## **Christian Virtues and Unchristian Vices**

## **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.

## References

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

## **Christian Virtues**

Abhorrence of evil

Abounding in good works

Abstinence from the appearance

of evil

Approval of excellent things

Bearing all things

Bearing one another's burdens

Belief in Christ Blamelessness

Blessing those who persecute you

Boldness
Brotherly love
Charity, compassion
Chastity, virtue
Cheerfulness in giving

Circumspection Cleanliness

Being completely filled Confidence, trust

Constructive communication Contentment, peace, no worry

Courtesy Diligence

Ease in entreatment

Edification Endurance

**Entertaining strangers** 

Equality
Esteem, regard
Example-setting
Faithfulness

Fear, respect of God Fervency in spirit Fidelity, trustworthiness Following that which is good Foolishness to the world

Forbearance Forgiveness Gentleness

Glory in tribulation Godliness, piety

Goodness, uprightness, kindness

Goodwill

Graveness, solemnity, seriousness

Harmlessness Hearing Holiness Honesty Honorability

Hope Hospitality Humility

Incorruption, soundness

Instance in prayer

Joy

Justice, fairness

Kindness Knowledge

Like-mindedness, being agreeable

Longsuffering

Love Lowliness

Making others rich

Meekness Mercy

Might, power

Minding own business

Moderation Modesty Obedience Orderliness Patience Peacefulness

Perfection, completion, wholeness

Perseverance

Piety

Pity, tenderheartedness

**Praising** 

Prayerfulness without ceasing Preferring others, deference Proving all things, examining Purity, sincerity, cleanliness

Quiet, peace Reception

Recompensing no evil Reconciliation to God

Rejoicing Being renewed

Beyond rebuke or reproach

Repentance Resisting the devil Righteousness Ruling well Same mindedness Separation, being set apart

Service

Shamefacedness, no pretension,

respect Silence, quiet

Simplicity, purity, innocence Sincerity, being unsullied Singleness of heart, frankness,

dedication

Sobriety, self-control, prudence,

thoughtfulness

Sorrow, grieving, sympathy Sound mind, self-discipline Speaking kindly and uprightly

Spirituality

Standing fast, firmness

Strength in faith

Strength in graciousness Strength in the Lord Striving together for good

Subjection, obedience, orderliness Submission to righteous authority

Supplication

Support of the weak Teaching what is good

Being temperate, in full control

of oneself Tenderheartedness Thankfulness

Touching no unclean thing Transformation, transfiguration

Trust in God

Truthfulness, dependability,

honesty

Understanding, insight Unity in the faith Being unmovable Vigilance, watchfulness Virtue, moral excellence Watchfulness, alertness

Weeping with those who weep

Well doing, benevolence

Wisdom, experience, helpfulness

Working with own hands

Worshipfulness

Worthiness, deserve, propriety

Zealousness, striving