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## INTEGRITY

(in-teg'-ri-ti) (tom, tummah): The translation of tom, "simplicity," "soundness," "completeness," rendered also "upright," "perfection." It is translated "integrity" (Gen 20:5-6; 1 Kings 9:4; Ps 7:8; 25:21; 26:1,11; 41:12; 78:72; Prov 19:1; 20:7), in all which places it seems to carry the meaning of simplicity, or sincerity of heart and intention, truthfulness, uprightness. In the plural (tumim) it is one of the words on the breastplate of the high priest (Ex 28:30; Deut 33:8; Ezra 2:63; Neh 7:65), one of the sacred lots, indicating, perhaps, "innocence" or "integrity" See URIM AND THUMMIM. Another word translated "integrity" is tummah, from tamam, "to complete," "be upright," "perfect," only in Job 2:3,9; 27:5; 31:6; Prov 11:3.

The word "integrity" does not occur in the New Testament, but its equivalents may be seen in "sincerity," "truth," the "pure heart," the "single eye," etc. In the above sense of simplicity of intention it is equivalent to being honest, sincere, genuine, and is fundamental to true character.

W. L. WALKER

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**Let us look and see how the word “INTEGRITY” is used in the Scriptures from the NIV.**

Deut 9:5

5 It is not because of your righteousness or your integrity that you are going in to take possession of their land; but on account of the wickedness of

these nations, the LORD your God will drive them out before you, to accomplish what he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

1 Kings 9:4-7

4 **"As for you, if you walk before me in integrity of heart and uprightness,** as David your father did, and do all I command and observe my decrees and laws,

1 Chron 29:17

17 **I know, my God, that you test the heart and are pleased with integrity.** All these things have I given willingly and with honest intent. And now I have seen with joy how willingly your people who are here have given to you.

Neh 7:2

2 I put in charge of Jerusalem my brother Hanani, along with Hananiah the commander of the citadel, **because he was a man of integrity and feared God more than most men do.**

❖ **Job was a great example of a man with “integrity.”**

Job 2:3

3 Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil. **And he still maintains his integrity, though you incited me against him to ruin him without any reason."**

Job 2:9

9 His wife said to him, **"Are you still holding on to your integrity? Curse God and die!"**

Job 6:29. JOB SAID TO HIS FRIENDS

29 Relent, do not be unjust; reconsider, for **my integrity is at stake.**

Job 27:5-6

5 I will never admit you are in the right; till I die, **I will not deny my integrity.**

6 I will maintain my righteousness and never let go of it; my conscience will not reproach me as long as I live.

❖ **David the King and great Psalmist said:**

Ps 25:21

21 **May integrity and uprightness protect me**, because my hope is in you.

Ps 41:12

12 **In my integrity you uphold me and set me in your presence forever.**

Ps 78:72

72 **And David shepherded them with integrity of heart**; with skillful hands he led them.

❖ **Proverbs is another book of wisdom that has a great deal to say regarding “integrity.”**

Prov 10:9

9 **The man of integrity walks securely**, but he who takes crooked paths will be found out.

Prov 11:3

3 **The integrity of the upright guides them**, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity.

Prov 13:6

6 **Righteousness guards the man of integrity**, but wickedness overthrows the sinner.

Prov 29:10

10 **Bloodthirsty men hate a man of integrity and seek to kill the upright.**

❖ **Jesus demonstrated “integrity” before the people of His day.**

Mark 12:14

14 They came to him and said, "**Teacher, we know you are a man of integrity.** You aren't swayed by men, because you pay no attention to who

they are; but you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?

❖ **The apostle Paul states that “integrity” can be shown.**

Titus 2:7-8

7 In everything set them an example by doing what is good. **In your teaching show integrity, seriousness,**

**8 and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.**

NIV

❖ **Peter teaches us how to develop “integrity.”**

2 Peter 1:5-10

5 But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge,

6 to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness,

7 to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love.

8 For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.

10 Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble;

NKJV

**There are many examples of “integrity in the Scriptures.**

**✚ INTEGRITY WILL NOT ALLOW YOU TO HURT THE ONE YOU LOVE.**

Matt 1:19-20

19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly.

20 But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.

**✚ GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES SHOULD BE RECONIZED WITH INTEGRITY.**

Dan 6:4-5

4 So the governors and satraps sought to find some charge against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find no charge or fault, because he was faithful; nor was there any error or fault found in him.

5 Then these men said, "We shall not find any charge against this Daniel unless we find it against him concerning the law of his God."

NKJV

**✚ JOSEPH TEACHES US THAT YOU CAN MAINTAIN INTEGRITY WITH THE OPPOSITE SEX.**

Gen 39:8-12

8 But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Look, my master does not know what is with me in the house, and he has committed all that he has to my hand.

9 There is no one greater in this house than I, nor has he kept back anything from me but you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?"

10 So it was, as she spoke to Joseph day by day, that he did not heed her, to lie with her or to be with her.

11 But it happened about this time, when Joseph went into the house to do his work, and none of the men of the house was inside,

12 that she caught him by his garment, saying, "Lie with me." But he left his garment in her hand, and fled and ran outside.

NKJV

## **✚ A BIBLICAL EXAMPLE OF NOT ALLOWING MONEY TO SWAY ONE'S INTEGRITY.**

**Acts 8:18-23**

**18 And when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money,**

**19 saying, "Give me this power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit."**

**20 But Peter said to him, "Your money perish with you, because you thought that the gift of God could be purchased with money!**

**21 You have neither part nor portion in this matter, for your heart is not right in the sight of God.**

**22 Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you.**

**23 For I see that you are poisoned by bitterness and bound by iniquity."**  
NKJV

## **❖ AT THE END OF YOUR LIFE, SEEK TO HAVE A TESTIMONY OF INTEGRITY LIKE SAMUEL, THE PROPHET AND PRIEST.**

**1 Sam 12:3-5**

**3 Here I am. Witness against me before the LORD and before His anointed: Whose ox have I taken, or whose donkey have I taken, or whom have I cheated? Whom have I oppressed, or from whose hand**

**have I received any bribe with which to blind my eyes? I will restore it to you."**

**4 And they said," You have not cheated us or oppressed us, nor have you taken anything from any man's hand."**

**5 Then he said to them, "The LORD is witness against you, and His anointed is witness this day, that you have not found anything in my hand." And they answered, "He is witness." NKJV**