

# CHARACTER

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## SCRIPTURAL TEACHINGS

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” Matthew 5:3

Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works,  
and glorify your Father who is in heaven. Matthew 5:16, NASB

Did you know the clock is ticking and your days are numbered? Read Ps. 39:16

*When a person really loves, no sacrifice is too great. More on this thought.*

If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love,  
I gain nothing. I Corinthians 13:3, NIV

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## JAY LINK

Your greatest crisis, your greatest failure, will become the cornerstone of your future ministry;  
if you will let God bring you through it – there’s hope.

We often say, “Don’t just stand there, DO something.”  
But God says, “Don’t just do something, STAND there.” (Read Ps. 46:10)

Worry doesn’t help tomorrow’s troubles, but it does ruin today’s happiness.

The tyranny of the urgent (demands of the crowds)  
can overwhelm the priority of the important (personal discipleship).

How do you discover what you are made to do and not just what you are paid to do? Find your fire within!

You only have a certain number of days to do what God’s made you to do. Are you busy doing it?

Being poor in spirit is not about how God views me or even how other people view me,  
it is about how I view me.



We are all at our core begging poor spiritually.

Church beware of your methods, because what you win people WITH is what you win them TO.

We seem quite willing to admit that God owns everything.  
But we still think we get to make all the decisions about what to do with it.

The goal of the church should be not to grow, but to die.

“Be holy for I am holy,” is used five times in the Bible. Three of the five times, it is referring to man’s diet.  
Do you think maybe God cares about what we eat?

It has been said (and it is painfully true) that the church is only one generation away from extinction.

When you are ready to become the teacher, your student will appear.

Once we are adequately spiritually numbed,  
we will find ourselves feeling free to participate in unbridled self-indulgence.

There is a first time and a last time for everything.  
Knowing this that makes all the in-between times so much sweeter.

It is not about who has less than I do. It is not about who has more than I do. It is about: What will I do?

Poverty of spirit is a personal awareness before God that there is nothing in us or about us  
that warrants any sense of self-sufficiency.

Are you planting spiritual “trees” in whose shade you will never sit?

A call to submit is not an exhortation to weakness, but an invitation to wisdom.  
Why not willingly submit to God?

Paul’s mentoring relationship with Timothy is a model for us.  
“Someone whose hindsight can become your foresight.”

What you choose will demonstrate your priorities.

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**QUOTES FROM OTHERS**

Simplicity-of all things-is the hardest to be copied.  
Steele

God seeks to bless others who have done nothing to merit it. We too should seek to bless others  
who have done nothing to earn it.  
B. Smith

A checkbook is a theological document; it will tell you who and what you worship.  
Billy Graham

## QUOTES FROM OTHERS

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In our good works nothing is our own. (John Calvin)

A detached man should always be looking to see what he can do without.  
Henry Suso

Helen Keller recognized, "I can't do everything, but I can do something."

Nothing is more pleasing to God than an open hand and a closed mouth.  
Francis Quarles

Thousands upon thousands are yearly brought into a state of real poverty by their great anxiety  
not to be thought poor.  
William Corbett

My greatest fear is not that I will fail, but that I will succeed in something that doesn't really matter.  
Townsend

When we are most attached to God, then we are sufficiently detached from everything else.  
Marshall

The common man is not concerned about the passage of time, the man of talent is driven by it.  
Shoppenhauer

The church will continue to grow if older men of God are committed to  
"planting trees in whose shade they will never sit."  
Greek Proverb

Of all the varieties of virtue, liberality is the most beloved.  
Aristotle

When your will is God's will, you will have your will.  
Spurgeon

Nothing costs so little, goes so far, and accomplishes so much as a single act of merciful service.  
Renoir

No one is useless who lightens the burdens of another: a heart that never hardens, a temper than never tires,  
a touch that never hurts.  
Dickens

His love has no limit. His grace has no measure. His power no boundary known unto men.  
He Giveth More Grace (Hymn)

You say grace before meals. All right. But I say grace before the concert and the opera, and grace before the  
play and pantomime, and grace before I open a book, and grace before sketching, painting, swimming, fencing,  
boxing, walking, playing, dancing and grace before I dip the pen in the ink.  
G. K. Chesterton

## QUOTES FROM OTHERS

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Whenever we are reluctant to assist the poor, let us place before our eyes the son of God.  
Calvin on Matthew 25

Well-off people don't know the poor, for knowing leads to love and service.  
If they are not touched by them, it's because they don't know them.  
Mother Teresa

(In God's economy) the highest reward for man's toil is not what he gets for it, but what he becomes by it.  
John Ruskin

I am nothing; I am but an instrument, a tiny pencil in the hands of the Lord with which He writes  
what he likes. However imperfect we are, he writes beautifully.  
Mother Teresa

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*Note that the QUOTES FROM OTHERS are in the process of being verified; as of this posting, they have not been traced back to their original source.*

### **ABOUT E. G. "JAY" LINK**

E. G. "Jay" Link has a unique combination of being an ordained minister with a Master Divinity degree in Biblical Theology and a professional Stewardship planning coach who for over 40 years has been working with very affluent Christian families to enable them to optimize their Kingdom impact with all that the Lord has entrusted to them to manage. After retiring from his personal practice, he then served for five years as Director of Taylor University's Stewardship Planning Ministry, which he launched for them. Most recently, Jay founded Transformational Stewardship to serve Christian ministries, colleges, and churches to better minister to their highest capacity families. He has written six books, hundreds of articles and has provided an extensive training curriculum for hundreds of professional financial and legal advisors in how to provide stewardship planning services for their clients.