

Stepping Into Greatness

We don't become Great by
seeking Position or Power
but by *Developing*
Character

*(Mat 20:21,26) He that
wishes to be GREAT will
be your servant.*

Diakonos



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Seeking Great Friends & Mentors

A photograph of two people walking away from the camera on a dirt path through a dense forest. The path is lined with trees and foliage, and the lighting suggests a bright, sunny day. The people are walking towards the center of the frame, where the path leads into the distance.

*He who walks with the **wise**, will grow wise..
But the companion of **fools** will suffer harm.*

(Prov 13:20)

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**Choose who you allow into the
sanctuary of your soul..**

For you will share their destiny.

**(Prov 27:17) “Iron sharpens Iron, so one man
sharpens another.”**

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Moses mentored Joshua (Ex 24:3)

Paul Mentored Timothy (Acts 16:1-3)

Aristotle mentored Alexander who

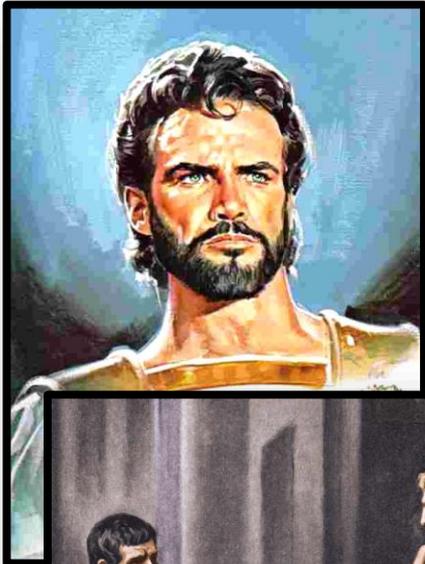
wanted to conquer the world..

So, the NT was written in Greek.

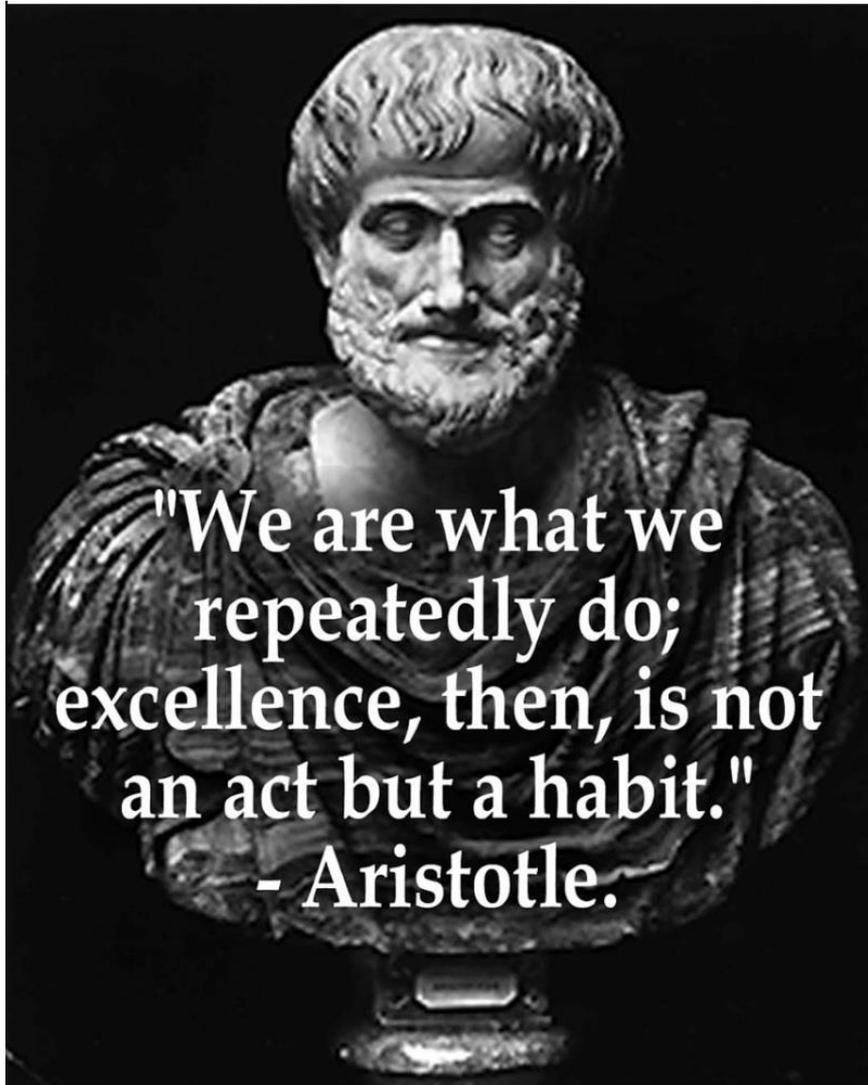
Plato mentored Aristotle.

And Socrates mentored Plato.

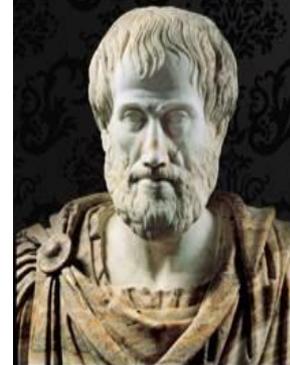
Much of ***western thought*** finds
it's basis in their teachings.



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Criticism is something we can avoid easily by saying nothing, doing nothing, and being nothing.

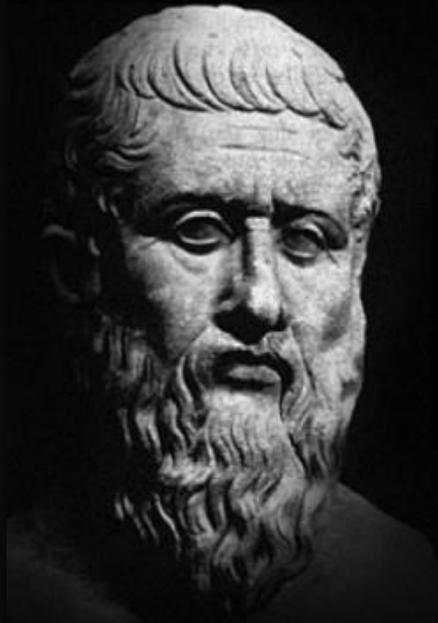


Aristotle

*Greek philosopher and polymath
(384 BC - 322 BC)*

QuoteHD.com

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Plato

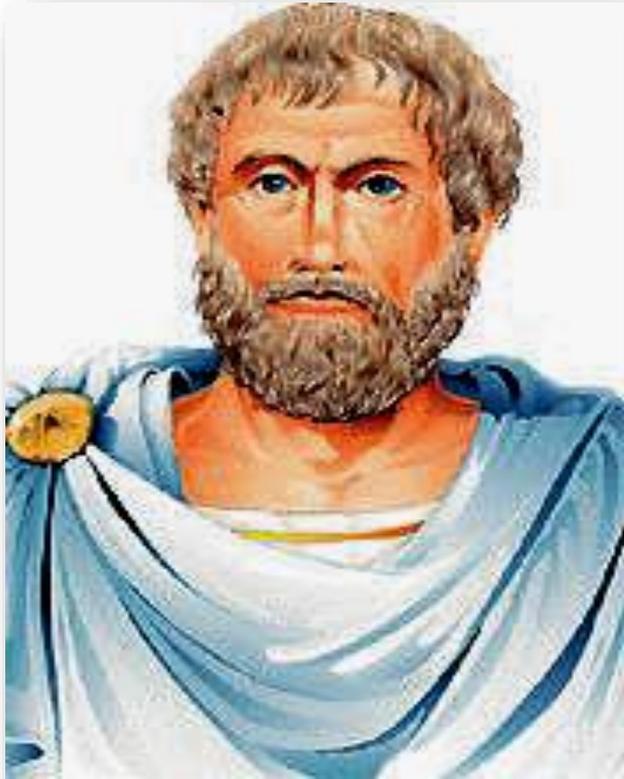
*born c 427 BC
died c 347 BC*

*The **beginning** is the most important part of the work.*

*We can easily forgive a child who is afraid of the dark; the real tragedy of life is when men are afraid of the **light**.*

***Be kind** for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle.*

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Socrates
470 BC - 399 BC

Let him who would move the world, *first move himself.*

It is not Living that matters, but *living rightly.*

“My advice to you is to get married. If you find a good wife, you’ll be happy.” (Cf Prov 18:22)

“If not, you’ll become a philosopher.”

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Great people recognize their friends are not just a matter of *fate*—but of *choice*.



Heb 13:7 “Remember those who led you.. **Imitate**
1 Cor 11:1 “Be **imitators** of me, as I imitate Christ”.
2 Kings 2:9 Elisha “Please let a **double portion** of
your spirit be upon me.”
Chose role models with **Great Qualities**.

A sunset over a body of water. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange and yellow glow that reflects on the water. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, with some clouds. On the right side, there are silhouettes of palm trees and other vegetation.

**God Almighty
Lord of glory
You have
called me
friend**

John 15:14

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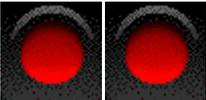
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***Who would be on YOUR Mt Rushmore?
Who helped shape your life & your future?***

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You see the ***Red Lights*** flashing —change those behaviors or they will change YOU.

Prov 6:15-16 Seven things God hates...
Arrogant eyes & a lying tongue.

1 Cor 15:33 Evil companions ***corrupt..***

Do your friends influence you in the ***Wrong Direction ?***

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Prov 6:17-18 Hands that shed innocent blood, 18 A heart that devises wicked plans, feet that run rapidly to evil.

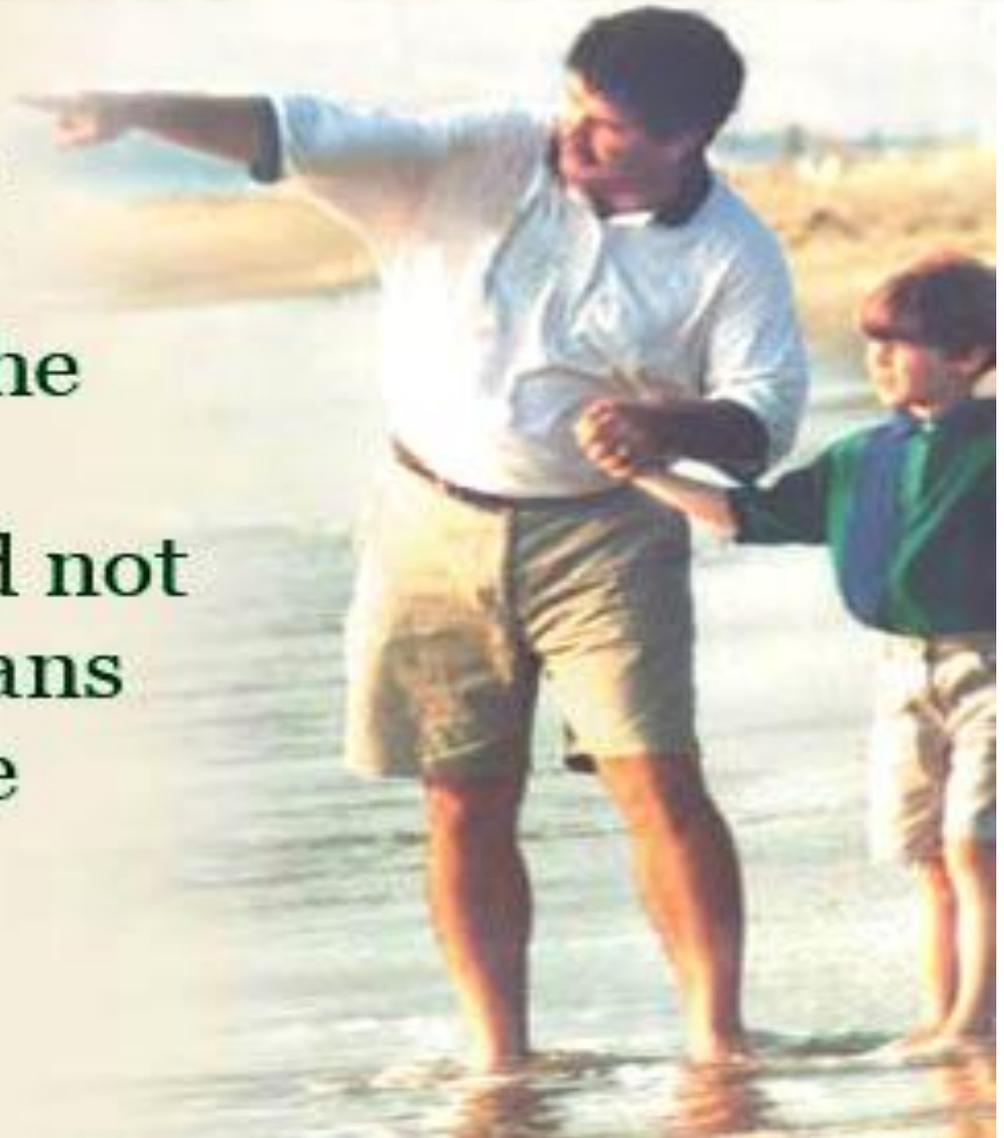


Don't hang around a violent person. (Prov 22:24-25)
Don't let them—say **YOU** caused it. (1 Ki 18:17-18)
Watch out for **bullies**—pick on those less fortunate.
Choose someone that **treasures** other people.
Choose friends who **encourage**, not put others down
(1 Thes 5:5). They enrich the lives of others.

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“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

Jer 29:11



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Prov 6:19 A *false* witness who utters *lies*, & one who spreads *strife* among brothers.



Mom's Counsel: "If they gossip about others TO you.. [*It's just a matter of time*] till they gossip ABOUT you."

Prov 11:13 He who goes about as a *talebearer reveals secrets*, But he *who is trustworthy conceals a matter*.

What to do: Choose people that you can trust

Watch for: Triangulation
(Titus 3:10)



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WHAT TO DO?

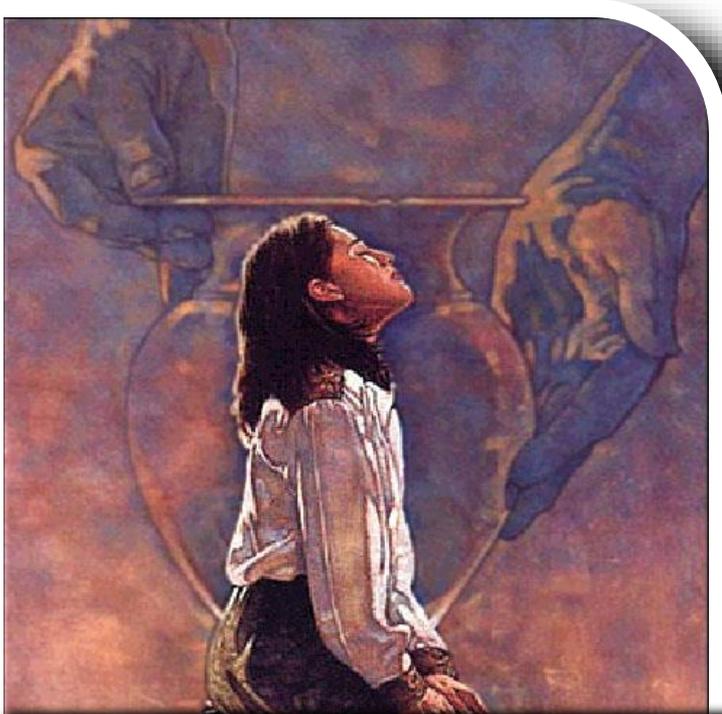
1. *Keep alert* for people with great *qualities* for you to emulate.

Reputation is what they say about you on your tombstone.

Character is what the angels in heaven say before God.

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2. *Seek God's Help:*
Ask God to put people in your life that will make better person of you.

Ps 37:5 Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, and He will do it.

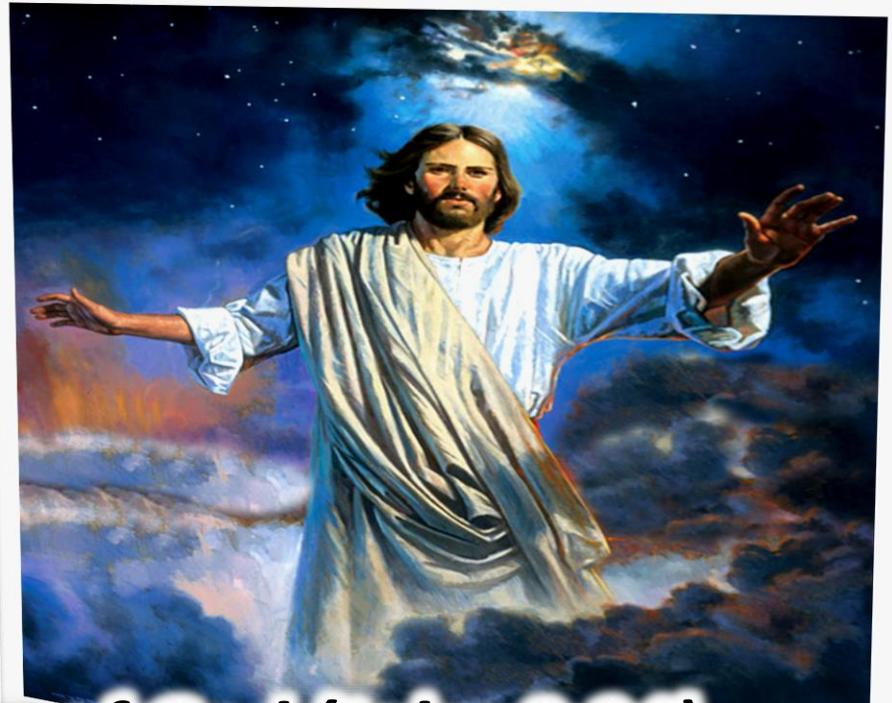
Great people won't always seek you out. Tell them you're praying for them and appreciate their friendship & insights. Pick their brain.

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3. ***Become a Disciple***
of Jesus Christ our
greatest mentor.

Wise Men ***STILL***
seek Him.



All Things are ready:

You believe in Jesus as Son of God (John 8:24)

Are you ready to repent of your sins (Acts 3:19)

You are willing to confess your faith (Rom 10:9 -10)

Now be immersed for remission of sin. (Acts 2:38)

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A hand is shown holding a glass jar with a metal lid. Several butterflies are inside the jar, and one is flying out of the top. The background is a light blue gradient.

***It's time to step into your greatness
Don't apologize for your lateness***

***God gave gifts that were given free
I've got to use them or lose them***

***You got to give your gift wings
You got to let it go and see what it brings***

***You got to open up and be willing to be criticized
You got to be willing to be idolized.***

***The best aren't the best cuz they never lost
They are the best because they fought***

Tony Gaskins