RCC\_Confucianism\_2.5 - Homework

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Sayings by Lao Tse and Confucius

Directions: Read the quotes and answer the corresponding questions.

**Confucius**

“When people are educated, the distinction between the classes disappears.”

“Learn as if you could never have enough learning, as if you might miss something.”

“Without learning the wise become foolish; by learning the foolish become wise.”

“Knowing what one knows; knowing also what one does not know- this is knowledge.”

*1*. What does Confucius think about education and knowledge?

“As offshoots of his parents, how dare a child not respect himself.”

“Let your parents’ only reason for worry be whether you are healthy.”

“Nowadays filial piety (devotion to one’s parents) seems to mean that a man just supports his parents- he does the same for his horses and dogs. Reverence (deep respect) of a parent is what distinguishes filial piety.”

2. What is the relationship of children to their parents?

“A man may have all qualities, but if he is conceited and stingy, he is without quality.”

“One who refuses to think about future problems will soon have them falling about his ears.”

3. What characteristics are important to Confucius?

**Lao Tse**

“Be Content with what you have; rejoice in the way things are. When you realize there is nothing lacking, the whole world belongs to you.”

“Fill your bowl to the brim and it will spill. Keep sharpening your knife and it will blunt.”

4. What are the values in the quotes stated above?

“He who controls others may be powerful, but he who has mastered himself is mightier still.”

“The more laws and order are made prominent, the more thieves and robbers there will be.”

5. What does Lao Tzu think about government and laws?

“He who knows, does not speak. He who speaks, does not know.”

“Those who have knowledge, don't predict. Those who predict, don't have knowledge.”

6. How does someone exhibit their intelligence according to Lao Tzu?

“In the world there is nothing more submissive and weak than water. Yet for attacking that which is hard and strong nothing can surpass it.”

7. How can water be both submissive and strong?

**Summing Up**: How are Lao Tzu & Confucius’ views similar? How are they different?