

WELCOME!

WE ARE PLEASED YOU ARE HERE

TODAY'S SERMON:

SELF-RELIANCE

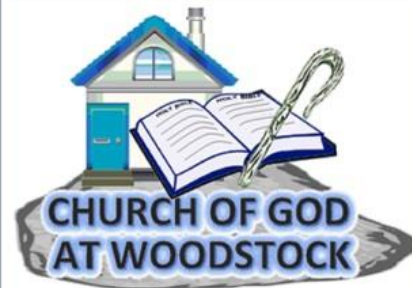


TRUTH ON THE
WEB MINISTRIES

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EPH 6:17 AND TAKE...THE SWORD OF THE
SPIRIT WHICH IS THE WORD OF GOD

A CHURCH OF GOD IN WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS





Genesis 2:14

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to **work** it and keep it.

English Standard Version

Romans 12:11

Work hard and do not be lazy. Serve the Lord with a heart full of devotion.

Good New Translation

SELF-RELIANCE

Proverbs 6:6

Go to the ant, thou sluggard; **consider her ways, and be wise:**

Galatians 6:4–5

But let every man **prove his own work**, and then shall he have rejoicing **in himself alone**, and not in another. For **every man shall bear his own burden.**

Ephesians 4:28

Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him **labour, working with his hands** the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.

2 Thessalonians 3:10

For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that **if any would not work, neither should he eat.**



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SELF-RELIANCE



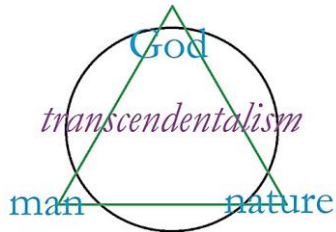
Jeremiah 17:5–6

Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that **trusteth in man**, and **maketh flesh his arm**, and whose heart **departeth from the LORD**. For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited.

The word 'SELF-RELIANCE' is written in large, bold, blue capital letters with a thick black outline. The background is a close-up photograph of rough, brown and grey rocks.

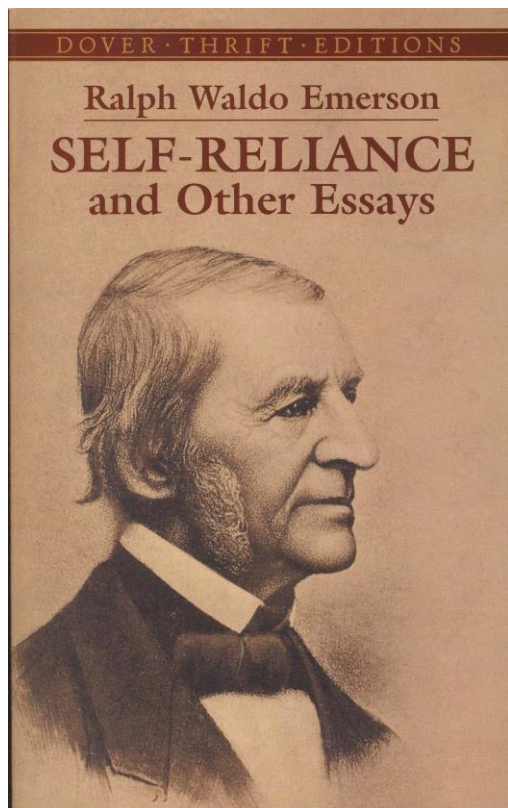
Transcendentalism

19th-century movement of writers and philosophers in New England who were loosely bound together by adherence to an idealistic system of thought based on a belief in the essential unity of all creation, the innate goodness of humanity, and the supremacy of insight over logic and experience for the revelation of the deepest truths.



Encyclopedia Britannica, online version

SELF-RELIANCE



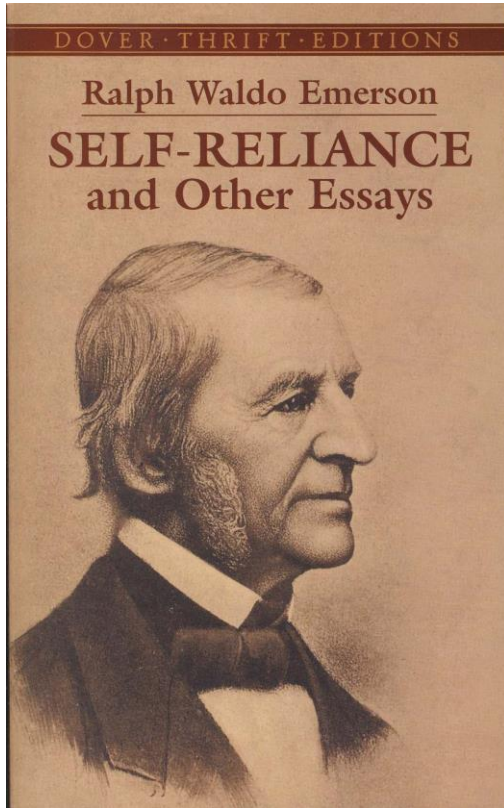
“Once you make a decision, the universe conspires to make it happen.”

“It is easy to live for others, everybody does. I call on you to live for yourself.”

“Shallow men believe in luck or in circumstance. Strong men believe in cause and effect.”

“Trust thyself: every heart vibrates to that iron string”

SELF-RELIANCE



“What you do speaks so loudly that I cannot hear what you say.”

Five examples of self-reliance

- Accepting yourself and being your own best friend. Learning and appreciating your own character strengths is very important in being able to support yourself as you go through life.
- Inner confidence.
- Making your own decisions.
- Recognize and manage dependence.
- Accept yourself for who you are.





Numbers 20:8a

Take the rod, and gather thou the assembly together, thou, and Aaron thy brother, and **spea** ye unto the rock before their eyes; and it shall give forth his water,

Numbers 20:10–11a

And **Moses** and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock, and he said unto them, **Hear now, ye rebels; must we fetch you water out of this rock?** And Moses lifted up his hand, and with his rod he **smote** the rock twice: and the water came out abundantly

A close-up photograph of a rough, textured rock surface with various shades of brown, tan, and grey.

SELF-RELIANCE



1 Corinthians 4:4,7

4:4 For **I know nothing by myself**; yet am I not hereby justified: but he that judgeth me is the Lord.

4:7 For **who maketh thee to differ from another?** and what hast thou that thou **didst not receive?** now if thou didst receive it, **why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?**

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John 8:28

Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that **I do nothing of myself**; but **as my Father** hath taught me, I speak these things.

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John 17:6–9

I have manifested **thy** name unto the men which **thou** gavest me out of the world: **thine** they were, and **thou** gavest them me; and they have kept **thy** word. Now they have known that all things whatsoever **thou** hast given me are of **thee**. For I have given unto them the words which **thou** gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from **thee**, and they have believed that **thou** didst send me. I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which **thou** hast given me; for they are **thine**.

SELF-RELIANCE



John 15:5

I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for **without me ye can do nothing.**

SELF-RELIANCE



Micah 6:6–8

Wherewith shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before the high God? shall I come before him with **burnt offerings**, with **calves of a year old**? Will the LORD be pleased with **thousands of rams**, or with **ten thousands of rivers of oil**? shall I give my **firstborn** for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and **to walk humbly with thy God**?

SELF-RELIANCE





James 4:6

But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, **God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.**

Revelation 3:17–18

Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and **knowest not** that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, **that thou mayest see.**

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Acts 3:6

Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: **In the name of Jesus Christ** of Nazareth rise up and walk.

Acts 3:12–13a

And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk? **The God** of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, **hath glorified his Son Jesus;**

SELF-RELIANCE





Jonathan Edwards wrote in the 1730's.

He called pride "the worst viper that is in the heart" and the greatest "disturber of the soul's peace and sweet communion with Christ." He ranked pride as the most difficult sin to root out, and "the most hidden, secret, and deceitful of all lusts."

SELF-RELIANCE



- Do I feel superior to others instead of feeling humbled before God?
 - For example, do I look with contempt at those who I think are 'lazy' and assume they need to work harder to get out of their misery?
 - More likely they would be better served by the same spirit that inhabited Job – to either give them the grace to endure or the ability to rise above as the Lord's will would be.
 - For example, do I look in my heart and find a sense of superiority over others, rather than a deep sense of humility before God, that would show a pocket of pride.

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- Do I find pleasure in people noticing me, rather than in people exalting in Christ?
 - For example, leaving a conversation and thinking, I really told that story well. I made them laugh, instead of, Oh Lord, did I leave that conversation exalting you?
- Do I become jealous when others are noticed more than me?

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- Am I more aware of someone else's sinfulness than my own? Whose sinfulness are you the most aware of?
- We all should be more keenly aware of our own sin than the sin of others.
- Am I prone to believe the best about myself and the worst about others.

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- Do I talk about what exalts me instead of talking about what helps others?
- Am I angry about my rights and what I think I deserve?
- Do I hate sin because it makes me look bad, not because it dishonors Christ?

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“An unguarded strength is a double weakness”
Oswald Chambers

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Genesis 3:17–19

And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: **cursed is the ground for thy sake**; in **sorrow** shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the **sweat of thy face** shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and **unto dust shalt thou return**.

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Ecclesiastes 1:13–15

And I gave my heart to seek and search out by wisdom concerning all things that are done under heaven: this sore travail hath God given to the sons of man to be exercised therewith. I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and, behold, all is vanity and vexation of spirit. **That which is crooked cannot be made straight: and that which is wanting cannot be numbered.**

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Romans 8:37–39

Nay, **in all these things** we are more than **conquerors through him that loved us**. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from **the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord**.

SELF-RELIANCE



1 John 2:15–17

Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, **the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life**, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that **doeth the will of God** abideth for ever.

1 John 3:23

And this is his commandment, That we should **believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another**, as he gave us commandment.

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THANK YOU!

ENJOY THE REST
OF THE SABBATH



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