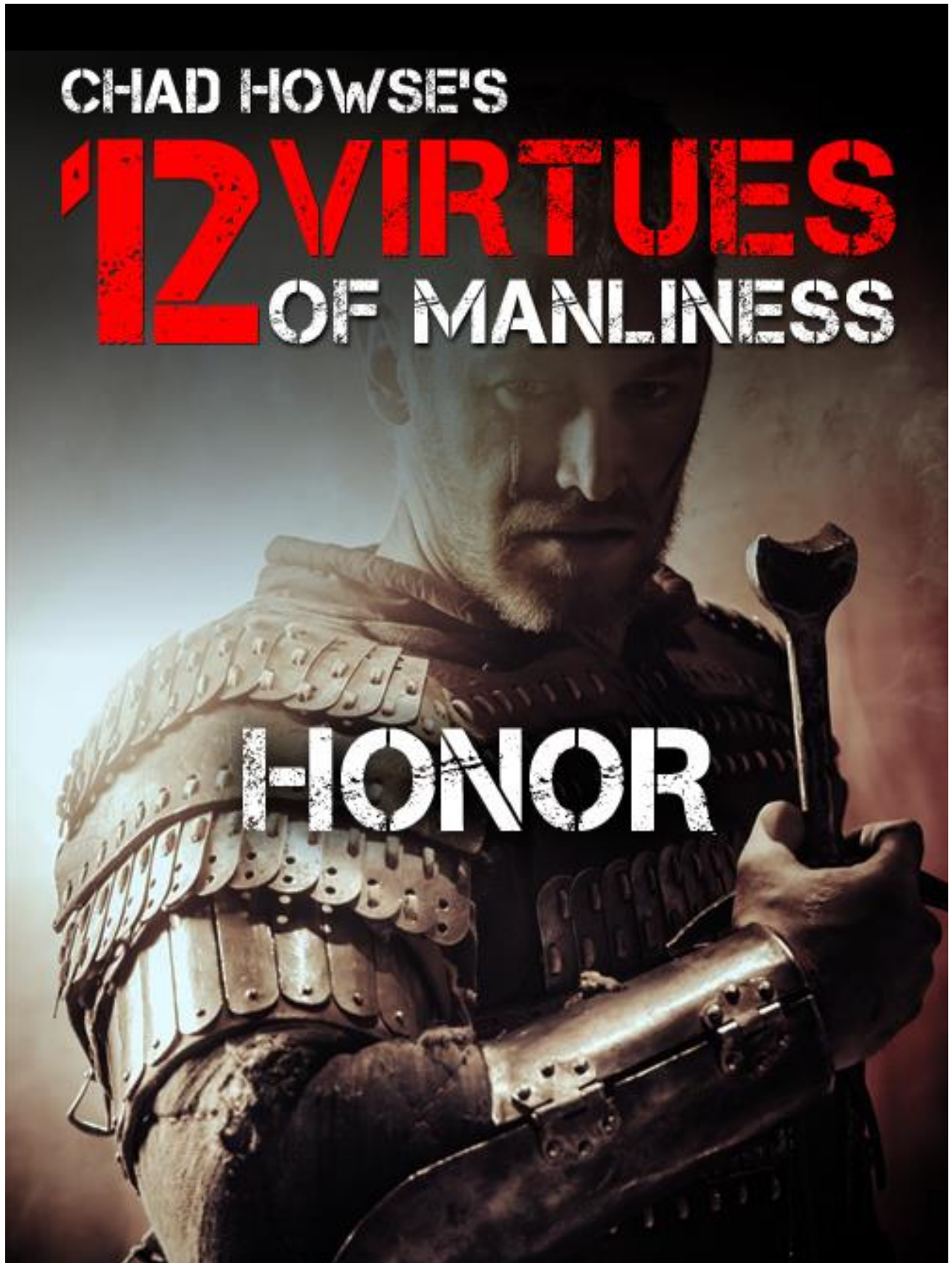


CHAD HOWSE'S

# 12 VIRTUES OF MANLINESS

HONOR



## MAN OF HONOR

Honor, we have to agree, is fleeting.

When battles were more immediate and death a more common and men more prevalent.

Honor is something we *know* but can't always define.

It's the quality that sets men apart from boys and great men apart from good men. It's one of the defining characteristics of a *man's man* even when it's tough to describe what a *man's man* is.

We've talked at length about *what it is to be a good man* and *what it is to be good at being a man*, but we haven't talked about the 'man's man', which is essentially both.

Here's the thing, and this is where we can run into a bit of trouble, is that there are men who are filled with *ample* amounts of masculine energy, and there are more feminine men.

Society, our culture, maybe even your friends and foes will say this is just who you are.

I don't buy it.

Our experiences show us who we are, they lead us down a road, and those in our lives who raised us, who influenced us at a young age shaped what kind of man we were going to become, a masculine man or a feminine man.

As a *man*, this then shapes the kind of woman we seek, the role we take in our friendships, and whether we lead or follow.

The fact is you can be whatever the hell you want to be. You just have to unleash that man within, the man's man, the fella that your lady looks at with pride and for protection. *That*, my friend, is who you are.

You're the man's man, the leader, you may already be there, you're just lacking some of the skill and raw power necessary to be him.

Keep that in mind as we move forward.

## HOW TO BE A MAN OF HONOR

There are two people, alright, 3 people that come to mind when I think of honor.

Honor is gone from politics today. It's doing what's right, what must be done, not what's popular.

You need to have your values in line to live an honorable life and to be an honorable man because what's right isn't always clear even though it is real.

Without your values and your priorities written down somewhere firm, there's no way you're going to be able to determine what's honorable.

Those 3 men are 3 men that you should study.

### 1. BELISARIUS

The book: [The Last Roman General](#)

The man: He, like Robert E. Lee, saw his duty first to his God, then to his country, then to his family. He, himself, was nowhere on that list. His actions were not done to his own benefit, even though they were great actions, and even while he won back territory after territory for the Romans, he was always seen as a threat by his emperor, and thus, he was punished.

He did what was right, not what was good for him. He wasn't rewarded for it. Honor led him, life didn't praise him. You have to separate glory and fame from being a good man, they rarely align.

### 2. ROBERT E. LEE

The book: [Clouds of Glory](#)

Robert E. Lee was offered the Generalship of the Union Army by President Lincoln when the North started the war with the South. He turned it down not because he was for slavery – that war is far more layered than the victors describe it – as he freed the slaves he was given by his wife's father within 5 years of being given them. He turned it down because he couldn't fight his countrymen.

## HONOR

You have to read about this man's life, known as the west's greatest general. He didn't drink because he loved to do so. He did what must be done. Not what would benefit him.

### 3. CHRIST

I can't talk about honor and not talk about Christ. Honor is understanding what's right and carrying that life out no matter the consequences. His was torture and death. He acted with honor even when a crown of thorns dug into his scalp and nails were jammed into his wrists, forgiving those who nailed him to the cross and ripped the skin from his back with whips.

These are 3 examples, archetypes.

John Wayne movies give us great archetypes for how to live an honorable life. It's simply doing what's right, what's just, what must be done, even if we go down because of it.

Honor Your Word, Your Parents, Your God, Your Gift

Honor is more than just something you are, it's something you give.

You honor others by being a better man and being a better man has a lot to do with honor.

Honor, however, is also something deeply rooted in being better at being a man, and can have nothing to do with 'goodness', and everything to do with being a warrior, which is why we were originally born. Men served a couple purposes, one being warriors. We're the fighters in the two sexes, and you can't have someone you're fighting alongside whom you don't trust.

The guy by your side and at your back allow you to fight with everything you have without worrying about anything other than the man in front of you trying to kill you or the beast at your 12 who'll either be your dinner or your destruction.

The man of honor won't leave his fellow warriors, his family, his friends, his peers, or even a stranger, when they need them most.

You're a man, the burden-bearer, the rock that others lean on. It ain't easy, but it's how it is and it's how it's always been.

Honor is holding yourself to a different standard than the pukes who give up, cry, whine, and wish their life was different.

## DO WHAT'S RIGHT, NOT WHAT'S EASY

*"Being a man of character dictates that you do what's right, not what's easy or what's popular or what will bring you money, fame, or security."*

What's lost in our culture is character. Few have it and fewer than that have it in the offices of those who run our nations.

Character means you're going to do what's right even if it goes against what's popular. You'll do what's right even if it doesn't bring you the money you want or the fame you crave or the "stuff" that you think will make you happy.

Be stoic in your decisions, unflinching in their direction, always pointing them in the direction of what's right and what's good even if that righteousness won't be felt in the short term.

We too often opt for the easy route today. We see the ends, what we want in the future, the money, the popularity, the stuff, and we do whatever it takes to get that stuff, compromising our character all along the way until we wake up and we have no stance, we honor nothing, we are weak beyond repair and our value is worthless to those who once depended on us.

In today's society this WILL mean going against the grain because the masses have no stance. They don't want to discuss what's black or white but always side in the grey area unless you're speaking the truth, then they'll attack you with a venom and false righteousness that wreaks of the weakness that is political correctness.

Be one of the few who stands alone but on the side of justice and truth with your actions and your words no matter what mob of idiots you face.