollonius (B.C. 257-205)
- 4064 Calamity is virtue's opportunity.
Seneca (B.C. 3-65 A.D.)
- 4065 How wisely fate ordained for human kind
 Calamity! which is the perfect glass,
 Wherein we truly see and know ourselves.
William Davenant (1605-1668)
- 4066 It may serve as a comfort to us, in all our calamities and afflictions, that he that loses anything and gets wisdom by it is a gainer by the loss.
L'Estrange (1616-1704)
- 4067 He that is down needs fear no fall.
John Bunyan (1628-1688)
- 4068 Times of general calamity and confusion have ever been productive of the greatest minds. The purest ore is produced from the hottest furnace, and the brightest thunderbolt is elicited from the darkest storm.
Colton (1780-1832)
- 4069 The greatest man in history was the poorest.
Emerson (1803-1882)
- 4070 Almost all the noblest things that have been achieved in the world, have been achieved by poor men; poor scholars, poor professional men, poor artisans and artists, poor philosophers, poets, and men of genius.
Albert Pike (1809-1891)
- 4071 It is from the level of calamities, not that of every-day life, that we learn impressive and useful lessons.
Thackeray (1811-1863)

4072 But noble souls, through dust and heat,
Rise from disaster and defeat
The stronger.

Longfellow (1807-1882)

4073 When all else is lost,
the future still remains.

Bovee (1820-1904)

4074 What does not destroy me, makes me strong.

Nietzsche (1844-1900)

4075 Many a good face
Under a ragged hat.

Chinese Proverb

5. NEGATIVE

4076 Not to be able to bear poverty is a shameful thing, but not
to know how to chase it away by work is a more shameful
thing yet.

Pericles (B.C. 495-429)

4077 The real disgrace of poverty is not in owning to the fact
but in declining to struggle against it.

Thucydides (B.C. 460-400)

4078 Poverty urges us to do and suffer anything that we may
escape from it, and so leads us away from virtue.

Horace (B.C. 65-8)

4079 Ants do not bend their ways to empty barns,
so no friend will visit the place of departed wealth.

Ovid (B.C. 43-18 A.D.)

4080 Poverty is shunned and persecuted all over the globe.

Lucan (39-65 A.D.)

4081 They do not easily rise whose abilities are repressed by
poverty at home.

Juvenal (40-125 A.D.)

4082 Poverty is not dishonorable in itself, but only when it
comes from idleness, intemperance, extravagance, and folly.

Plutarch (46-120 A.D.)

4083 Poverty is the mother of crime.

Marcus Aurelius (121-180 A.D.)

- 4084 To mortal men great loads allotted to be;
But of all packs no pack like poverty.
Robert Herrick (1591-1674)
- 4085 Poverty often deprives a man of all spirit and virtue;
it is hard for an empty bag to stand upright.
Franklin (1706-1790)
- 4086 Poverty is a great enemy to human happiness; it certainly
destroys liberty, and it makes some virtues impracticable,
and others extremely difficult.
Johnson (1709-1784)
- 4087 Poverty is the wicked man's tempter, the good man's
perdition, the proud man's curse, the melancholy
man's halter.
Bulwer-Lytton (1803-1873)
- 4088 That loss is common would not make
My own less bitter, rather more,
Too common!
Alfred Tennyson (1809-1892)
- 4089 Poverty is the openmouthed relentless hell which yawns
beneath civilized society. And it is hell enough.
Henry George (1839-1897)
- 4090 The child was diseased at birth - stricken with an
hereditary ill that only the most vital men are able to
shake off. I mean poverty - the most deadly and prevalent
of all diseases.
Eugene O'Neill (1888-1953)
- 4091 With money you can call the very gods to help...
Without it not a single man.
Chinese Proverb

6. ADVICE

- 4092 Perils, and misfortunes, and want, and pain, and injury, are
more or less the certain lot of every man that cometh into
the world. It behooveth thee, therefore, O child of
calamity! early to fortify thy mind with courage and
patience, that thou mayest support, with a becoming
resolution, thy allotted portion of human evil.
Akhenaton? (c. B.C. 1375)
- 4093 Action must be taken at the first signs of disruption or
decay, otherwise disaster will follow as ice-bound water
follows brief autumn frosts.
I Ching (B.C. 1150?)

- 4094 He who carries out one good deed acquires one advocate in his own behalf, and he who commits one transgression acquires one accuser against himself. Repentance and good works are like a shield against calamity.
The Talmud (B.C. 500?-400? A.D.)
- 4095 The consciousness of good intention is the greatest solace of misfortunes.
Cicero (B.C. 106-43)
- 4096 Yield not to misfortunes, but advance all the more boldly against them.
Vergil (B.C. 70-19)
- 4097 When you see a man in distress, recognize him as a fellow man.
Seneca (B.C. 3-65 A.D.)
- 4098 Wise men ne'er sit and wail their loss, but cheerily seek how to redress their harms.
Shakespeare (1564-1616)
- 4099 By the side of honor, humiliation waits.
When honored, one ought not be high-spirited.
Behind poverty, prosperity follows.
When impoverished, why should one be low-spirited.
Hung Tzu-ch'eng (1593-1665)
- 4100 Life is thickly sown with thorns, and I know no other remedy than to pass quickly through them. The longer we dwell on our misfortunes, the greater is their power to harm us.
Voltaire (1694-1778)
- 4101 When any calamity has been suffered the first thing to be remembered is, how much has been escaped.
Johnson (1709-1784)

7. POTPOURRI

- 4102 The ruins of himself! now worn away
With age, yet still majestic in decay.
Homer (c. B.C. 700)
- 4103 Whom the gods would destroy they first make mad.
Euripides (B.C. 480-406)
- 4104 'Tis safer to be that which we destroy
Than by destruction dwell in doubtful joy.
Shakespeare (1564-1616)

- 4105 You never find people laboring to convince you that you may live very happily upon a plentiful income.
Johnson (1709-1784)
- 4106 When ancient opinions and rules of life are taken away, the loss cannot possibly be estimated. From that moment we have no compass to govern us, nor can we know distinctly to what port to steer.
Burke (1729-1797)
- 4107 A dog starved at his master's gate
Predicts the ruin of the State.
William Blake (1757-1828)
- 4108 He went like one that hath been stunned,
And is of sense forlorn:
A sadder and a wiser man,
He rose the morrow morn.
Samuel Coleridge (1772-1834)
- 4109 But over all things brooding slept
The quiet sense of something lost.
Alfred Tennyson (1809-1892)
- 4110 And in the wreck of noble lives
Something immortal still survives.
Longfellow (1807-1882)
- 4111 Calamities are of two kinds: misfortune to ourselves,
and good fortune to others.
Ambrose Bierce (1842-1914?)
- 4112 Beggars should be abolished. It annoys one to give to them,
and it annoys one not to give to them.
Nietzsche (1844-1900)
- 4113 Most people become bankrupt through having invested too heavily in the prose of life. To have ruined oneself over poetry is an honor.
Oscar Wilde (1854-1900)
- 4114 This is the truth as I see it, my dear,
Out in the wind and the rain:
They who have nothing have little to fear,
Nothing to lose or to gain.
Cawein (1865-1914)
- 4115 To build it, took one hundred years...
to destroy it, one day.
Chinese Proverb