

The Poem of the Soul: The Wrong Path
(Anne-Francois-Louis Janmot, 1814-1892)



12 Time



The hours of a wise man are lengthened by his ideas as those of a fool are by his passions. The time of the one is long, because he does not know what to do with it; as is that of the other, because he distinguishes every moment of it with useful or amusing thoughts, or in other words, because the one is always wishing it away, and the other always enjoying it.

How different is the view of past life, in the man who is grown old in knowledge and wisdom, from that of him who is grown in ignorance and folly? The latter is like the owner of a barren country, that fills his eye with the prospect of naked hills and plains, which produce nothing either profitable or ornamental; the other beholds¹ a beautiful and spacious landscape, divided into delightful gardens, green meadows, fruitful fields, and can scarcely cast his eye upon² a single spot of his possessions, that is not covered with some beautiful plant or flower.

➤ Joseph Addison (1672-1719):
On the Idea of Time ★

Comprehension

- 🍁 Who was “the one?” Was it the wise man or the fool?
- 🍁 What did Addison analogize a person’s past life to?

1. behold [bi'hould] (v.) to perceive through sight 注視
2. cast one’s eye upon: to direct attention to something or someone
視線落在……



Wanderer Above the Sea of Fog (Caspar David Friedrich, 1774-1840)

13 Direction



I find the great thing in this world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving: To reach the port of heaven, we must sail sometimes with the wind¹ and sometimes against it—but we must sail, and not drift², nor lie at anchor³.

➤ Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809-1894) ★

| 4 Courage



Courage takes many forms. There is physical courage; there is moral⁴ courage. Then there is a still higher type of courage—the courage to brave pain, to live with⁵ it, to never let others know of it and to still find joy in life; to wake up in the morning with an enthusiasm⁶ for the day ahead.

➤ Howard Cosell (1918-1995) ★

Comprehension

- 🍁 *What did Oliver Holmes think would be the most important thing in this world?*
- 🍂 *What does the word “sail” imply?*
- 🌿 *What is an example of physical and moral courage?*

1. with the wind: in the direction of the wind 順風
2. drift [drɪft] (v.) (for an object) to go along with water or air; (for a person) to have no special intentions or directions 漂流
3. anchor ['æŋkə] (n.) a piece of heavy metal that is lowered to the bottom of the sea, lake etc. to prevent a ship or boat moving 錨
4. moral ['mɔ:rl] (a.) relating to the social standards of right and wrong 道德的
5. to live with: to put up with a difficult situation, accept or come to terms with, tolerate or accommodate oneself to 接受；忍受
6. enthusiasm [ɪn'θu:ziæzəm] (n.) strong excitement of feeling 熱衷；熱忱

15 The Englishman



Let me come to the point boldly: what governs the Englishman is his inner atmosphere, the weather in his soul. It is nothing particularly spiritual or mysterious. When he has taken his exercise and is drinking his tea or his beer and lighting his pipe; when, in his garden or by his fire, he sprawls¹ in an aggressively² comfortable chair; when, well-washed and well-brushed, he resolutely³ turned in church to the east and recites the Creed⁴ (with genuflections⁵, if he likes genuflections) without in the least implying that he believes one word of it; when he hears or sings the



The Suitor (Walter-Dendy Sadler, 1854-1923)

most crudely sentimental and thinnest of popular songs, unmoved but not disgusted; when he makes up his mind who is his best friend or his favorite poet; when he adopts a party or a sweetheart; when he is hunting or shooting or boating, or striding⁶ through the fields; when he is choosing his clothes or his profession—never is it a precise reason, or purpose, or outer fact that determines him; it is always the atmosphere of his inner man.

↗ George Santayana (1863-1952):
Soliloquies⁷ in England ★

Comprehension

🍁 What do you think creates a person's "inner atmosphere?"

1. sprawl [sprɔ:l] (v.) to sit or lie with one's arms and legs spread out
四肢攤開
2. aggressively [ə'gresɪvli] (adv.) extremely 極度地
3. resolutely ['rezəlu:tli] (adv.) marked by determination 堅決地
4. Creed [kri:d] (n.) the Apostles' Creed; a statement of the essential beliefs of a religious faith 使徒信條
5. genuflexion [ˌdʒɛnʃʊ'flekʃən] (n.) the act of bending one's knees, especially in worship or reverence 屈膝膜拜
6. stride [straɪd] (v.) to walk with big, long steps 跨大步走
7. soliloquy [sə'lɪləkwɪ] (n.) the act of talking to one's self, especially in a play 獨白