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We owe a deep debt of gratitude to Adam, the first great benefactor of the human race: he brought death into the world.

-Twain, Mark

We are all alike, on the inside.

-Twain, Mark

Evolution is the law of policies: Darwin said it, Socrates endorsed it, Cuvier proved it and established it for all time in his paper on The Survival of the Fittest. These are illustrious names, this is a mighty doctrine: nothing can ever remove it from its firm base, nothing dissolve it, but evolution.

-Twain, Mark

I believe that our Heavenly Father invented man because he was disappointed in the monkey.

-Twain, Mark

Man will do many things to get himself loved; he will do all things to get himself envied.

Few things are harder to put up with than the annoyance of a good example.

-Twain, Mark

There is nothing so annoying as a good example!!

-Twain, Mark

I have never taken any exercise except sleeping and resting.

-Twain, Mark

We should be careful to get out of an experience only the wisdom that is in it -- and stop there; lest we be like the cat that sits down on a hot stove-lid. She will never sit

stop there; lest we be like the cat that sits down on a hot stove-lid. She will never sit down on a hot stove-lid again -- and that is well; but also she will never sit down on a cold one anymore.

-Twain, Mark

The cat, having sat upon a hot stove lid, will not sit upon a hot stove lid again. But he won't sit upon a cold stove lid, either.

-Twain, Mark

Familiarity breeds contempt; and children.

Get your facts first, and then you can distort them as much as you please.

-Twain, Mark

We are always too busy for our children; we never give them the time or interest they deserve. We lavish gifts upon them; but the most precious gift, our personal association, which means so much to them, we give grudgingly.

-Twain, Mark

Adam was the luckiest man; he had no mother-in-law.

-Twain, Mark

Persons attempting to find a motive in this narrative will be prosecuted; persons attempting to find a moral in it will be banished; persons attempting to find a plot in it will be shot.

-Twain, Mark

He does not care for flowers. Calls them rubbish, and cannot tell one from another, and thinks it is superior to feel like that.

-Twain, Mark

When one has tasted it [Watermelon] he knows what the angels eat.

-Twain, Mark

The first half of life consists of the capacity to enjoy without the chance; the last half consists of the chance without the capacity.

-Twain, Mark

We must annex those people. We can afflict them with our wise and beneficent government. We can introduce the novelty of thieves, all the way up from street-car pickpockets to municipal robbers and Government defaulters, and show them how amusing it is to arrest them and try them and then turn them loose -- some for cash and some for political influence. We can make them ashamed of their simple and primitive justice. We can make that little bunch of sleepy islands the hottest corner on earth, and array it in the moral splendor of our high and holy civilization. Annexation is what the poor islanders need. Shall we to men benighted, the lamp of life deny?

-Twain, Mark

I have never let my schooling interfere with my education.

-Twain. Mark

We never become really and genuinely our entire and honest selves until we are dead -and not then until we have been dead years and years. People ought to start dead and
then they would be honest so much earlier.

Let us endeavor so to live that when we come to die even the undertaker will be sorry.

-Twain, Mark

All say, How hard it is that we have to die -- a strange complaint to come from the mouths of people who have had to live.

-Twain, Mark

Don't part with your illusions. When they are gone you may still exist, but you have ceased to live.

-Twain, Mark

When a person cannot deceive himself the chances are against his being able to deceive other people.

-Twain, Mark

I am a democrat only on principle, not by instinct -- nobody is that. Doubtless some people say they are, but this world is grievously given to lying.

-Twain, Mark

Denial ain't just a river in Egypt.

-Frank, Al

It is a time when one's spirit is subdued and sad, one knows not why; when the past seems a storm-swept desolation, life a vanity and a burden, and the future but a way to death.

-Twain, Mark

I can teach anybody how to get what they want out of life. The problem is that I can't find anybody who can tell me what they want.

-Twain, Mark

What is there that confers the noblest delight? What is that which swells a man's breast with pride above that which any other experience can bring to him? Discovery! To know that you are walking where none others have walked; that you are beholding what human eye has not seen before; that you are breathing a virgin atmosphere. To give birth to an idea, to discover a great thought -- an intellectual nugget, right under the dust of a field that many a brain-plough had gone over before. To find a new planet, to invent a new hinge, to find a way to make the lightning carry your messages. To be the first -- that is the idea.

-Twain, Mark

The rule is perfect: in all matters of opinion our adversaries are insane.

He has been a doctor a year now and has had two patients, no, three, I think -- yes, it was three; I attended their funerals.

-Twain, Mark

Be careless in your dress if you must, but keep a tidy soul.

-Twain, Mark

Duties are not performed for duty's sake, but because their neglect would make the man uncomfortable. A man performs but one duty --the duty of contenting his spirit, the duty of making himself agreeable to himself.

-Twain, Mark

Do something every day that you don't want to do. This is the golden rule for acquiring the habit of doing your duty without pain.

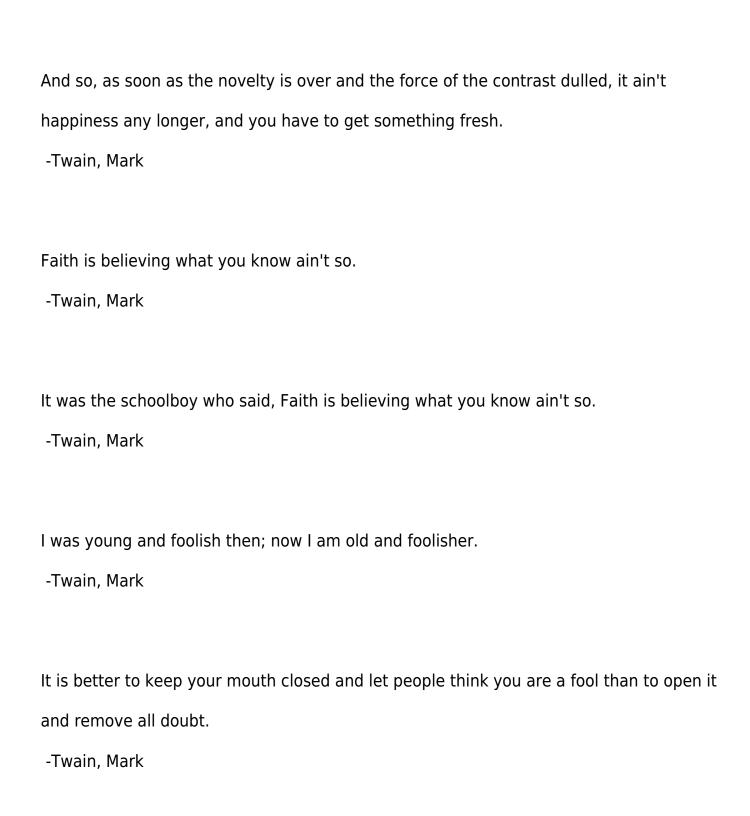
-Twain, Mark

Soap and education are not as sudden as a massacre, but they are more deadly in the long run. Training is everything. The peach was once a bitter almond; cauliflower is nothing but cabbage with a college education.

Forgiveness is the fragrance the violet sheds on the heel that has crushed it. -Twain, Mark Fortune knocks at every man's door once in a life, but in a good many cases the man is in a neighboring saloon and does not hear her. -Twain, Mark Good friends, good books and a sleepy conscience: this is the ideal life. The conviction of the rich that the poor are happier is no more foolish than the conviction of the poor that the rich are. -Twain, Mark Habit is habit, and not to be flung out of the window by any man, but coaxed downstairs a step at a time. -Twain, Mark To stop smoking is the easiest thing I ever did. I ought to know; I've done it a thousand

Happiness ain't a thing in itself --it's only a contrast with something that ain't pleasant.

times.



Forget and forgive. This is not difficult when properly understood. It means forget inconvenient duties, then forgive yourself for forgetting. By rigid practice and stern determination, it comes easy.

Forgiveness is the fragrance that the violet sheds on the heel that has crushed it -Twain, Mark

It is by the goodness of God that in our country we have those three unspeakably precious things: freedom of speech, freedom of conscience, and the prudence never to practice either.

-Twain, Mark

Thousands of geniuses live and die undiscovered -- either by themselves or by others.

-Twain, Mark

I am admonished in many ways that time is pushing me inexorably along. I am approaching the threshold of age; in 1977 I shall be 142. This is no time to be flitting about the earth. I must cease from the activities proper to youth and begin to take on the dignities and gravities and inertia proper to that season of honorable senility which is on its way.

-Twain, Mark

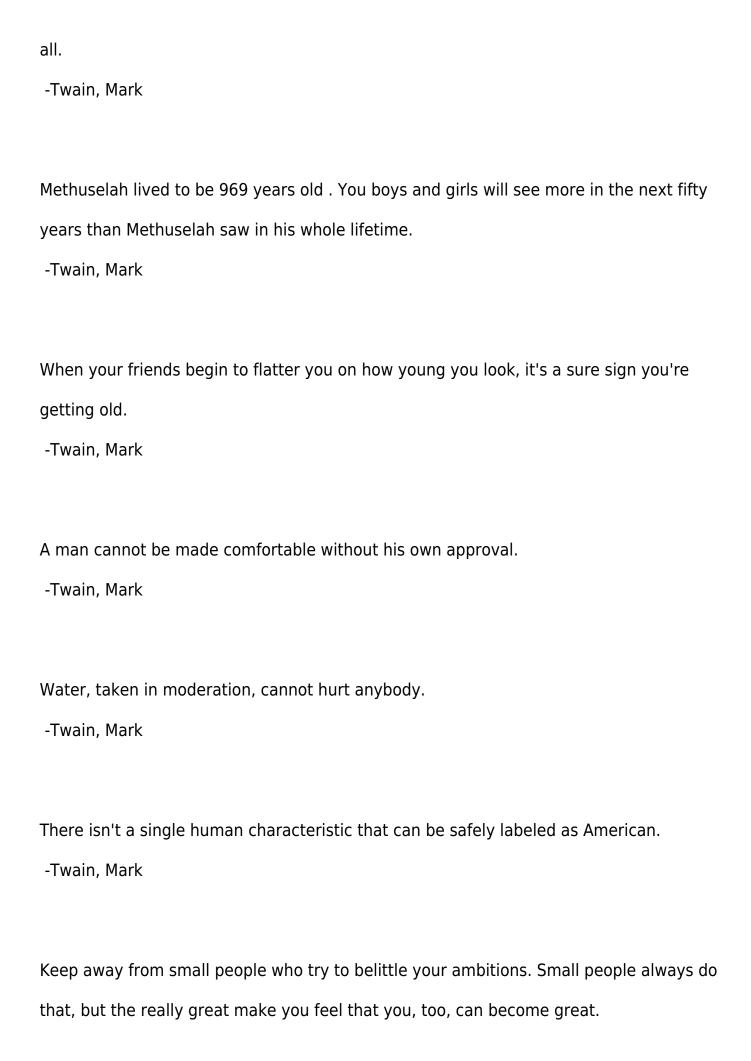
Life would be infinitely happier if we could only be born at the age of eighty and gradually approach eighteen.



If you pick up a starving dog and make him prosperous, he will not bite you; that is the principal difference between a dog and a man.

-Twain, Mark Grief can take care of itself; but to get the full value of a joy you must have somebody to divide it with. -Twain, Mark The holy passion of friendship is of so sweet and steady and loyal and enduring a nature that it will last through a whole lifetime, if not asked to lend money. -Twain, Mark I did not attend his funeral; but I wrote a nice letter saying I approved of it. [About a politician who had recently died] -Twain, Mark Where a blood relation sobs, an intimate friend should choke up, a distant acquaintance should sigh, a stranger should merely fumble sympathetically with his handkerchief. -Twain, Mark He is useless on top of the ground; he ought to be under it, inspiring the cabbages. -Twain. Mark

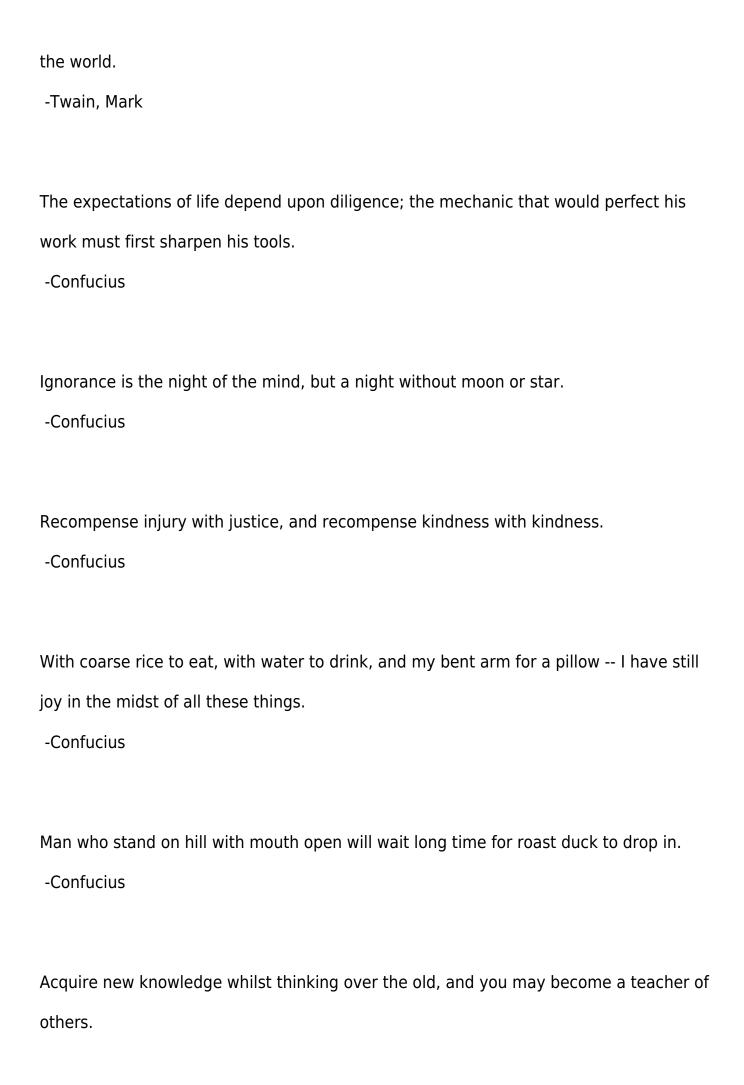
Let us not be too particular; it is better to have old secondhand diamonds than none at

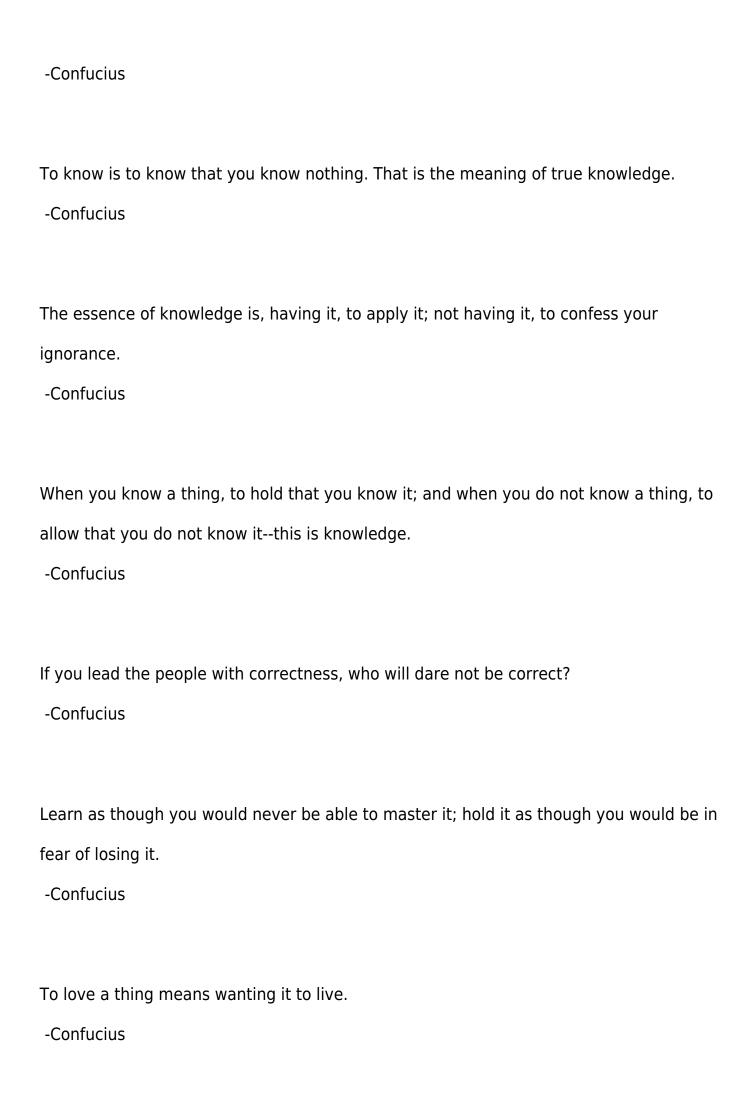


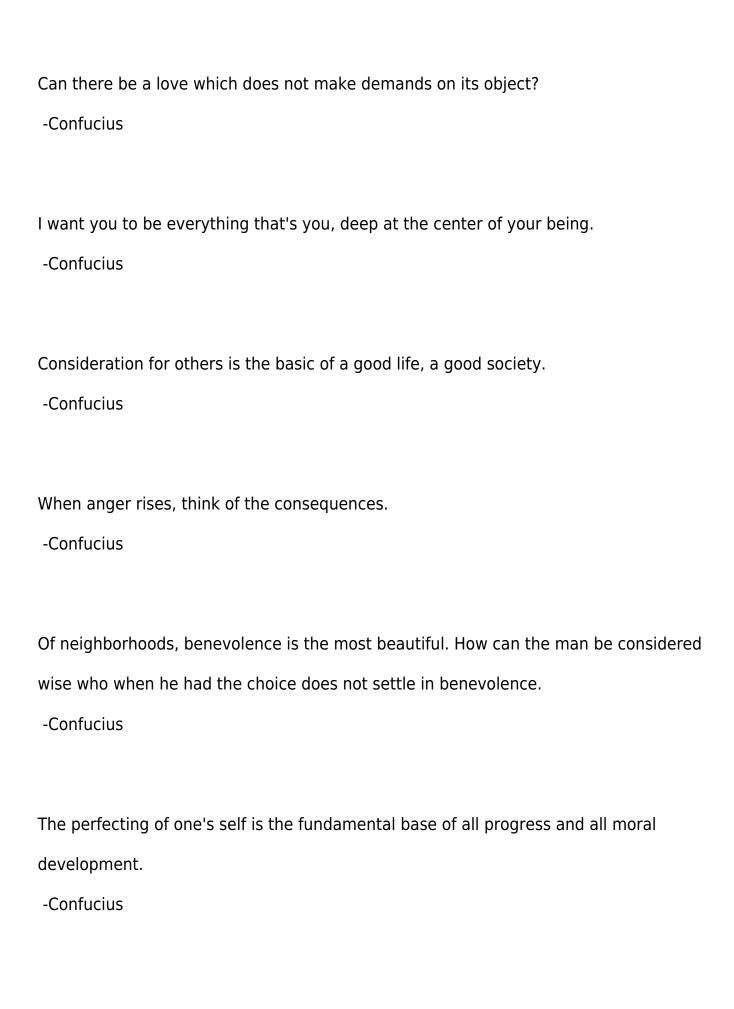
-Twain, Mark Good breeding consists in concealing how much we think of ourselves and how little we think of the other person. -Twain, Mark The older we grow the greater becomes our wonder at how much ignorance one can contain without bursting one's clothes. -Twain, Mark We have the best government that money can buy. -Twain, Mark Damn the subjunctive. It brings all our writers to shame. -Twain, Mark It could probably be shown by facts and figures that there is no distinctly native American criminal class except Congress. -Twain, Mark

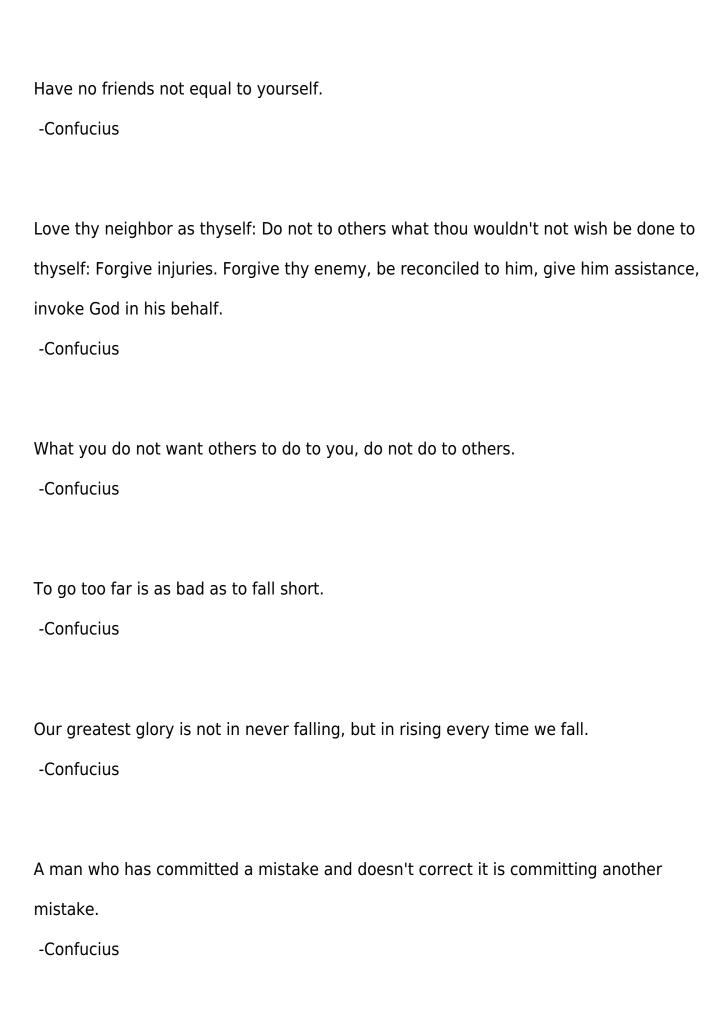
Whoever has lived long enough to find out what life is, knows how deep a debt of

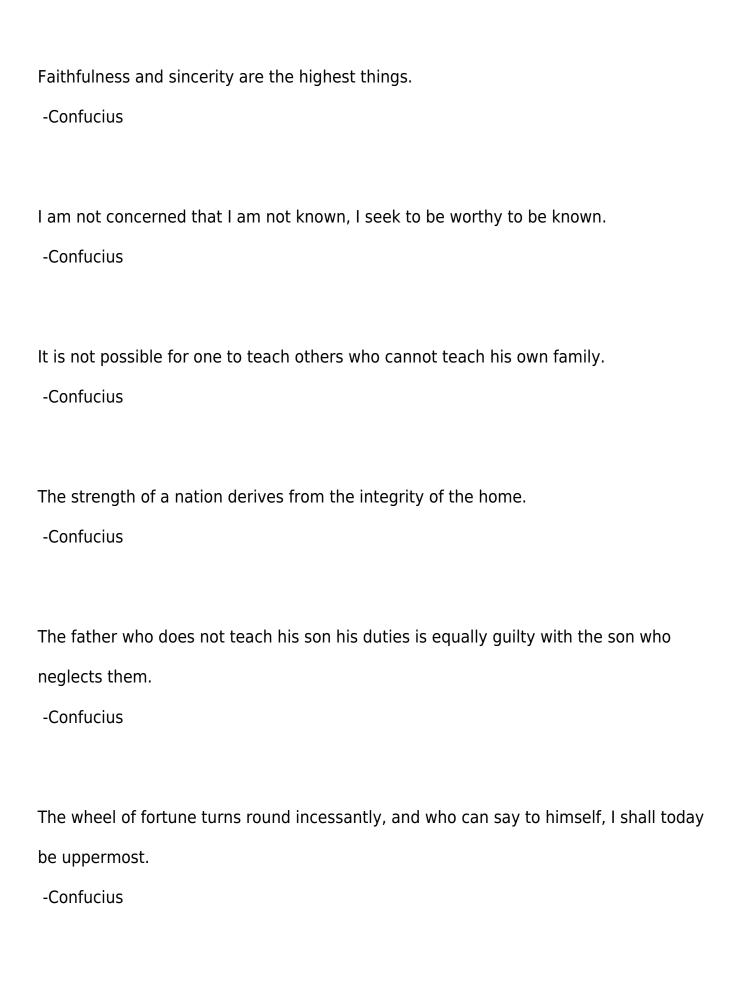
gratitude we owe to Adam, the first great benefactor of our race. He brought death into

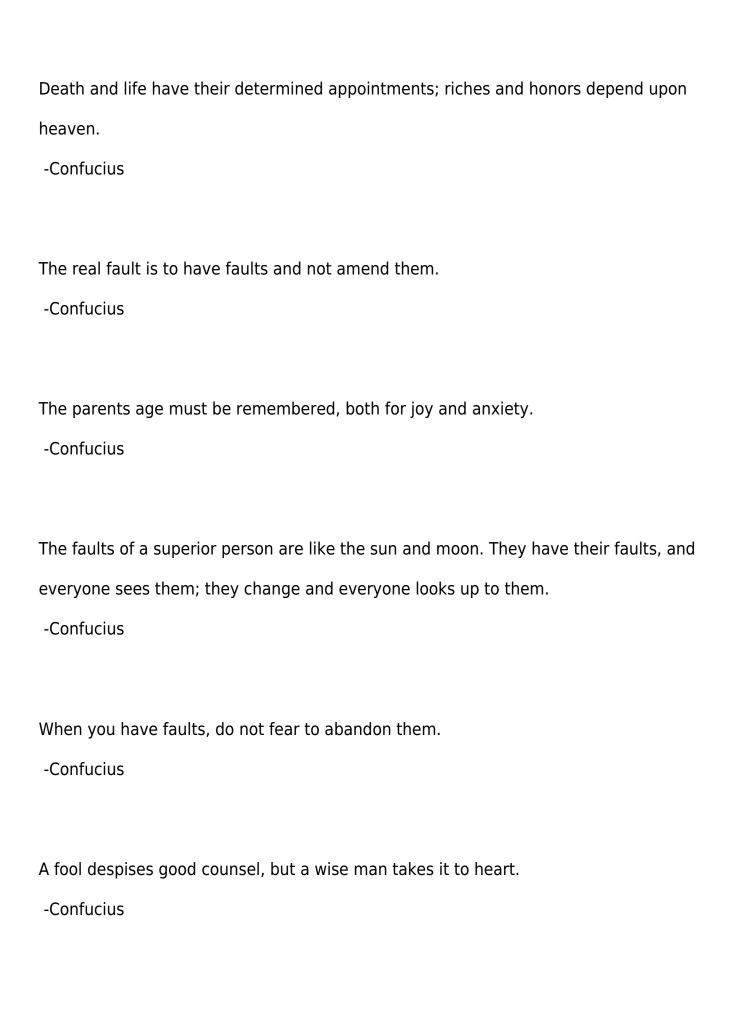


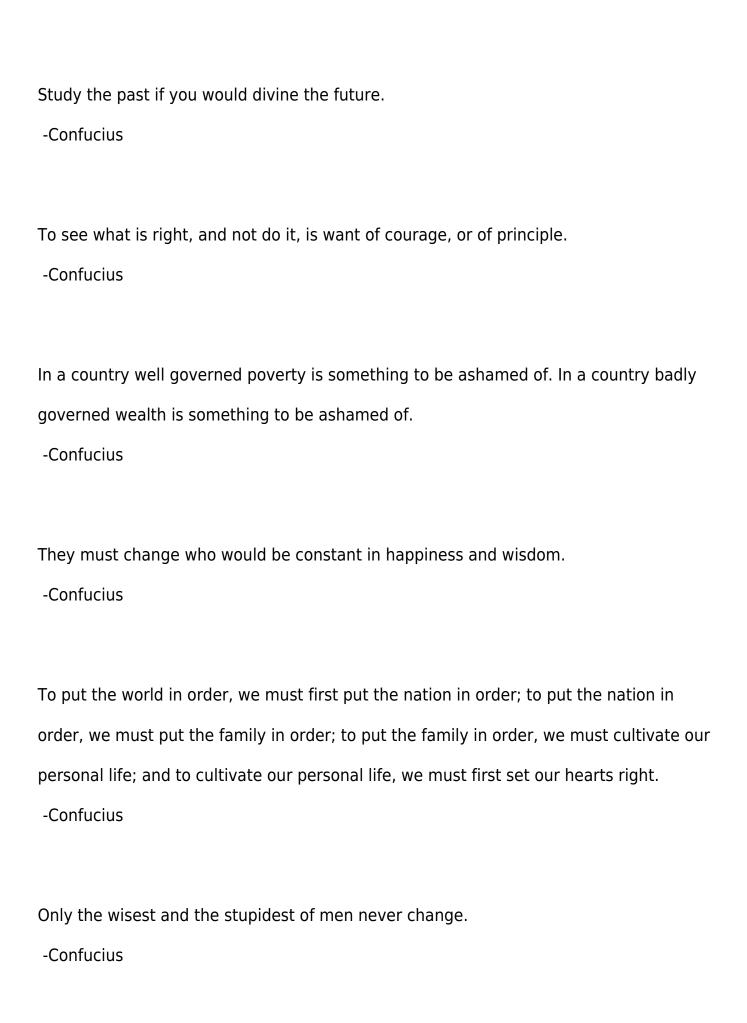


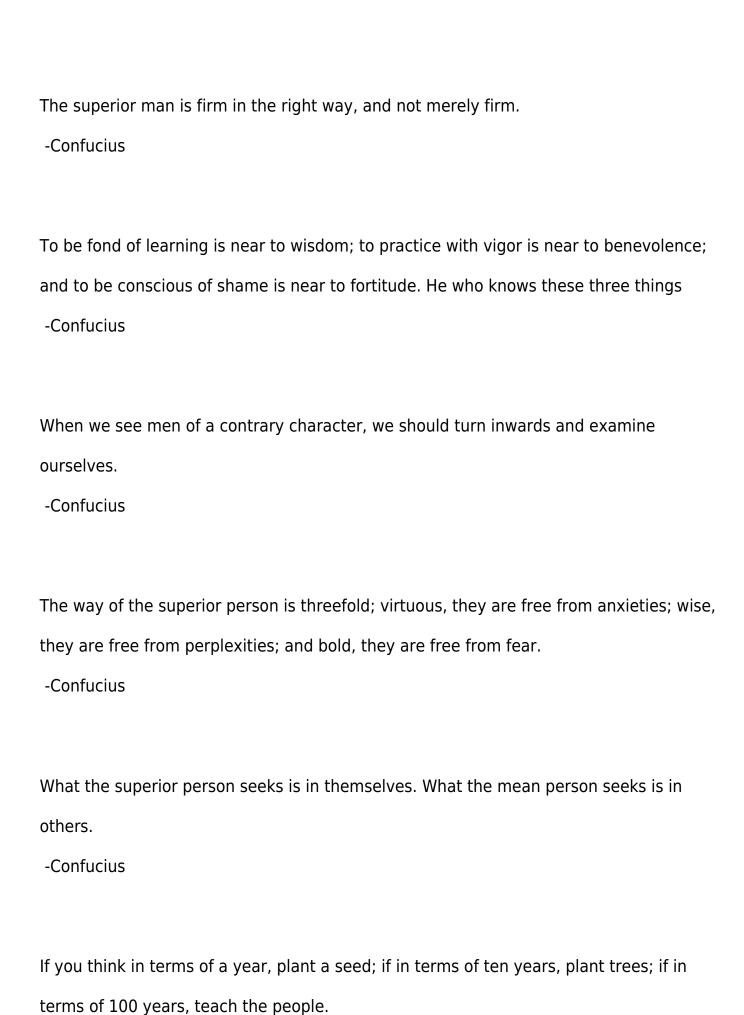


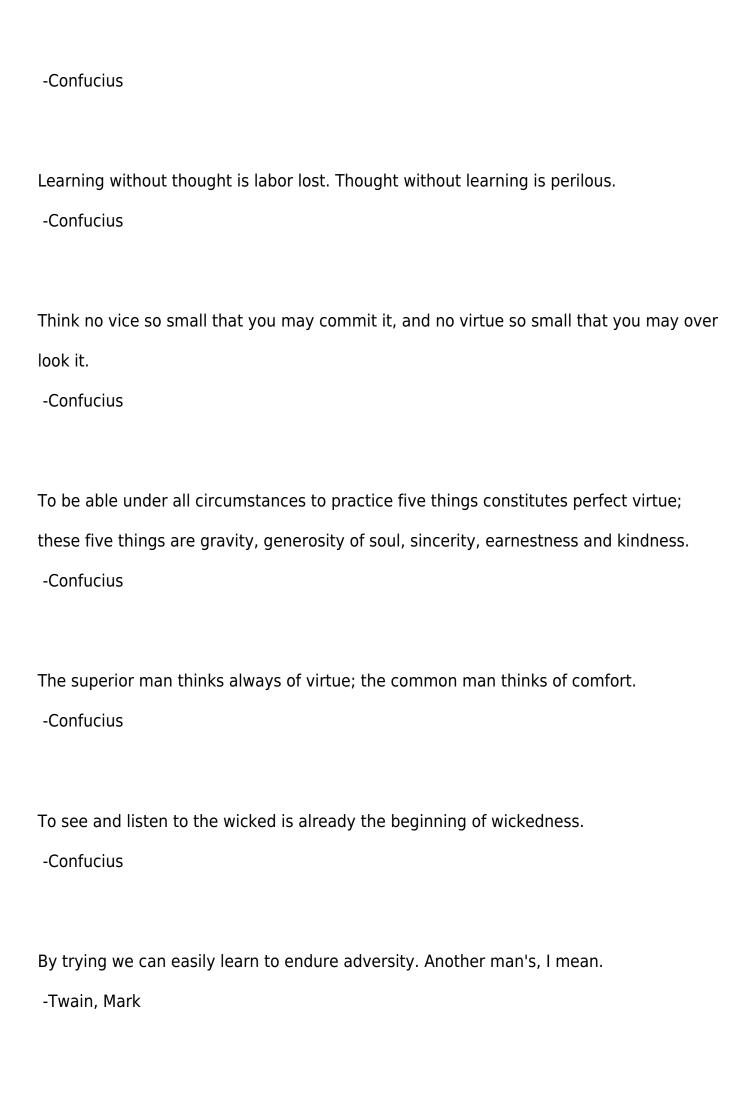












Annihilation has no terrors for me, because I have already tried it before I was born --a hundred million years --and I have suffered more in an hour, in this life, than I remember to have suffered in the whole hundred million years put together. There was a peace, a serenity, an absence of all sense of responsibility, an absence of worry, an absence of care, grief, perplexity; and the presence of a deep content and unbroken satisfaction in that hundred million years of holiday which I look back upon with a tender longing and with a grateful desire to resume, when the opportunity comes.

-Twain, Mark

Everything has beauty, but not everyone sees it.

-Confucius

The superior man is modest in his speech but exceeds in his actions.

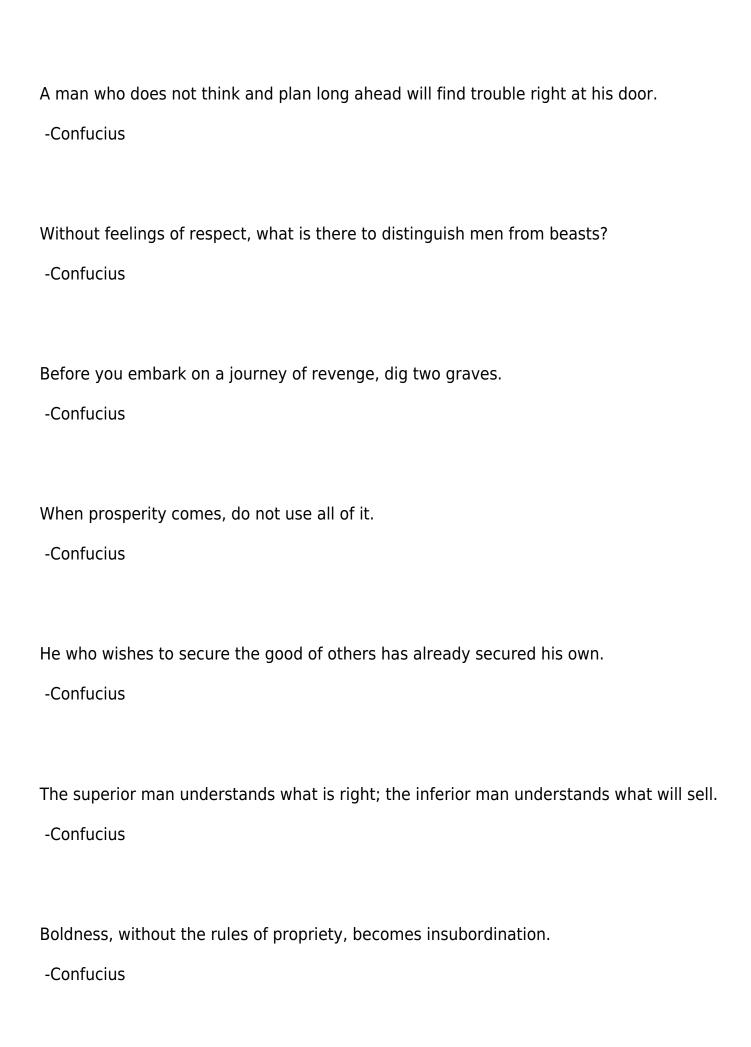
-Confucius

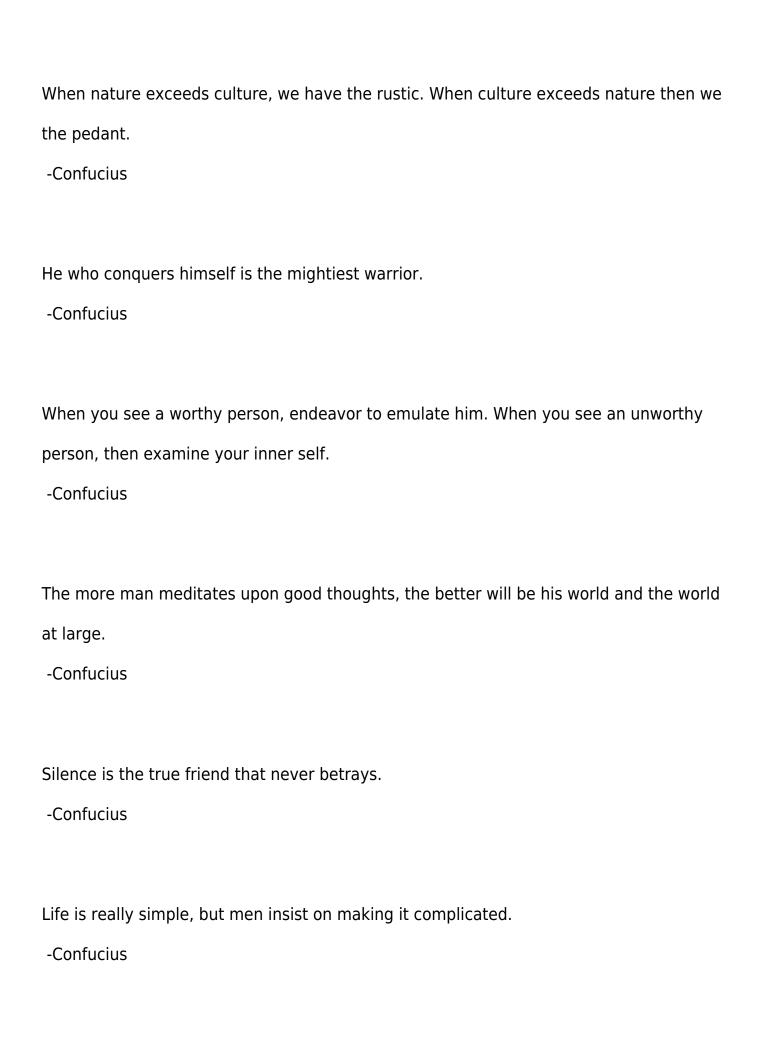
The superior man acts before he speaks, and afterwards speaks according to his action.

-Confucius

Virtue is not left to stand alone. He who practices it will have neighbors.

-Confucius





Sincerity and truth are the basis of every virtue.
-Confucius
We should feel sorrow, but not sink under its oppression.
-Confucius
Why is it that we rejoice at birth and grieve at a funeral? It is because we are not the
person involved.
-Twain, Mark

