

# Character

At the very beginning of my study, I spoke to a large number of people to get an idea of what they considered to be desirable character traits. The answers I received were as follows: caring (compassionate), charity (stewardship & benevolence), discernment, faithfulness (loyalty), forgiveness, gentleness, honesty (truthful), humbleness, joyous, kindness, knowledgeable, listeners, love, meekness, obedience, praise (worshippers), prayerful, service, submission (to others & authority), understanding and wisdom.

All of the character traits listed above is considered to be desirable and necessary, for a person who has a good and/or acceptable character. Yet, every day we meet people and make assumptions about these individuals, based on the traits I have listed above. The thing we fail to realize as Believers is it is not the character traits that we should be considering but rather the lifestyle, which the individual lives and walks.

These lifestyles can only be examined and defined, by studying the two entirely different principles and concepts, which have been set forth in Divine Scriptures. Although there may appear to be similarities, in regards to certain aspects, they will always be different in origin.

I am convinced after careful study that these character traits are either of Elohim or ungodly. There is no possible way that these lifestyles are similar in any aspect or congruent in any way.

As we take a closer look at and study these principles and concepts, of different lifestyles, please note they are derived from different sources and there purposes and functions, is to produce opposing results.

First, we will review and study the character traits, (the aspects, principles and concepts), with regards to Elohim and the lifestyle of those individuals who follow His Character traits. In order for us to live this type of lifestyle and exhibit these character traits, we must look to Divine Scripture, for the correct answers.

## Elohim's Character

Rom 8:

**28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love Elohim, to them who are the called according to His purpose.**

**29 For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.**

1Jo 2:5-6

**5 But whoso keepeth His word, in him verily is the love of Elohim perfected: hereby know we that we are in Him.**

**6 He that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also to walk, even as He walked.**

As we see in these Scriptures, our lives must be like unto Messiahs', in order for us to have the proper and correct character traits. This means that the Believer must decrease so that He can increase.

**Jo 3:30**

"It is right for Him to increase, but me to decrease

To understand this lifestyle the Believer must recognize what His true character was, in all aspects, principals and concepts. If we are unwilling to examine our lives and others who profess to be Believers, then we risk the possibility of accepting that which is counterfeit and run the distinct probability of being deceived.

Let us look at the Scriptural Character of Abba (aspects, principals and concepts).

1. Recognition of who Abba truly is:

Ex 20:

2 "I am יהוה your Elohim, who brought you out of the land of Mitsrayim, out of the house of slavery.

Deu 33:

27 "The Elohim of old is a refuge, and beneath are everlasting arms. And He drives out the enemy from before you and says, 'Destroy!'

2Sa 22:

3 "My Elohim is my rock, I take refuge in Him, My shield and the horn of my deliverance, My high tower and my refuge. My Saviour, You save me from violence.

2. Obedience to Abba, because of who He is:

Ex 20:

3 "You have no other mighty ones against My face.

4 "You do not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of that which is in the heavens above, or which is in the earth beneath, or which is in the waters under the earth,

5 you do not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, יהוה your Elohim am a jealous Ēl, visiting the crookedness of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me,

6 but showing kindness to thousands, to those who love Me and guard My commands.

7 "You do not bring the Name of יהוה your Elohim to naught, for יהוה does not leave the one unpunished who brings His Name to naught.

8 "Remember the Sabbath day, to set it apart.

9 "Six days you labour, and shall do all your work,

10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath of יהוה your Elohim. You do not do any work – you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates.

11 **“For in six days יהוה made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore יהוה blessed the Sabbath day and set it apart.**

1Sa 15:

22 **Then Shemu’el said, “Does יהוה delight in burnt offerings and slaughterings, as in obeying the voice of יהוה? Look, to obey is better than an offering, to heed is better than the fat of rams.**

Phi 2:

8 **And having been found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, death even of a stake.**

3. **Respectful, because of a desire to please Abba:**

Ex 20:

7 **“You do not bring the Name of יהוה your Elohim to naught, for יהוה does not leave the one unpunished who brings His Name to naught.**

12 **“Respect your father and your mother, so that your days are prolonged upon the soil which יהוה your Elohim is giving you.**

4. **Relationship to others, because of a desire to be obedient and respectful to Abba:**

Ex 20:

13 **“You do not murder.**

14 **“You do not commit adultery.**

15 **“You do not steal.**

16 **“You do not bear false witness against your neighbour.**

17 **“You do not covet your neighbour’s house, you do not covet your neighbour’s wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, or whatever belongs to your neighbour.”**

Eph 4:

30 **And do not grieve the Set-apart Spirit of Elohim, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.**

31 **Let all bitterness, and wrath, and displeasure, and uproar, and slander be put away from you, along with all evil.**

32 **And be kind towards one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as Elohim also forgave you in Messiah.**

5. **Exhibits all the Fruits of the Spirit:**

Gal 5:

22 **But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,**

**23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.**

**Phi 1:**

**11 being filled with the fruit of righteousness, through יהושע Messiah, to the esteem and praise of Elohim.**

**Heb 13:**

**15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to Elohim continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.**

**Jam 3:**

**17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.**

**6. Prayerful, by spending time seeking Abbas' Divine Will and Purposes:**

**Mat 26:**

**36 Then יהושע came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the taught ones, "Sit here while I go over there and pray."**

**39 And going forward a little, He fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me. Yet not as I desire, but as You *desire*."**

**41 "Watch and pray, lest you enter into trial. The spirit indeed is eager, but the flesh is weak."**

**42 Again He went away, a second time, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is impossible for this to pass unless I drink it, let Your desire be done."**

**Lu 5:**

**16 But He was *often* withdrawing Himself to lonely places and praying.**

**Lu 6:**

**12 And in those days it came to be that He went out to the mountain to pray, and was spending the night in prayer to Elohim.**

**1Th 5:**

**16 Rejoice always,**

**17 pray without ceasing,**

**18 in all circumstances give thanks, for this is the desire of Elohim in Messiah יהושע for you.**

**7. Honor and Praise, by worshipping Abba for who He truly is and the blessings we receive:**

**Psa 100:**

**1 Raise a shout for יהוה, All the earth!**

- 2 **Serve יהוה with gladness; Come before His presence with singing.**
- 3 **Know that יהוה, He is Elohim; He has made us, and we are His – His people and the sheep of His pasture.**
- 4 **Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him; bless His Name.**

**Mat 6:**

- 9 **“This, then, is the way you should pray: ‘Our Father who is in the heavens, let Your Name be set-apart,**

**Luk 11:**

- 2 **And He said to them, “When you pray, say: Our Father in the heavens, let Your Name be set-apart, let Your reign come, let Your desire be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Joh 8:**

- 49 **יהושע answered, “I do not have a demon, but I value My Father, and you do not value Me.**

## **8. Forgive, as He forgives us:**

**Mat 6:**

- 12 **‘And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.**
- 13 **‘And do not lead us into trial, but deliver us from the wicked one – because Yours is the reign and the power and the esteem, forever. Aměn.**
- 14 **“For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father shall also forgive you.**
- 15 **“But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither shall your Father forgive your trespasses.**

**Luk 11:**

- 4 **“And forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And do not lead us into trial, but rescue us from the wicked one.”**

**Luk 23:**

- 34 **And יהושע said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.” And they divided His garments and cast lots.**

**There are other traits and aspects of Messiahs’ lifestyle that could be used to demonstrate Elohim’s character but these examples should be sufficient to illustrate the manner in which we should live.**

**Let us always remember what Scripture teaches us and make every effort to live in like manner.**

**Jo 14:**

- 15 **“If you love Me, you shall guard My commands.**
- 21 **“He who possesses My commands and guards them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me shall be loved by My Father, and I shall love him and manifest Myself to him.”**

**1Jo 2:**

- 3 And by this we know that we know Him, if we guard His commands.**
  - 4 The one who says, "I know Him," and does not guard His commands, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.**
  - 5 But whoever guards His Word, truly the love of Elohim has been perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him.**
  - 6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.**
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Now that we have seen the type of lifestyle and the character traits, that we should endeavor to emulate. We will examine lifestyles and character traits, which are present in ungodly individuals and the danger that exist when we have fellowship and/or association with them.

There are two primary types of ungodly individuals, which manifest themselves as either evil or having a form of goodness. Let me take this opportunity to say, that the one that exhibits a form of goodness, might possibly be more dangerous, deceitful and seductive.

The first ungodly lifestyle, is the one which appears to be evil and for most individuals who are Elohim's, we are able to distinguish them without any problems.

We are able to recognize them by reviewing these Scriptures:

**Rom 1:**

- 18 For the wrath of Elohim is revealed from heaven against all wickedness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,**
- 19 because that which is known of Elohim is manifest among them, for Elohim has manifested it to them.**
- 20 For since the creation of the world His invisible qualities have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, both His everlasting power and Mightiness, for them to be without excuse,**
- 21 because, although they knew Elohim, they did not esteem Him as Elohim, nor gave thanks, but became vain in their reasonings, and their undiscerning heart was darkened.**
- 22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools,**
- 23 and changed the esteem of the incorruptible Elohim into the likeness of an image of corruptible man, and of birds and of four-footed beasts and of reptiles.**
- 24 Therefore Elohim gave them up to uncleanness in the lust of their hearts, to disrespect their bodies among themselves,**
- 25 who changed the truth of Elohim into the falsehood, and worshipped and served what was created rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amñ.**
- 26 Because of this Elohim gave them over to degrading passions. For even their women exchanged natural relations for what is against nature,**
- 27 and likewise, the men also, having left natural relations with woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing indecency, and receiving back the reward which was due for their straying.**

- 28** And even as they did not think it worth- while to possess the knowledge of Elohim, Elohim gave them over to a worthless mind, to do what is improper,  
**29** having been filled with all unrighteousness, whoring, wickedness, greed, evil; filled with envy, murder, fighting, deceit, evil habits; whisperers,  
**30** slanderers, haters of Elohim, insolent, proud, boasters, devisers of evils, disobedient to parents,  
**31** without discernment, covenant breakers, unloving, unforgiving, ruthless;  
**32** who, though they know the righteousness of Elohim, that those who practise such deserve death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practise them.

**1Co 6:9-10**

- 9** Do you not know that the unrighteous shall not inherit the reign of Elohim? Do not be deceived. Neither those who whore, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,  
**10** nor thieves, nor greedy of gain, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers shall inherit the reign of Elohim.

These individuals are not hard for the true Believer to identify and spot and most of us try to steer clear of such persons. The real danger is manifest in the next group of individuals, who appear to have a form of goodness and/or Elohim likeness.

Let us examine how the Scripture portrays this group:

**Mat 7:**

- 15** “But beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are savage wolves.  
**16** “By their fruits you shall know them. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes or figs from thistles?

**Col 2:**

- 8** See to it that no one makes a prey of you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary matters of the world, and not according to Messiah.

**2Ti 3:**

- 2** For men shall be lovers of self, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, thankless, wrong-doers,  
**3** unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, fierce, haters of good,  
**4** betrayers, reckless, puffed up, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of Elohim,  
**5** having a form of reverence but denying its power. And turn away from these!  
**6** For among them are those who creep into households and captivate silly women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts,  
**7** always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

**2Pe 3:**

- 16** as also in all *his* letters, speaking in them concerning these matters, in which some are hard to understand, which those who are untaught and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do also the other Scriptures.
- 17** You, then, beloved ones, being forewarned, watch, lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the delusion of the lawless,

Please realize these individuals are treacherous and deceitful and the enemy uses them in diabolical ways, to try and lure Believers into a trap and destroy them.

They will appear to be decent and upstanding members of the community, hard workers, good husbands, wives, fathers and mothers, possibly members of other religions and cults. Yet what we perceive is merely a facade and counterfeit lifestyle, meant to seduce us into believing a lie and draw us into a relationship with individuals that we are not suppose to fellowship nor associate with.

**Eph 5:**

- 6** Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these the wrath of Elohim comes upon the sons of disobedience.
- 7** Therefore do not become partakers with them.
- 8** For you were once darkness, but now *you are* light in the Master. Walk as children of light –

**2Th 2:**

- 3** Let no one deceive you in any way, because the falling away is to come first, and the man of lawlessness is to be revealed, the son of destruction,

**1Jn 3:**

- 7** Little children, let no one lead you astray. The one doing righteousness is righteous, even as He is righteous.
- 8** The one doing sin is of the devil, because the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of Elohim was manifested: to destroy the works of the devil.
- 9** Everyone having been born of Elohim does not sin, because His seed stays in him, and he is powerless to sin, because he has been born of Elohim.
- 10** In this the children of Elohim and the children of the devil are manifest: Everyone not doing righteousness is not of Elohim, neither the one not loving his brother.

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We must be on guard at all times and learn to discern, with the aid of Ruach HaKodesh, whether the lifestyle these individuals exhibit is an Elohim like or ungodly character.

**2Co 6:**

- 15** And what agreement has Messiah with Beliya'al? Or what part does a believer have with an unbeliever?

- 16 **And what union has the Dwelling Place of Elohim with idols? For you are a Dwelling Place of the living Elohim, as Elohim has said, “I shall dwell in them and walk among them, and I shall be their Elohim, and they shall be My people.”**
- 17 **Therefore, “Come out from among them and be separate, says יהוה, and do not touch what is unclean, and I shall receive you.**
- 18 **“And I shall be a Father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to Me, says יהוה the Almighty.”**

**Jas 4:**

- 7 **So then subject yourselves to Elohim. Resist the devil and he shall flee from you.**
- 8 **Draw near to Elohim and He shall draw near to you. Cleanse hands, sinners. And cleanse the hearts, you double-minded!**
- 9 **Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to dejection.**
- 10 **Humble yourselves in the sight of the Master, and He shall lift you up.**