1Thes #123

God’s virtue can never be imitated.

As I finished last lesson and putting together these notes. I realized the importance of teaching on what the world considers virtue and what God’s virtue really stands for.

So, I am going to at least stay on the doctrine of virtue for a few lessons to help everyone get a grasp on this important doctrine.

We will be going into Romans chapter twelve to begin.

/Real virtue is the monopoly of God. Therefore, it can only be manufactured inside the divine plan of God. Virtue is the visible manifestation of the invisible, it is God’s grace plan operational in a Bel’s life. Virtue is seen when metabolized doctrine and the power of the Holy Spirit merge in divine unity. It is the function of virtue that develops common sense, confidence and happiness.\

This again brings to recognition how Satan has counterfeits for everything God has and everything God offers us.

/Satan’s counterfeit system began right from the Garden. He attempted to offer mankind a plan of becoming happy and enlightened by separating from Gods’ plan. Independence from God is one of the great enticements and tricks Satan plays upon fallen mankind. It worked in the Garden, to spark interest in becoming little gods who have no need for a relationship with the true, divine Triune God.\

This is why once you study the playbook of Satan and the fallen angels you begin to see the schemes and lies woven into so many distractions and counterfeits in the world.

Satan’s playbook is not that thick folks! He is very clever at using the same set of plays and ploys in different fashion over and over again.

In this section of Romans, the Apostle Paul is touching on what Col. Thieme called the interim life of the Bel.

The life between salvation and super-grace maturity. It is also a chapter that opens up the Royal Family Honor code.

I remind you operation inside the RFHC takes a level of maturity which points us to the virtues of God, which is within the nature of Jesus Christ (humanity).

Jesus displayed true virtuous qualities during HIS earthly ministry in every circumstance…in good times or bad.

/Rom 12:9 **Love** (*agape*) *must be* free of**hypocrisy** (*anypokritos*). Detest what is evil; cling to what is good.

Virtue Love is the polar opposite of fake or hypocritical. There is no arrogance or hidden scheme within Godly love.\

ANNO-PAC-RAH-TOS, speaks to being opposite of arrogant or fake, there is no hidden agenda.

There is a strong sense of hate toward evil and in the original language is a word we use today - as to be in horror of, or abhor a wicked lifestyle.

Remember evil points to a lifestyle that is rejecting the things of GOD.

/Within true virtue love you have a strong disdain for evil, yet without attacking and mocking evil lifestyles at every turn. Godly virtues bring forth great empathy and compassion without compromising truth and dedication to Christ. You stand against evil, yet maintain a heart of reconciliation and a desire to assist others out from darkness. \

This is not an easy task or simple attitude to adapt overnight.

This takes a journey into maturity where God’s virtues develop deep within your soul structure.

/[Rom 12:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/12/10/s_1058010) *Be* devoted to one another **in brotherly love** (*philadelphia*); give preference to one another in honor,

This is a present tense; Bels should always have honor and integrity toward Royal Family members. This is a family relationship or intimate love.\

The first love we need is Godly love, impersonal, unconditional, virtue love.

If that is active in your life, personal love will flow freely and never fluctuate during good times or bad.

Because your foundation is in virtue love.

Then we see in verses 11, 12 and into 13 the lifestyle and attitude of a Bel reaching upward into maturity, as Godly virtue is ingrained within their soul.

Keeping in mind all of this aligns with the Fruits of the Spirit.

/[Rom 12:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/12/11/s_1058011) **not lagging** behind in diligence, **fervent in spirit**, serving the Lord;

Godly virtue produces an inner strength that does not allow lazy attitudes and sets a Bels’ heart aflame for the things of God.\

The more a Bel reaches toward SM and God’s virtues begin to develop greater capacities, the more that Bel will have endurance for the challenges in the devil’s world.

These again are written in a Greek present tense, telling us that this will continue forward.

[Rom 12:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/12/12/s_1058012) rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer,

/[Rom 12:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/12/13/s_1058013) **contributing** to the needs of the saints, practicing **hospitality.**

Godly virtue denies the greed and pettiness of the OSN. The Royal Family Honor Code manifests more and more because the Bel is now developing a greater sense of personal destiny and love for others.\

As a Bel grows they recognize the plan of God for their life. Supporting other Bels and supporting God’s word is part of their personal sense of destiny.

We each have unique callings and gifts to add to the body of Christ.

We each support and lift one another up in special ways.

REPEAT

[Rom 12:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/12/14/s_1058014) Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

This is a sign of maturity and this is a skill set that will become natural for a Bel over time.

Godly virtue fully ingrained into our soul changes us over time. We keep walking in our union with Christ, repetition over and over and the word washing over us, filled by GOD the HS.

[Rom 12:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/12/15/s_1058015) Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.

/[Rom 12:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/12/16/s_1058016) **Be of the same mind toward one another**; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do **not be wise in your own estimation.**

This is a pinnacle of Godly virtue. The unity in faith and the WORD reaches a peak among Bels who are like-minded.\

There is no room for judging and arrogance.

A Bel with true Godly virtues never sees themselves below or above anyone else, no matter what their social status is.

[Rom 12:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/12/17/s_1058017) Never repay evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all people.

The Apostle taught this same message in Thessalonica as well as the congregation in Rome.

/This is a Biblical principle – The mature Bel recognizes God is in control and therefore revenge is never on their agenda. This does not mean they allow everyone to roll over them, yet they do not seek revenge after an attack or an injustice.

[Rom 12:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/12/18/s_1058018) **If possible**, so far as it depends on you, **be at peace with all people.** \

***If possible*** -is a Greek first-class condition, this is a true statement, mature Bels can rise above the fray.

Yet there are times of self-defense and separation and times of speaking out boldly against injustice.

Turn to Philippians chapter four RF.

/The mature Bel knows they are neither a doormat nor a Christian activist who makes a spectacle at every turn. Godly virtue does not turn a Bel into a wimp, it is the exact opposite. It gives the mature Bel calm assurance and real confidence in who they are in Christ. Godly virtue stands for what is right and is fearless toward the schemes of the devil. They live by the creed – *“we must obey GOD rather than man.”*\ (Act 5:29)

There is always a balance when doing the right thing, in the right way, inside the divine plan of GOD.

The Apostle Paul was teaching the Bels at Phillipi, which by the way, was predominantly Greek and Roman retired military families.

These were strong people, head strong and physically strong as well.

This may account for why so many of the congregation at Phillipi were considered very mature Bels – some at super-grace maturity. Paul was promoting them to stay in the march upward toward maintaining SM.

/Phlp 4:4 **Rejoice**(*chairō*)**in the Lord always**; again I will say, rejoice!

Be well and remain confident in the LORD. This was a greeting addressing their spiritual stature. \

KEYE-RO, is not necessarily an emotional happiness but a thought or lifestyle of confidence. Contentment, which is true happiness.

[/Phl 4:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/phl/4/5/s_1107005) Let **your gentle *spirit*** (*epieikēs*)**be known** to all people. The Lord is near.

The original context is just one word pointing to calmness and patience. It is a virtuous nature he is highlighting.\

EPI-EYE-CASE, is a Greek adjective pointing out a balanced and reasonable person.

*“Let your calm assurance and reasonable attitude be an open letter for all to see!”*

Never forget who you represent!

[Phl 4:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/phl/4/6/s_1107006) Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and pleading with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

There is no need for a Bel to consistently live in fear, doubt and worry. If you are living like this, there is a weak link or weak links within your soul structure.

This is a command – a present, active imperative – DO NOT BE ANXIOUS. Keep living just as you have been doing - as a mature Bel.

[/Phl 4:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/phl/4/7/s_1107007) And the peace of God, which **surpasses all comprehension**, will guard your **hearts and minds** in Christ Jesus.

The gnosis (BD) you take in will guard you now and in the future – once it is fully digested and mixed with faith (**hearts and minds**) deep within the soul it becomes – wisdom (epignosis).\

This is pointing to the process of the left lobe and right lobe working together to not only gather BD but metabolize it properly. It is taken in and circulated on the left sphere and then accepted and digested on the right (brain).

This will bring forth Godly virtue over time.

[/Phl 4:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/phl/4/8/s_1107008) Finally, brothers *and sisters,* whatever is **true**, whatever is **honorable**, whatever is **right**, whatever is **pure**, whatever is **lovely**, whatever is **commendable**, **if there is any excellence** (*aretē*)and if anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

When all these principles are aligned in your walk with GOD – real virtue will shine through your life!\

Excellence is that Greek word for virtue – ARE-ATAY.

True – points to BD, the mind of Christ.

Honorable - is highlighting divine integrity.

Right - speaks to the new nature the righteousness of Christ active in your walk.

Pure - is lifting up the power of God the HS ….meaning holiness.

Lovely – really means to be a person who is living a godly lifestyle. (*eusebēs*- SM)

Commendable – speaks to your character and who you truly are in Christ.

REPEAT

[/Phl 4:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/phl/4/9/s_1107009) As for **the things you have learned and received** and **heard** and seen in me, **practice these things**, and the God of peace will be with you.

This points directly to a learned skill set! You have to be teachable and available to learn and grow.\

/Without motivational virtue toward God (personal love, confidence, and worship toward GOD), the Believer reacts to injustice and unfair treatment. Reaction characterizes the Bel who is not occupied with Christ, they are out of fellowship. Remember that if you are a Bel with spiritual momentum, God will work together all things for good in your life.\

/Apart from occupation with Christ, the Believer will become a person who reacts to life instead of responding and assessing situations. Then fellowship with God is nullified. Reaction to life manufactures preoccupation with self and arrogance. That means you’re divorced from reality, and you have no wisdom, common sense, or discernment.\