

Great Men ... in Public

Great Men ... in Public

Cautious

Circumspect

Conventional

Conscious

Conservative

Classy

Why the Study?

- **This is a men's meeting ... for the purpose of building great men.**
- **Two months ago ... *Greatness By a Great Cause.***
- **Last three months ... *C-Character Traits for Great Christians***
- **Recall ... *Grow Up! ... Patriarchy - Where Are the Men?***
- **Without some success you cannot well assist the kingdom of God.**
- **Without wise public decorum you will not achieve much success.**

Why the Study?

3 And the king spake unto Ashpenaz the master of his eunuchs, that he should bring certain of the children of Israel, and of the king's seed, and of the princes;

4 Children in whom was no blemish, but well favoured, and skilful in all wisdom, and cunning in knowledge, and understanding science, and such as had ability in them to stand in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the learning and the tongue of the Chaldeans.

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- **Genetic factors are God's choice.**

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- **Academic factors are God-granted privileges and your application.**

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- **Social aptitude is much by choice to conform to rules of conduct.**

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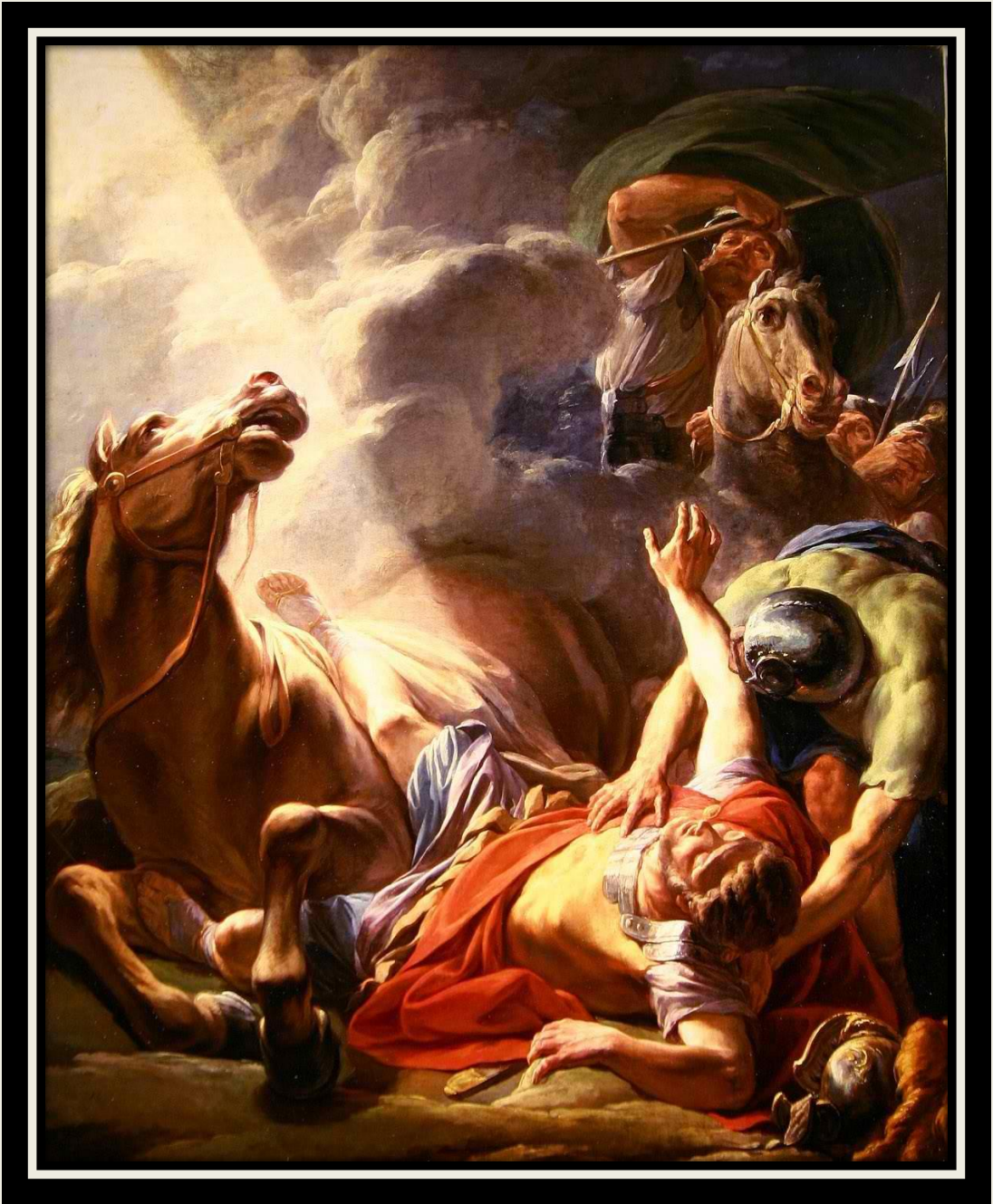
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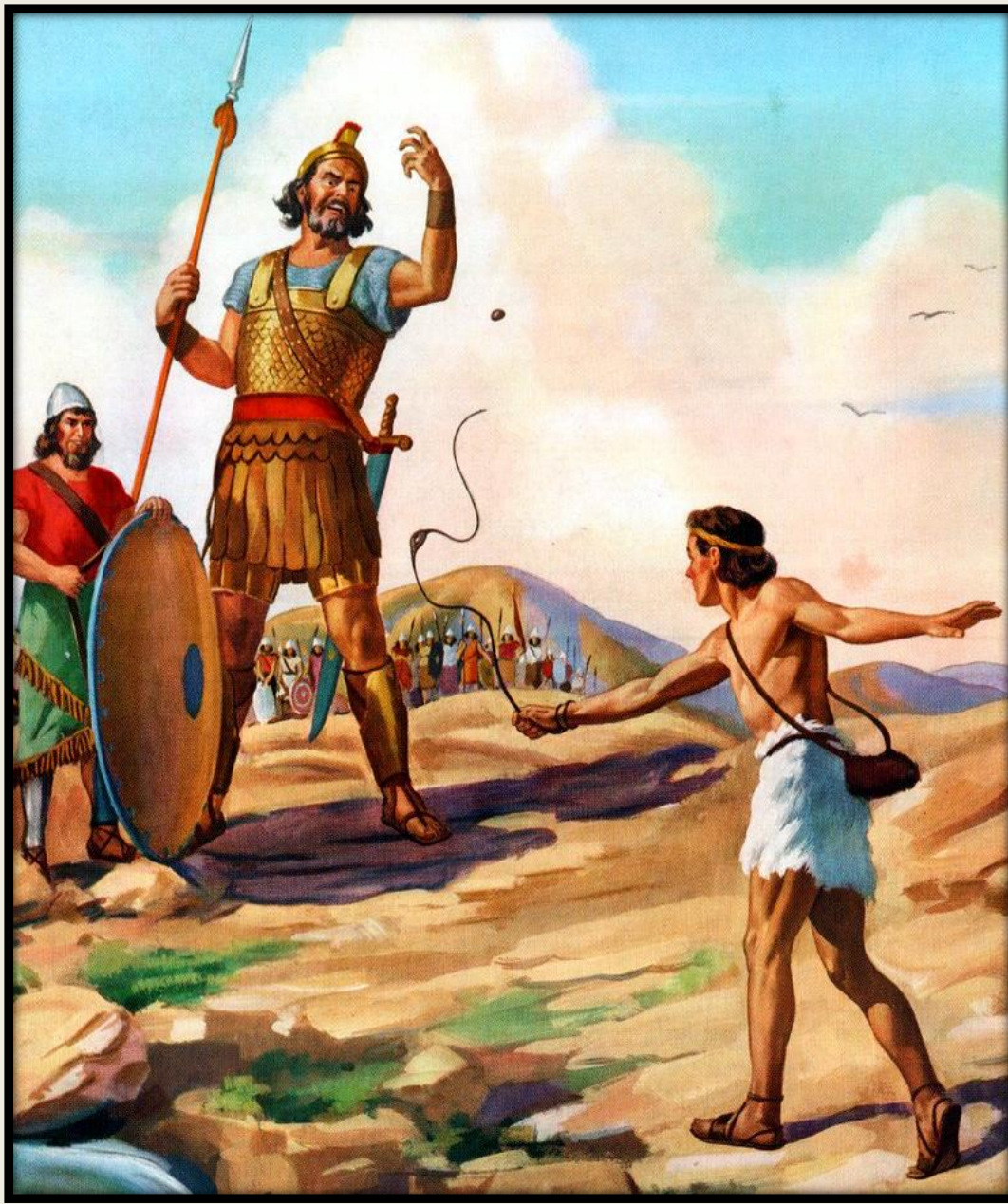
- **Of course, Daniel had much more as well – fear and love of God!**















Cautious - 1

- Careful and slow to weigh risks / contingencies.
- Prudent men foresee evil and hide (Pr 22:3; 27:12).
- They also look well to their going (Pr 14:15).
- It is true ... *it is better to be safe than sorry.*
- *Haste makes waste ... wise men are not hasty.*

Cautious - 2

- ***An ounce of prevention = a pound of cure. True!***
- **Faithful men are more like tortoises than hares!**
- **He that hasteth with his feet sinneth (Pr 19:2).**
- **What trait gives more hope to a fool (Pr 29:20)?**
- **Haste exalts folly and brings want (Pr 14:29; 21:5).**

Circumspect - 1

- Examine every angle and degree of every action.
- *Circum* = full circle + *spect* = examine.
- To be wise, you must be circumspect (Eph 5:15).
- Godly men do not judge by appearance (Jn 7:24).
- Exhaustively consider a thing before doing it.

Circumspect - 2

- **A multitude of *wise* counselors is God's rule.**
- **Do you have a good feel, or good business plan?**
- **Do you see consequences removed and distant?**
- **Do you see effects on others and their plans?**
- **How to? Slow down, be critical, be exhaustive.**

Circumspect - 3

- **People see things differently – consider them all.**
- **Prudent men *foresee* – see ahead (Pr 22:3; 27:12).**
- **Moses added it to all commandments (Ex 23:13).**
- **Think others are too slow? You are too hasty.**
- **Think of every negative thing that could occur.**

Conventional - 1

- Living in a way accepted by most – in most ways.
- Paul was made all things to all men (I Cor 9:19-23).
- Paul avoided offence to any whenever he could.
- Before *thinking outside the box*, try inside it!
- Loving others includes seemingly conduct (I Co 13:5)!

Conventional - 2

- **Convention generally means tested and proven.**
- **How do you pick attire, speech, conduct, etc.?**
- **The farther away from convention the more risk.**
- **The farther away from convention more offence.**
- **Christian liberty is true ... but wisely restricted.**

Conventional - 3

- **If you like being weird, then limit it to your mind.**
- **Truth is strange enough ... we need not add to it.**
- **The more outsiders ... less or more conventional?**
- **It is our duty to avoid offence wherever we can.**
- **If throwing out the bathwater ... save the baby!**

Conscious - 1

- Well aware of what you are doing and its effects.
- This is not a medical definition for being awake.
- Some talk and act like their mind is far, far away.
- Awareness to others and your effect is crucial.
- Offending others carelessly is sin (I Cor 10:31-33).

Conscious - 2

- **Offence caused by insensitivity can be avoided.**
- **Offence, if not malicious, is being unconscious.**
- **Some parents cannot hear their own children.**
- **Sarcastic cutting can leave others bleeding.**
- **Conscious of bladder but not others? Drink less!**

Conscious - 3

- **Alert, sensitive, concerned for circumstances?**
- **Conscious of announcements, or just careless?**
- **Going through the motions or pacing is not good.**
- **Do not just let life happen ... take it by the horns.**
- **Do you feel others' lives, space, feelings, etc.?**

Conservative - 1

- The least risky of two otherwise neutral options.
- All things may be lawful ... are they expedient?
- All things may be lawful ... could it be binding?
- What two creatures fit a foolish surety (Pr 6:5)?
- Christian liberty is a fact ... but it is not license!

Conservative - 2

- **Successful men are temperate in all things.**
- **Violating your conscience makes anything a sin.**
- **It is better to understate than to exaggerate.**
- **Music and television should be ruled harshly.**
- **The stricter you are with friends the better.**

Conservative - 3

- **Modesty is not for concluding ... *close enough*.**
- **Only if you require it of others is it Pharisaism.**
- **Avoid flies in the ointment (Eccl 10:1). Stay safe.**
- **Ounce of prevention = pound of cure (I Cor 8:13).**
- **We live here. Think drink, dress, speech, etc.**

Classy - 1

- Cultured, refined, liberal way of doing things.
- Opposite of redneck, crude, rude, country, etc.
- Think of the slang intentions of these words.
- God chose poor and base, but there is no virtue.
- There is more than one way to perform any act.

Classy - 2

- **Classy conduct adorns what you do with grace.**
- **What of Elijah and John? They were exceptions!**
- **Think Araunah's deed ... *as a king* (II Sam 24:23).**
- **It does not have to be costly ... just done well.**
- **Don't expect elegance from your wife, if brutish.**

Classy - 3

- **This is derived from being without offence.**
- **This is connected to devising liberal things.**
- **This is doing everything to adorn Christianity.**
- **This is a good report without e.g. Cornelius.**
- **Think clothes, cleanliness, courtesy, etc.**

Public Decorum Is Important - 1

31 Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

32 Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God:

33 Even as I please all men in all things, not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved.

I Corinthians 10:31-33

Public Decorum Is Important - 2

The king's favour is toward a wise servant: but his wrath is against him that causeth shame.

Proverbs 14:35

A wise servant shall have rule over a son that causeth shame, and shall have part of the inheritance among the brethren.

Proverbs 17:2

Public Decorum Is Important - 3

And David went out whithersoever Saul sent him, and behaved himself wisely: and Saul set him over the men of war, and he was accepted in the sight of all the people, and also in the sight of Saul's servants.

I Samuel 18:5

Then the princes of the Philistines went forth: and it came to pass, after they went forth, that David behaved himself more wisely than all the servants of Saul; so that his name was much set by.

I Samuel 18:30

Public Decorum Is Important - 4

He that loveth pureness of heart, for the grace of his lips the king shall be his friend.

Proverbs 22:11

The wise shall inherit glory: but shame shall be the promotion of fools.

Proverbs 3:35

Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her.

Proverbs 4:8

Public Decorum Is Important - 5

Even a fool, when he holdeth his peace, is counted wise: and he that shutteth his lips is esteemed a man of understanding.

Proverbs 17:28

Put not forth thyself in the presence of the king, and stand not in the place of great men: For better it is that it be said unto thee, Come up hither; than that thou shouldest be put lower in the presence of the prince whom thine eyes have seen.

Proverbs 25:6-7



George Washington - 1

#2 When in Company, put not your Hands to any Part of the Body, not usually Discovered.

#4 In the Presence of Others Sing not to yourself with a humming Noise, nor Drum with your Fingers or Feet.

#5 If You Cough, Sneeze, Sigh, or Yawn, do it not Loud but Privately; and Speak not in your Yawning, but put Your handkerchief or Hand before your face and turn aside.

#10 When you Sit down, Keep your Feet firm and Even, without putting one on the other or Crossing them.

George Washington - 2

#11 Shift not yourself in the Sight of others nor Gnaw your nails.

#15 Keep your Nails clean and Short, also your Hands and Teeth Clean yet without Showing any great Concern for them.

#22 Show not yourself glad at the Misfortune of another though he were your enemy.

#37 In speaking to men of Quality do not lean nor Look them full in the Face, nor approach too near them at lest Keep a full Pace from them.

George Washington - 3

#38 In visiting the Sick, do not Presently play the Physician if you be not Knowing therein.

#43 Do not express Joy before one sick or in pain for that contrary Passion will aggravate his Misery.

#45 Being to advise or reprehend any one, consider whether it ought to be in public or in Private; presently, or at Some other time in what terms to do it & in reproving Show no Sign of Choler but do it with all Sweetness and Mildness.

George Washington - 4

#47 Mock not nor Jest at any thing of Importance; make no Jest that are Sharp Biting and if you Deliver any thing witty and Pleasant abstain from Laughing thereat yourself.

#48 Wherein you reprove Another be unblameable yourself; for example is more prevalent than Precepts.

#50 Be not hasty to believe flying Reports to the Disparagement of any.

#51 Wear not your Cloths, foul, ripped or Dusty but See they be Brushed once every day at least and take heed that you approach not to any Uncleaness.

George Washington - 5

#54 Play not the Peacock, looking every where about you, to See if you be well Decked, if your Shoes fit well if your Stockings sit neatly, and Cloths handsomely.

#76 While you are talking, Point not with your Finger at him of Whom you Discourse nor Approach too near him to whom you talk especially to his face.

#79 Be not apt to relate News if you know not the truth thereof. In Discoursing of things you Have heard Name not your Author always A Secret Discover not.

George Washington - 6

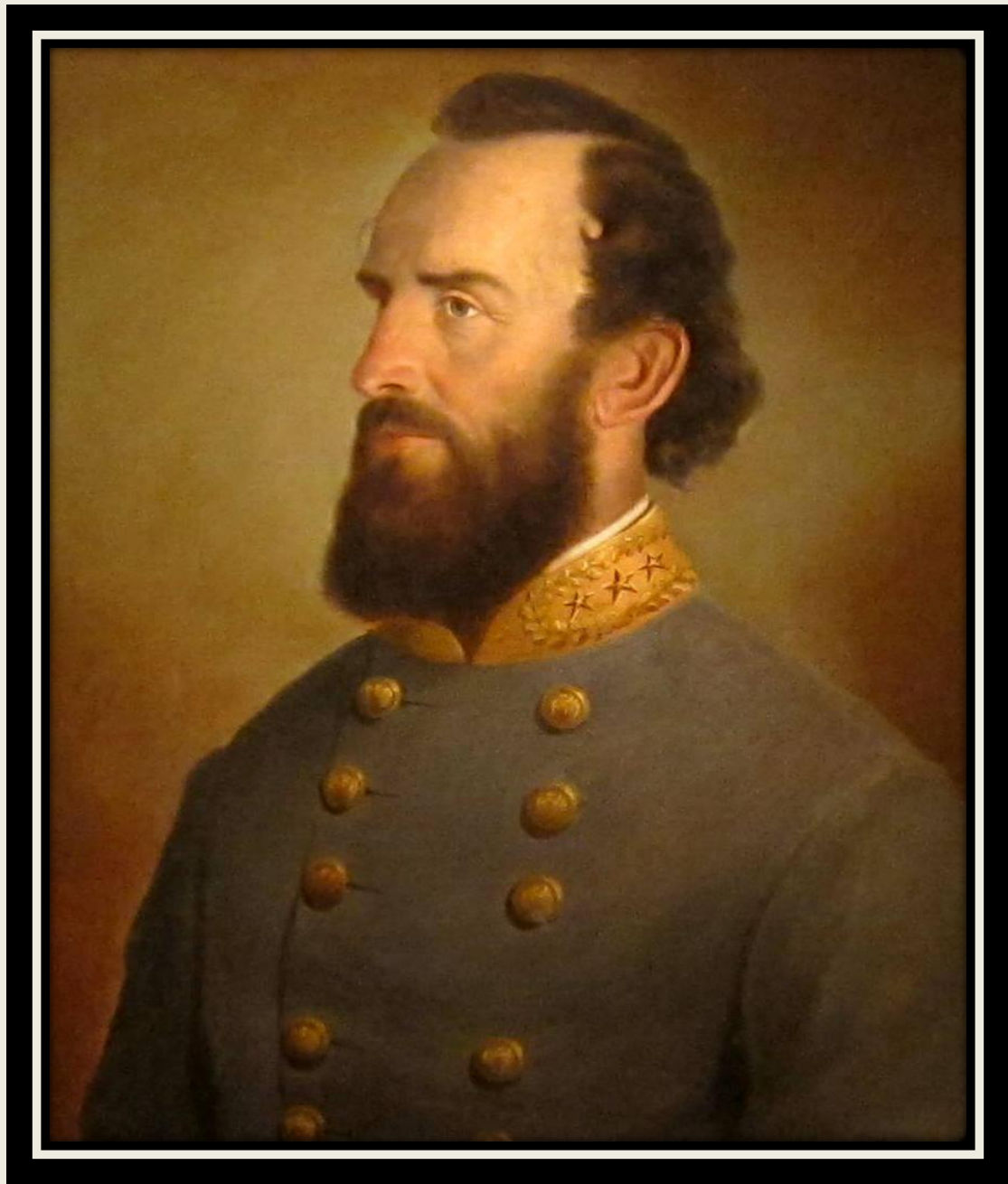
#89 Speak not Evil of the absent for it is unjust.

#98 Drink not nor talk with your mouth full; neither gaze about you while you are drinking.

#108 When you speak of God or his attributes, let it be seriously & with reverence. Honor & obey your natural parents although they be poor.

#109 Let your recreations be manful not sinful.

#110 Labor to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire called conscience.

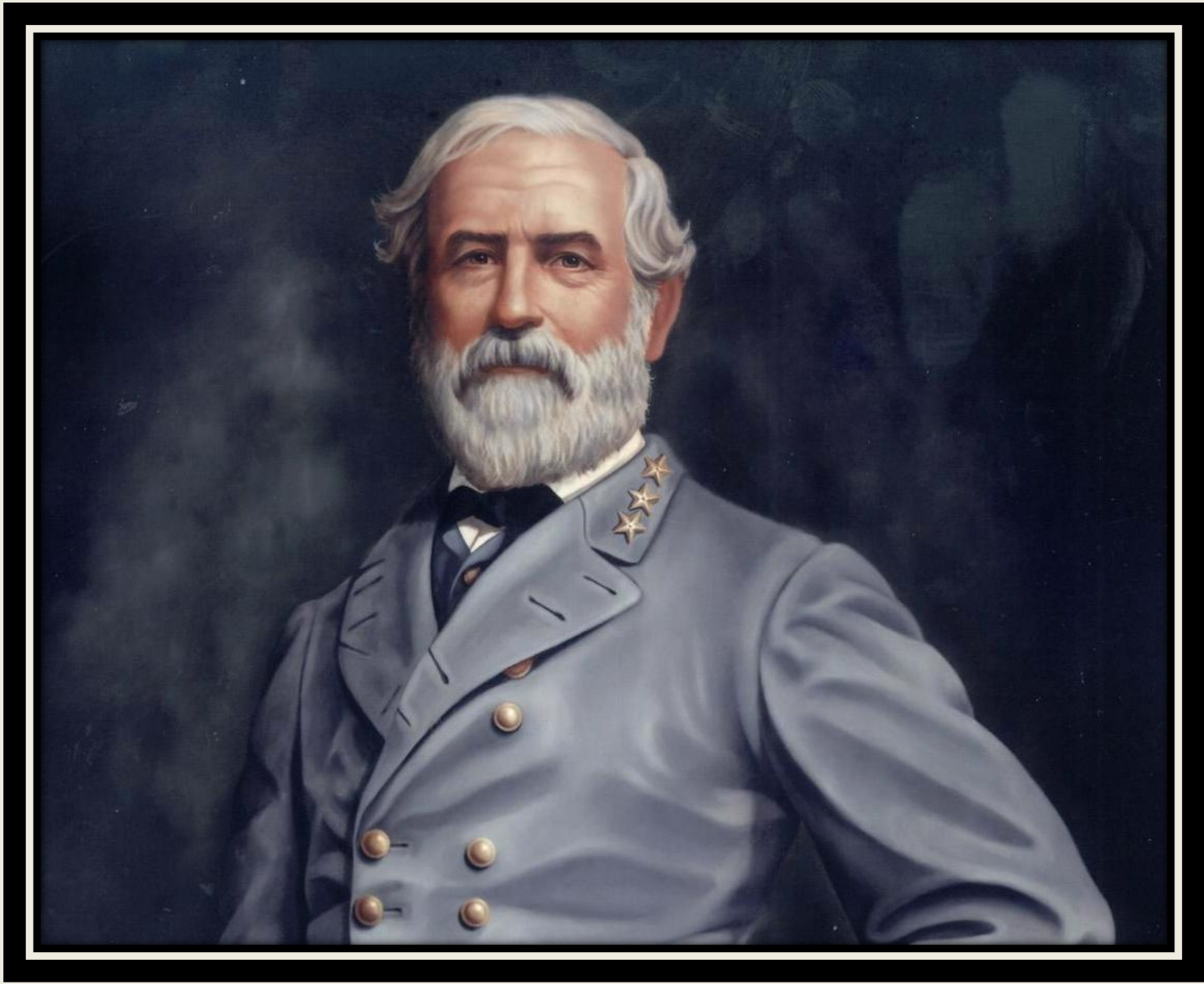


Stonewall Jackson - 1

- **Be temperate – eat too little rather than too much.**
- **Temperance – Eat not to dullness, drink not to elevation.**
- **Cleanliness – Tolerate no uncleanness in body, clothes or habitation.**
- **Endeavor to be at peace with all men.**
- **Good-breeding or true politeness is the art of showing men by external signs the internal regard we have for them.**

Stonewall Jackson - 2

- **Sacrifice your life rather than your word.**
- **Resolve to perform what you ought: perform without fail what you resolve.**
- **Lose not time, be always employed in something useful; cut off all unnecessary actions.**
- **Wrong none by doing injuries or omitting the benefits that are your duty.**



Robert E. Lee - 1

- If you have any fault to find with any one, tell him, not others, of what you complain; there is no more dangerous experiment than that of undertaking to be one thing before a man's face and another behind his back.
- You cannot be a true man until you learn to obey.
- Obedience to lawful authority is the foundation of manly character.
- There is true glory and a true honor: the glory of duty done – the honor of the integrity of principle.



Jonathan Edwards - 1

#4 Resolved, never to do any manner of thing, whether in soul or body, less or more, but what tends to the glory of God; nor be, nor suffer it, if I can avoid it.

#13 Resolved, to be endeavoring to find out fit objects of charity and liberality.

#16 Resolved, never to speak evil of anyone, so that it shall tend to his dishonor, more or less, upon no account except for some real good.

#20 Resolved, to maintain the strictest temperance in eating and drinking.

Jonathan Edwards - 2

#46 Resolved, never to allow the least measure of any fretting uneasiness at my father or mother. Resolved to suffer no effects of it, so much as in the least alteration of speech, or motion of my eye: and to be especially careful of it, with respect to any of our family.

#58 Resolved, not only to refrain from an air of dislike, fretfulness, and anger in conversation, but to exhibit an air of love, cheerfulness and benignity.

#70 Let there be something of benevolence, in all that I speak.



King James - 1

- **Be careful then, my Son, so to frame all your indifferent actions and outward behavior, as they may serve for the furtherance and forth-setting of your inward virtuous disposition.**
- **But beware with using excess of meat and drink; and chiefly, beware of drunkenness, which is a beastly vice, namely in a King.**
- **It is no ways comely to dispatch affairs, or to be pensive at meat: but keep then an open and cheerful countenance.**

King James - 2

- **And because meat provoketh sleeping, be also moderate in your sleep; for it goeth much by use.**
- **Take no heed to any of your dreams, for all prophecies, visions, and prophetic dreams are accomplished and ceased in Christ.**
- **If to hide our nakedness and shame-full parts, then these natural parts ordained to be hid, should not be represented by any indecent forms in the clothes:**

Perception versus Reality

- **Perception (appearance) is valued over reality (substance).**
- **But God's wisdom recognizes this and uses it (Pr 17:27-28).**
- **A dull man merely dressing well will be perceived smarter.**
- **Which man looks hireable ... the sloppy one or refined one?**
- **We can adorn the gospel by lifting others' perception of us.**
- **We do this because we have the reality of God's fear in us.**

Public Decorum - 1

- **If under 30, listen and copy success, reject your own ideas.**
- **A 20-year-old does not truly have a clue about much of life.**
- **Your professional future depends on it as much as anything.**
- **Your kingdom future is about the same, for they are related.**
- **David, Daniel, Joseph were not ordinary – so reject ordinary.**
- **A manual job can be a perfect place for a gentleman to work.**

Public Decorum - 2

- **But a man rejecting rules of gentility can corrupt any status.**
- **If redneck means manual job, okay! If it means rude, wrong!**
- **What is inside a man that makes him love crass over class?**
- **He chooses habits and opinions by ignorance or rebellion.**
- **Let us be princes for God, His kingdom, families, and church.**
- **Nobility is a choice, and no one defaults to it by nature.**

Public Decorum - 3

- **You are not ready for marriage until fathers ask. Believe it.**
- **A better job waits for those who listen, learn, and conform.**
- **These words, “It’s not who I am,” are words of a sore loser.**
- **These words, “Don’t you know, I’m a man,” are not better.**
- **Manly maturity is shown by submission before leadership.**
- **Public decorum is conduct before others that affects them.**

Etiquette - 1

- **Always be early to public assemblies and seated to start.**
- **Never be early to private meetings at homes or elsewhere.**
- **Never assume you are invited anywhere w/o an invitation.**
- **Leave a private event when it ends; you are no exception.**
- **Do not wander near others talking – you are eavesdropping.**
- **Do not repeat personal history others have heard. Boring!**

Etiquette - 2

- **Do not hold private conversations within a small group.**
- **Do not zone out in a group, if discussion is not about you.**
- **Generally, do not call before 9:00 AM or after 9:00 PM.**
- **Never read or send texts or cell phone calls during dinner.**
- **Cigars in public are offensive to most not smoking.**
- **Be on time. Early to public events; on time to private.**

Communication

- **Communicate all details needed clearly ... repeat to confirm.**
- **Do not answer for someone else, even if you know and can.**
- **Do not talk over others that are explaining, even when slow.**
- **Do not publicly ridicule anyone, especially children or wives.**
- **Be gracious, charitable, reserved, and edifying in all speech.**
- **Let others speak more than you. Ask questions about them.**

Money Matters

- **Offering to pay and then forgetting is very crass and wrong.**
- **Do not assume an invitation means they will pay. Try to pay.**
- **Do not spend beyond your income level, even if you could.**
- **Living within your means is a known high duty of the gospel.**
- **Repay debts as soon as you are able – personal borrowings.**
- **Make sure financial terms of arrangements are understood.**

Attire - 1

- **You do not have a right to your own clothing opinions.**
- **Others set clothing standards, not you, not your family, etc.**
- **Today's casual, sloppy, rebellious choices are not adorning.**
- **You should dress for the job you want, not the one you have.**
- **“Being your own man” is rebellion to offend others and lose.**
- **There are websites and books to teach you how to dress.**

Attire - 2

- **Sunglasses around your neck are for fishing or ballgames.**
- **Flip flops are for the beach, public showers, or bedroom.**
- **Blue jeans, untucked shirts, etc. are not for public view.**
- **Facial hair – groomed and appropriate to age, office, etc.**
- **Ties are appropriate for Sunday assemblies, as at interviews.**
- **A sport coat with same color slacks is not a suit. Get one.**

Food

- **Temperance is a virtue – gluttony or drunkenness equal sins.**
- **There are specific rules for table conduct. Learn them.**
- **There are rules for eating attire – comfort is not a rule.**
- **Consider the appearance of over-drinking or over-eating.**
- **Share the conversation by speaking less than the others.**
- **Remember basic courtesy of please, thank you, excuse me.**

Cell Phones

- **Unless on call for life or death business, reduce to vibrate in public settings and check them discreetly in private or later.**
- **Never interrupt a conversation to take or return a call or text, for the phone matter is less than the friend at hand.**
- **Texting things unnecessary is childish, foolish, idle words, and/or jesting, all of which God will judge and men despise.**
- **God sees every text and you will give an account for each.**

Hygiene

- **Body odor is never proper – bathing and deodorant cure all.**
- **Your breath is nearly as important, which is easily remedied.**
- **Think, what did I recently drink or eat ... we don't like it!**
- **If you use tobacco, it is hard to hide this habit from others.**
- **You must grasp that you cannot smell your offence to others.**
- **Carrying breath mints is very simple and profoundly helpful.**

Personal

- **Excess bodyweight will hinder you in all aspects of life.**
- **Adults should usually mix with adults, not children.**
- **Boys in public should usually mix with boys, not girls.**
- **Teenage boys have no ability or right to direct teenage girls.**
- **Example trumps words, especially among peers and youth.**
- **Too much talking, even about good things, is offensive.**

Church

- **Be in your place before our assemblies are to begin.**
- **Move forward in your seating to leave openings in the rear.**
- **Services are short enough to avoid leaving for any reason.**
- **Families sitting together are family worship for best results.**
- **Coughing, clearing throat, etc. in public is rude and/or scary.**
- **Silence children – or take them out. Do not abuse nursery.**

House

- **Should be clean, organized, orderly, and pleasant to sight.**
- **If you have too much, throw it away before survivors must.**
- **Hospitality is a Bible duty and is more than at restaurants.**
- **Seek to have prayer at beginning or end to keep spiritual.**
- **Invitations may have start and end times, if done graciously.**
- **Warmly take care of guests rather than have a teen hangout.**

Why the Study?

- **This is a men's meeting ... for the purpose of building great men.**
- **Two months ago ... *Greatness By a Great Cause.***
- **Last three months ... *C-Character Traits for Great Christians***
- **Recall ... *Grow Up! ... Patriarchy - Where Are the Men?***
- **Without some success you cannot well assist the kingdom of God.**
- **Without wise public decorum you will not achieve much success.**

Obstacles and Dangers

- **Most men cannot imagine they are wrong, weird, and/or offensive.**
- **They ignorantly or arrogantly assume habits and thoughts are right.**
- **The world's public decorum is crashing to the ground around us.**
- **Public conduct becoming a gentleman will be more conspicuous.**
- **Do not deceive yourself that a good heart justifies any conduct.**
- **Do not think you can please God while irritating or offending men.**

The Simple Bottom Line

- **Etiquette, common courtesy, and social decorum are declining.**
- **They are all easily summarized by pleasing and helping others.**
- **They are the opposite of selfishness, ignorance, and arrogance.**
- **The goal to please God and men should be sufficient motivation.**
- **The character and conduct of scripture applied today will work.**
- **Godliness practiced with social convention can maximize honor.**

For Further Study

- “[Rules of Civility](#)” by George Washington, Jackson, and Lee.
 - “[Resolutions](#)” by Jonathan Edwards.
 - “[Basilicon Doron](#)” by King James I of England.
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- “[Dress for Success](#)” John T. Molloy (1976 First Edition summary).
 - “[Dressing for Interviews](#)” typical current website.
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