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Lit. As Life

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Analects Quizzes:

1. What are some of the general characteristics of Manhood according to Confucius?

Some of the general characteristics of manhood according to Confucius is kindness, humanity, love, and respecting your parents (Filial piety). Confucius focused on 2 major teachings of life; Virtue and morality; The Master said, "If they will be set on virtue, there will be no practice of wickedness." (The Analects, Part 4). The Master said, "Those who are without virtue cannot abide long either in a condition of poverty and hardship or in a condition of enjoyment. The virtuous rest in virtue; the wise desire virtue." In these quotes, Confucius states how if you have the patience of virtue in your life then you will be a wise man. Only a wise man who lacks patience is wicked.

2. What are some of the characteristics that constitute a good and just Government?

Some of the characteristics that constitute a good and just government is a government that is supposed to be based for the people and by the people! A government that is responsive and shows equity towards individuals in their society. The Master said, "I do not know. He who knew its meaning would find it as easy to govern the kingdom as to look on this" Signifying how the government should support the individuals in the society.

3. What is the relationship between the Individual and Society?

Some of the characteristics that constitute a good and just Government records in individuals who make up the society how they act and uphold themselves in society. Society sets the ground rules for individuals; the individuals are a part of society. The way you participate in society is the way you viewed by the individual in society. Many traditions and backgrounds that customs of how each act and should interact with one another. Society does not exist alone individuals make society. The Master said, "What I do not wish men to do to me, I also wish not to do to men." Stating how what you do to others in society you should not want to be done to you.

4. The Role of Shame; does shame only pertain to an individual or the family and government? Explain

Confucius refers to the role of shame as the name you carry for yourself. Many examples of shame in Analects revolve around concerns that one's words and one's deeds will not be in truthfulness. Confucius advises readers to monitor the relationship between others' words and others' deeds to insure trustworthiness amongst others and towards the family. Filial piety means to respect your parents. The article states, The Master said, "What does the Shu-ching say of filial piety?-'You are final, you discharge your brotherly duties. These qualities are displayed in government.' This then also constitutes the exercise of government. Why must there be THAT-making one be in the government?" (The Analects, Part 2). He also states The Master said, "I do not know how a man without truthfulness is to get on. How can a large carriage be made to go without the crossbar for yoking the oxen to or a small carriage without the arrangement for yoking the horses?". (The Analects, Part 2). Confucius is stating how he doesn't understand a person who lacks the truth can live with themselves. Replacing the truth with lies and being honorable.

5. Why is it important to follow one's action rather than what they say?

It's important to follow a person's actions rather than what they say because their actions can be used to delegate what a person is saying. For example, I can tell you I'm going to stop smoking but until I put the cigarette down my words mean absolutely nothing. My body language and what I am taking part in are showing you otherwise, therefore it is best to follow a person's actions than their words. The Master said, "When good order prevailed in his country, Ning Wu acted the part of a wise man. When his country was in disorder, he acted the part of a stupid man. Others may equal his wisdom, but they cannot equal his stupidity." Confucius states how acting accordingly instead of stooping to someone level is the way towards stupidity. The actions of how you act outweigh what you may say.