

# Christian Virtues and Unchristian Vices

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## Explanation

One may glean from the writings of the New Testament references to dozens of virtues and vices. Chart 12-14, on the one hand, offers a simple listing of the numerous virtues expected of a true Christian. The list is long, and without the blessings of the Spirit of God no person can acquire all these many traits of righteousness. But with the help of God, lives can be transformed and these attributes of divine nature can be enjoyed by the Saints. Consulting and reviewing this list will help the meek and humble followers of Christ to grow in goodness and godliness.

Chart 12-15, on the other hand, tabulates the many vices that Christians are warned and counseled to shun. Lists of virtues and vices are often found in scripture (as in the Ten Commandments), as well as in the moralistic writings of the Hellenistic age. In the New Testament, one famous list of eight divine virtues is found in 2 Peter 1:5–7, and a trenchant list of ten wicked vices is given in 1 Corinthians 6:9–10. Charts 12-14 and 12-15 combine to produce a comprehensive profile of what it means to be a true Christian in terms of human ethics and moral behavior.

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## References

John T. Fitzgerald, "Virtue/Vice Lists," *ABD*, 6:857–59.  
"Exemplary Life," *WRC*, 15–16.

# Christian Virtues

Abhorrence of evil	Honesty	Separation, being set apart
Abounding in good works	Honorability	Service
Abstinence from the appearance of evil	Hope	Shamefacedness, no pretension, respect
Approval of excellent things	Hospitality	Silence, quiet
Bearing all things	Humility	Simplicity, purity, innocence
Bearing one another's burdens	Incorruption, soundness	Sincerity, being unsullied
Belief in Christ	Instance in prayer	Singleness of heart, frankness, dedication
Blamelessness	Joy	Sobriety, self-control, prudence, thoughtfulness
Blessing those who persecute you	Justice, fairness	Sorrow, grieving, sympathy
Boldness	Kindness	Sound mind, self-discipline
Brotherly love	Knowledge	Speaking kindly and uprightly
Charity, compassion	Like-mindedness, being agreeable	Spirituality
Chastity, virtue	Longsuffering	Standing fast, firmness
Cheerfulness in giving	Love	Strength in faith
Circumspection	Lowliness	Strength in graciousness
Cleanliness	Making others rich	Strength in the Lord
Being completely filled	Meekness	Striving together for good
Confidence, trust	Mercy	Subjection, obedience, orderliness
Constructive communication	Might, power	Submission to righteous authority
Contentment, peace, no worry	Minding own business	Supplication
Courtesy	Moderation	Support of the weak
Diligence	Modesty	Teaching what is good
Ease in entreatment	Obedience	Being temperate, in full control of oneself
Edification	Orderliness	Tenderheartedness
Endurance	Patience	Thankfulness
Entertaining strangers	Peacefulness	Touching no unclean thing
Equality	Perfection, completion, wholeness	Transformation, transfiguration
Esteem, regard	Perseverance	Trust in God
Example-setting	Piety	Truthfulness, dependability, honesty
Faithfulness	Pity, tenderheartedness	Understanding, insight
Fear, respect of God	Praising	Unity in the faith
Fervency in spirit	Prayerfulness without ceasing	Being unmovable
Fidelity, trustworthiness	Preferring others, deference	Vigilance, watchfulness
Following that which is good	Proving all things, examining	Virtue, moral excellence
Foolishness to the world	Purity, sincerity, cleanliness	Watchfulness, alertness
Forbearance	Quiet, peace	Weeping with those who weep
Forgiveness	Reception	Well doing, benevolence
Gentleness	Recompensing no evil	Wisdom, experience, helpfulness
Glory in tribulation	Reconciliation to God	Working with own hands
Godliness, piety	Rejoicing	Worshipfulness
Goodness, uprightness, kindness	Being renewed	Worthiness, deserve, propriety
Goodwill	Beyond rebuke or reproach	Zealousness, striving
Graveness, solemnity, seriousness	Repentance	
Harmlessness	Resisting the devil	
Hearing	Righteousness	
Holiness	Ruling well	
	Same mindedness	