Used by permission." (www.Lockman.org)

Thirty-Two Traits Of The Person Who Respects God's Word

16. I will be saddened when it violated. (Psa. 119:136).

PSA 119:136 My eyes shed streams of water, Because they do not keep Your law.

- a. The alien sinner must have godly sorrow to come to repentance.
- b. The believer has godly sorrow when he/she sins and this leads to genuine repentance. See 2 Cor. 7:10.

2 COR 7:10 For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.

c. The believer should have the attitude of David when he/she sins. (Psa. 51:1-4, 7-12).

PSA 51:1 Be gracious to me, O God, according to Thy lovingkindness; According to the greatness of Thy compassion blot out my transgressions.

- PSA 51:2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin.
- PSA 51:3 For I know my transgressions, And my sin is ever before me.
- PSA 51:4 Against Thee, Thee only, I have sinned, And done what is evil in Thy sight, So that Thou art justified when Thou dost speak, And blameless when Thou dost judge.
- PSA 51:5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me.
- PSA 51:6 Behold, Thou dost desire truth in the innermost being, And in the hidden part Thou wilt make me know wisdom.
- PSA 51:7 Purify me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- PSA 51:8 Make me to hear joy and gladness, Let the bones which Thou hast broken rejoice.
- PSA 51:9 Hide Thy face from my sins, And blot out all my iniquities.
- PSA 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me.
- PSA 51:11 Do not cast me away from Thy presence, And do not take Thy Holy Spirit from me.
- PSA 51:12 Restore to me the joy of Thy salvation, And sustain me with a willing spirit.
 - d. The believer is also sadden when others yield to unrighteousness. (1 Cor. 13:6).

1CO 13:6 does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth;

17. I will reject human traditions as authoritative and binding. (Matt. 15:7-9).

MATT 15:7 "You hypocrites, rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you:

- MATT 15:8'This people honors Me with their lips, But their heart is far away from Me.
- MATT 15:9 'But in vain do they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.'"
 - a. Traditions per se are not bad.
 - b. They are only bad when they are elevated to commandments or violate or change God's commandments.
 - c. Many things that are taught as binding are really traditions.

- d. Jesus says those who follow human traditions that contradicts His word are worshiping [serving] God "in vain."
- 18. I will respect those who preach it. (Rom. 10:15).

ROM 10:15 And how shall they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad tidings of good things!"

- a. Preachers should be treated with honor and respect.
- b. They should never be treated as hirelings, but should be supported. (1 Cor. 9:14).
- c. It is shameful the way some treat preachers.
- d. The preacher and his family should be given the same consideration as other members.
- 19. I will not apologize for it. (1 Kgs. 22:14).

1 KGS 22:14 But Micaiah said, "As the LORD lives, what the LORD says to me, that I shall speak."

- a. We must never apologize for God's holy word.
- b. Rather than be apologetic we should courageously proclaim God's word.
- 20. I will want others to hear it. (Psa. 119:13, 46).

PSA 119:13 With my lips I have told of All the ordinances of Thy mouth. PSA 119:46 I will also speak of Thy testimonies before kings, And shall not be ashamed.

- a. The gospel must be preached to all. (Mk. 16:15; Matt. 28:19).
- b. We should use every opportunity to share the gospel with others.
- c. We can never be sure who will respond to God's word, and must not avoid teaching those we do not think will be interested.
- 21. I will praise God who authored it. (Psa. 119:164, 171).

PSA 119:164 Seven times a day I praise Thee, Because of Thy righteous ordinances.

PSA 119:171 Let my lips utter praise, For Thou dost teach me Thy statutes.

- a. God's word is perfect and He should be daily praised because of His "righteous ordinances."
- b. It is complete and the only source for the abundant life here and in eternity. (2 Tim. 3:16, 17; 2 Pet. 1:3).
- 22. I will store it in my heart. (Psa. 119:11).

PSA 119:11 Thy word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against Thee.

- a. Head knowledge is important and it is vital that one keep learning more and more of God's word.
- b. Head knowledge is good for salvation when it is "treasured" in the heart.

c. The words of Christ must dwell "richly" in our hearts. (Col. 3:16).

COL 3:16 Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms *and* hymns *and* spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

- 1) This leads to joy and thankfulness.
- 2) This leads to loving obedience.
- 3) This leads to joyful and reverent singing.
- d. When one allows "the word of Christ" to "richly dwell" in him, he is "filled with the Spirit." (Eph. 5:18).
- e. Ephesians 5:18 and Colossians 3:16 are parallel passage with Colossians 3:16 giving the meaning of Ephesians 5:18.
- 23. I will be comforted in affliction. (Psa. 119:50; Rom. 15:4).

PSA 119:50 This is my comfort in my affliction, That Thy word has revived me.

ROM 15:4 For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

- a. There is a need for medicine of many kinds.
- b. God's word is medicine for the soul.
- 24. I will live in peace. (Psa. 119:165).

PSA 119:165 Those who love Thy law have great peace, And nothing causes them to stumble.

- a. As a general rule those who love God's word will live at peace with others.
- b. Those who love God's word are peacemakers not trouble makers. (Matt. 5:9).
- c. God's people are to follow the things that make for peace. (Rom. 12:18; 14:19).

ROM 12:18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men [everyone].

ROM 14:19 So then we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another.

25. I will speak "the truth in [with] love." (Eph. 4:15).

EPH 4:15 but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him, who is the head, even Christ,

- a. We are obligated to teach the truth and nothing but the truth.
- b. Truth must be spoken with the motivation of love.
- c. This does not mean that there is not a place for rebuking and correction. (2 Tim. 4:1-4).

2TI 4:1 I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom:

2TI 4:2 preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.

2TI 4:3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires;

2TI 4:4 and will turn away their ears from the truth, and will turn aside to myths.

26. I will receive it with meekness [humility]. (Jas. 1:21).

JAM 1:21 Therefore putting aside all [moral] filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.

- a. God's word must be accepted with humility.
- b. One must humbly accept what God teaches rather than deny it or reject it.
- c. The admonition that James gave in James 1:19-20 in context is talking about one's reception of God's word.

JAM 1:19 This you know, my beloved brethren. But let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger;

JAM 1:20 for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God. Lit. "achieve" is "works not."

27. I will not want my ears tickled. (2 Tim. 4:3,4).

2TI 4:3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires;

2TI 4:4 and will turn away their ears from the truth, and will turn aside to myths.

- a. Sometimes even good people want their "ears tickled."
- b. The masses most often want to hear what pleases them rather than the truth.
- 28. I will not be ashamed of it. (Rom. 1:16).

ROM 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

- a. The gospel is obnoxious to many people.
- b. They do not want to hear it especially any part that contradicts their life style.
- c. It is so easy to become ashamed of what is obnoxious and rejected by other people.
- d. Because of the hostility of the world, many Christians keep silent in regard to God's word and or ashamed to share it with others.
- 29. I will recognize that saving faith does not come from feelings or the thinking of man.
 - a. One cannot have genuine faith apart from God's word.
 - b. Faith comes from hearing God's word. (Rom. 10:17).
 - c. "Without faith it is impossible to please God." (Heb. 11:6).

- d. Faith is trusting obedience not mere mental assent. (Jas. 2:19).
- 30. I will be satisfied merely to know God's word and to know "the right thing to do." (Jas. 4:17).

JAM 4:17 Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do, and does not do it, to him it is sin.

- a. James is not promoting ignorance. Ignorance is not bliss
- b. He is not encouraging one to remain ignorant to prevent sin.
- c. One must learn and obey the truth to be saved. (Jn. 8:32).

JOH 8:32 and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. "

- d. He is emphasizing that knowing what is right is not sufficient.
- e. We must do what we know, and keep on learning God's word.
- f. We must proclaim the gospel to the world (Matt. 28:19, 20; Mk. 16:15); for without obedience to it one is lost.
- 31. I will not be content to live only on the milk of God's word. (Heb. 5:11-14).

HEB 5:11 Concerning him we have much to say, and *it is* hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. HEB 5:12 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food.

HEB 5:13 For everyone who partakes *only* of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is an infant.

HEB 5:14 But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.

- a. God does not want His children to remain babies and live on milk.
- b. One does not manifest proper respect for God or His word by living on milk.
- c. God expects us to grow and mature and learn the "solid food" He intends for us to learn and benefit from it.
- 32. I will recognize God's word as the words of eternal life. (Jn. 5:39).

JOH 5:39 "You search the Scriptures because you think [are persuaded] that in them you have eternal life; it is these that testify about Me;

- a. The word "dokeo" [dah keh oh] does not denote doubt, but persuasion.
- b. It is used in this way elsewhere. (1 Cor. 10:12; 7:40; Jas. 1:26).
- c. The one who has proper respect for God's word is fully persuaded God's word leads to eternal life.

`"Scripture taken from the NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE®, © Copyright 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation

Used by permission." (www.Lockman.org)