

What is integrity? Why does Jehovah value that quality in his servants? Why is integrity important to each of us? This article will help us find the Bible's answers to those questions. It will also help us see clearly how we can strengthen ourselves to maintain integrity from day to day. Doing so will bring us great blessings.

(Job 27:5) It is unthinkable for me to declare you men righteous! Until I die, I will not renounce my integrity!

Paragraph 1

(Romans 13:1-4) Let every person be in subjection to the superior authorities, for there is no authority except by God; the existing authorities stand placed in their relative positions by God. 2 Therefore, whoever opposes the authority has taken a stand against the arrangement of God; those who have taken a stand against it will bring judgment against themselves. 3 For those rulers are an object of fear, not to the good deed, but to the bad. Do you want to be free of fear of the authority? Keep doing good, and you will have praise from it; 4 for it is God's minister to you for your good. But if you are doing what is bad, be in fear, for it is not without purpose that it bears the sword. It is God's minister, an avenger to express wrath against the one practicing what is bad.

(Hebrews 13:18) Keep praying for us, for we trust we have an honest conscience, as we wish to conduct ourselves honestly in all things.

Paragraph 3

(Leviticus 22:21, 22) “If a man presents a communion sacrifice to Jehovah to pay a vow or as a voluntary offering, it should be a sound animal from the herd or the flock, in order to gain approval. No defect at all should be in it. 22 No offering should be blind, have a fracture, a cut, a wart, scabbiness, or ringworm; you must not present any of these to Jehovah or make such an offering on the altar for Jehovah.

(Malachi 1:6-9) “A son honors a father, and a servant his master. So if I am a father, where is the honor due me? And if I am a master, where is the fear due me?” Jehovah of armies says to you priests who are despising my name. “But you say: ‘How have we despised your name?’” 7 “By presenting polluted food on my altar.” “And you say: ‘How have we polluted you?’” “By saying: ‘The table of Jehovah is something to be despised.’” 8 And when you present a blind animal as a sacrifice, you say: “It is nothing bad.” And when you present a lame animal or a sick one: “It is nothing bad.” “Try presenting them, please, to your governor. Will he be pleased with you or receive you with favor?” says Jehovah of armies. 9 “And now, please, appeal to God, that he may show us favor. With such offerings from your own hand, will he receive any of you with favor?” says Jehovah of armies.

Paragraph 4

(Psalm 130:3) If errors were what you watch, O Jah, Then who, O Jehovah, could stand?

(Psalm 86:5) For you, O Jehovah, are good and ready to forgive; You abound in loyal love for all those who call on you.

(Psalm 103:12-14) As far off as the sunrise is from the sunset, So far off from us he has put our transgressions. 13 As a father shows mercy to his sons, Jehovah has shown mercy to those who fear him. 14 For he well knows how we are formed, Remembering that we are dust.

Paragraph 5

(1 Chronicles 28:9) “And you, Sol'o-mon my son, know the God of your father and serve him with a complete heart and with a delightful soul, for Jehovah searches through all hearts, and he discerns every inclination of the thoughts. If you search for him, he will let himself be found by you, but if you leave him, he will reject you forever.

(Matthew 22:37) He said to him: “‘You must love Jehovah your God with your whole heart and with your whole soul and with your whole mind.’

Paragraph 6

(Genesis 3:1-6) Now the serpent was the most cautious of all the wild animals of the field that Jehovah God had made. So it said to the woman: “Did God really say that you must not eat from every tree of the garden?” 2 At this the woman said to the serpent: “We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden. 3 But God has said about the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden: ‘You must not eat from it, no, you must not touch it; otherwise you will die.’” 4 At this the serpent said to the woman: “You certainly will not die. 5 For God knows that in the very day you eat from it, your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and bad.” 6 Consequently, the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was something desirable to the eyes, yes, the tree was pleasing to look at. So she began taking of its fruit and eating it. Afterward, she also gave some to her husband when he was with her, and he began eating it.

Paragraph 7

(Job 1:8-11) And Jehovah said to Satan: “Have you taken note of my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth. He is an upright man of integrity, fearing God and shunning what is bad.” 9 At that Satan answered Jehovah: “Is it for nothing that Job has feared God? 10 Have you not put up a protective hedge around him and his house and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his livestock has spread out in the land. 11 But, for a change, stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your very face.”

Paragraph 8

(Job 1:13-22) Now on the day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother’s house, 14 a messenger came to Job and said: “The cattle were plowing and the donkeys were grazing beside them 15 when the Sa-be’ans attacked and took them, and they killed the servants with the sword. I am the only one who escaped to tell you.” 16 While he was still speaking, another one came and said: “Fire from God fell from the heavens and blazed among the sheep and the servants and consumed them! I am the only one who escaped to tell you.” 17 While he was still speaking, another one came and said: “The Chal-de’ans formed three bands and made a raid on the camels and took them, and they killed the servants with the sword. I am the only one who escaped to tell you.” 18 While he was still speaking, yet another one came and said: “Your sons and your daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother’s house. 19 Suddenly a great wind came from the wilderness, and it struck the four corners of the house, so that it fell on the young people and they were killed. I am the only one who escaped to tell you.” 20 At that Job got up and ripped apart his garment and cut the hair off his head; then he fell to the ground and bowed down 21 and said: “Naked I came out of my mother’s womb, And naked I will return. Jehovah has given, and Jehovah has taken away. Let the name of Jehovah continue to be praised.” 22 In all of this, Job did not sin or accuse God of doing anything wrong.

(Job 2:7-11) So Satan went out from the presence of Jehovah and struck Job with painful boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. 8 And Job took a piece of broken pottery to scrape himself, and he was sitting among the ashes. 9 Finally his wife said to him: “Are you still holding firmly to your integrity? Curse God and die!” 10 But he said to her: “You are talking like one of the senseless women. Should we accept only what is good from the true God and not

accept also what is bad?” In all of this, Job did not sin with his lips. 11 Three companions of Job heard about all the calamities that had come upon him, and each came from his own place—El’i-phaz the Te’man·ite, Bil’dad the Shu’hite, and Zo’phar the Na’a·ma·thite. So they agreed to meet together to go and sympathize with Job and comfort him.

(Job 15:4, 5) For you undermine the fear of God, And you diminish any concern for God. 5 For your error dictates what you say, And you choose crafty speech.

(Job 22:3-6) Does the Almighty care that you are righteous, Or does he gain anything because you follow the course of integrity? 4 Will he punish you And enter into judgment with you for your reverence? 5 Is it not because your own wickedness is so great And there is no end to your errors? 6 For you seize a pledge from your brothers for no reason, And you strip people of their garments, leaving them naked.

(Job 25:4-6) So how can mortal man be righteous before God, Or how can one born of a woman be innocent? 5 Even the moon is not bright And the stars are not pure in his eyes, 6 How much less so mortal man, who is a maggot, And a son of man, who is a worm!”

Paragraph 9

(Job 6:3) For now it is heavier than the sands of the seas. That is why my words have been wild talk.

(Job 13:4, 5) But you are smearing me with lies; All of you are useless physicians. 5 If only you would keep absolutely silent, That would show wisdom on your part.

(Job 32:2) But E·li’hu the son of Bar’a·chel the Buz’ite of the family of Ram had become very angry. His anger blazed against Job for trying to prove himself right rather than God.

(Job 34:5) For Job has said, ‘I am in the right, But God has denied me justice.

(Job 27:5) It is unthinkable for me to declare you men righteous! Until I die, I will not renounce my integrity!

Paragraph 10

(Job 2:4, 5) But Satan answered Jehovah: “Skin for skin. A man will give everything that he has for his life. 5 But, for a change, stretch out your hand and strike his bone and flesh, and he will surely curse you to your very face.”

(Revelation 12:10) I heard a loud voice in heaven say: “Now have come to pass the salvation and the power and the Kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ, because the accuser of our brothers has been hurled down, who accuses them day and night before our God!

(Hebrews 13:6) So that we may be of good courage and say: “Jehovah is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?”

Paragraph 11

(2 Timothy 3:1) But know this, that in the last days critical times hard to deal with will be here.

Paragraph 12

(Job 26:7, 8) He stretches out the northern sky over empty space, Suspending the earth upon nothing; 8 He wraps up the waters in his clouds, So that the clouds do not burst under their weight;

(Job 26:14) Look! These are just the fringes of his ways; Only a faint whisper has been heard of him! So who can understand his mighty thunder?”

(Job 23:12) I have not departed from the commandment of his lips. I have treasured up his sayings even more than what was required of me.

(Job 28:28) And he said to man: ‘Look! The fear of Jehovah—that is wisdom, And to turn away from bad is understanding.’”

Paragraph 13

(Job 31:1) “I have made a covenant with my eyes. So how could I show improper attention to a virgin?”

(Matthew 5:28) But I say to you that everyone who keeps on looking at a woman so as to have a passion for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Paragraph 14

(Job 31:24, 25) If I put my confidence in gold Or said to fine gold, ‘You are my security!’ 25 If I found my joy in my great wealth Because of the many possessions I acquired;

(Job 31:28) Then that would be an error deserving punishment by the judges, For I would have denied the true God above.

(Proverbs 30:8, 9) Remove untruth and lies far from me. Give me neither poverty nor riches. Just let me consume my portion of food, 9 So that I do not become satisfied and deny you and say, “Who is Jehovah?” Nor let me become poor and steal and dishonor the name of my God.

(Matthew 6:19-21) “Stop storing up for yourselves treasures on the earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal. 20 Rather, store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Paragraph 15

(Job 31:6) Let God weigh me with accurate scales; Then he will recognize my integrity.

(Job 42:12-17) So Jehovah blessed the last part of Job’s life more than the beginning, and Job came to have 14,000 sheep, 6,000 camels, 1,000 pairs of cattle, and 1,000 female donkeys. 13 He also came to have seven more sons and three more daughters. 14 He named the first daughter Je-mi’mah, the second Ke-zi’ah, and the third Ker’en-hap’puch. 15 No women in all the land were as beautiful as Job’s daughters, and their father gave them an inheritance along with their brothers. 16 After this Job lived for 140 years, and he saw his children and his grandchildren—four generations. 17 Finally Job died, after a long and satisfying life.

(James 5:11) Look! We consider happy those who have endured. You have heard of the endurance of Job and have seen the outcome Jehovah gave, that Jehovah is very tender in affection and merciful.

(Malachi 3:6) “For I am Jehovah; I do not change. And you are sons of Jacob; you have not yet come to your finish.

(1 Thessalonians 5:8, 9) But as for us who belong to the day, let us keep our senses and put on the breastplate of faith and love and the hope of salvation as a helmet 9 because God assigned us, not to wrath, but to the acquiring of salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Paragraph 16

(Hebrews 11:36-38) Yes, others received their trial by mockings and scourgings, indeed, more than that, by chains and prisons. 37 They were stoned, they were tried, they were sawn in two, they were slaughtered by the sword, they went about in sheepskins, in goatskins, while they were in need, in tribulation, mistreated; 38 and the world was not worthy of them. They

wandered about in deserts and mountains and caves and dens of the earth.

(Hebrews 12:1) So, then, because we have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also throw off every weight and the sin that easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

HOW WOULD YOU ANSWER?

- What is integrity?

- Why do you need integrity?

- How can you strengthen yourself to keep your integrity?
