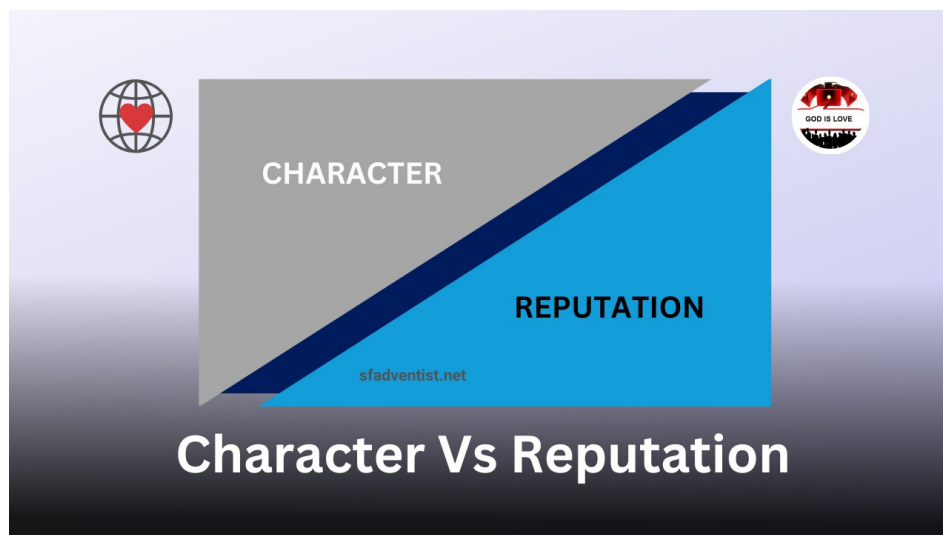


# Godly Character In The Midst Of Stained Reputation: Jesus' Example



**Jesus came to our world to rebuild human character. He developed in His life the traits He desired His followers to have through His power.**

**He voluntarily had made Himself of no reputation. The Son of God had left His riches, honour and glory and became one of us.**

**Christ was mocked and denied throughout His life. Though His status and claims were rejected, His conduct displayed His godly character.**

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## **Exemplifying the character of Him who dwells in unapproachable light**

By dwelling with us, the Son of God reveals the character God both to people and to angels. He was the Word of God:

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

*And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory [character],*

*the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. John 1:1, 14.*

In Jesus' prayer for His disciples He says:

*I have declared unto them Thy name (character)—merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth;*

*that the love wherewith Thou hast loved Me may be in them, and I in them. John 17:26, Exodus 34:6.*

*Christ, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God;*

*But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men;*

*And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled himself;*

*and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Philippians 2:6–8.*

*But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities;*

*the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. Isaiah 53:6.*

Thus the [mystery of God's redeeming love](#) is the theme into which even *angels desire to look*. 1 Peter 1:12.

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## **True character revealed in the conduct**

Though being Leader in the heavenly courts, He took the lowest place on earth.

*He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief;*

*and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Isaiah 53:3.*

It was the purity of Jesus' life that provoked the wrath of Satan. That life was the light of the world exposing the hidden corruption in people's hearts.

Furthermore, His holiness stirred up against Him the passions of false-hearted professors of godliness.

Jesus came not with the wealth and honours of the earth. He humbled Himself voluntarily and became a servant.

He did everything in His life for the purpose of benefiting others.

He possessed an absolute right to all things. But He gave himself to a life of poverty *and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross*. Philippians 2:8.

Thus He prepared the way for humans to become rich and heirs of heavenly treasure with Him.

*To him that overcomes will I grant to sit with Me in my throne;*

*even as I also overcame, and Am set down with my Father in His throne. Revelation 3:21.*

Thus His entire life and self-sacrificing love on the cross reveals His character.

So, all whose hearts were open to divine illumination would recognize in Him *the Only-begotten of the Father*.

God gave His Son up to a life of humiliation and reproach.

Thus to humans is granted probation in which to mould their character after the Divine model.

## **Rejecting Him as the One sent from God**

Christ had done the very work which prophecy was foretold that the Messiah would do.

Nevertheless, He knew He would not be accepted as the Anointed of God.

The religious leaders expected far greater blessings from the Messiah:

- Giving health and riches to all.
- Liberating them from their oppressors and exalting them to power and honor.

The prejudice of the Pharisees had its root in their hearts. They cherished a selfish spirit and hopes.

Thus they did not find corresponding answers in His work of benevolence and care for others.

People opened their hearts to unbelief and chose not to receive His message of divine truth:

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He hath anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor;*

*He hath sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind; to set at liberty them that are bruised;*

*This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears. But, no prophet is accepted in his own country.* Luke 4:18, 21, 24.

Jesus did not try to explain the:

- Mystery of His birth.
- Questions about His coming down from heaven.
- Noticeable miracles of His life.

Nevertheless, He firmly said:

*I can of my own self do nothing; For the works which the Father hath given Me to finish, the same works I do;*

*They bear witness of Me, that the Father hath sent Me.* John 5:30, 36.

But the people didn't get this statement of Divine truth.

For more, watch the video—[How Did People React To Jesus Declaring Himself The Messiah?](#)

They didn't understand how He can claim to be the *Sent of God*, and yet refuses to be their king.

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## Conclusion

Jesus' godly character was revealed by His conduct throughout His entire life.

He became the perfect example of what we should do and be in Him through His grace.

Christ was mocked and denied as the One sent from God and His claim being the Messiah was rejected.

Peoples misconception and actions were caused by their selfish desires and hopes.

## References:

1. RH, May, 1900; DA 341, 387—[The Ellen G. White Estate](#)
2. The Bible: King James Version

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- **What resonated with you most in this post, and why?**
- **How do you understand the difference between one's character and reputation? Share more about it.**
- **How do you apply Bible teachings about godly christian character to your life today?**
- **Reach out if you need more information on this topic.**

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