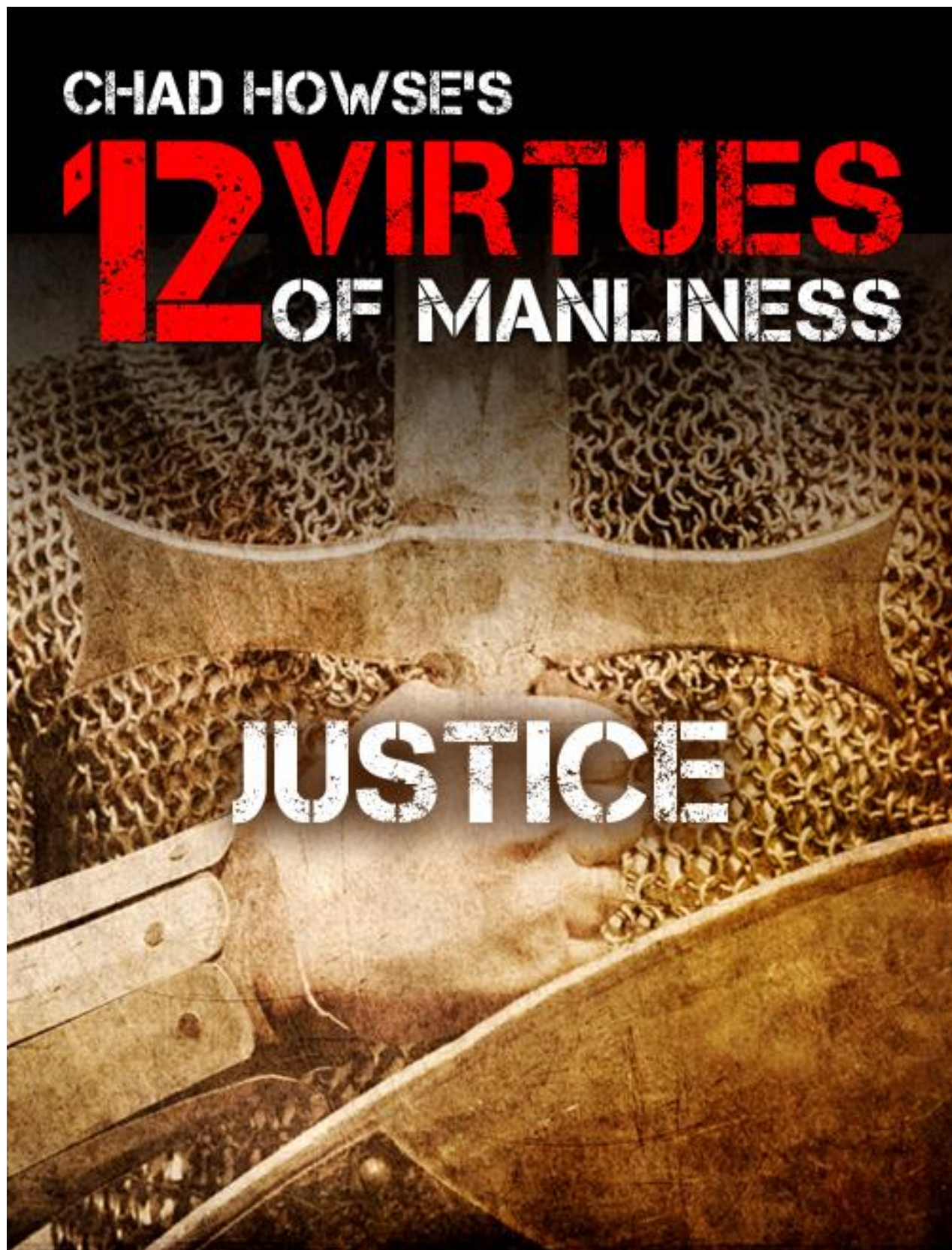


CHAD HOWSE'S

12 VIRTUES OF MANLINESS

JUSTICE



JUSTICE

“JUSTICE. Wrong none by doing injuries, or omitting the benefits that are your duty.”

Benjamin Franklin wrote that.

His view of virtues, coinciding with the ‘manly virtues’ of war, are a solid basis for our 12 virtues.

Read often.

Understanding justice is a means to clarity in a world that constantly tries to become ‘grey area’.

To see the world in all of its nuances is important, but to understand right and wrong clearly, as well as what people deserve and what they don’t, even yourself, is extremely beneficial for a man, and specifically a leader.

We’ll go through more books soon, with a broader reading list, but to understand justice you have to understand virtue.

To do so, you have to read a breadth of information from different cultures while defining specifically what *you think* justice is. For example, there are cultures on this planet that have a completely evil understanding of justice. The fact that they believe it to be good and just doesn’t make it so.

Read the Stoics, read Aristotle and the ancient Greeks, and read Proverbs.

Read things about the nature of right and wrong and justice. We’ll talk about modern men to read and read about in the near future, but the foundation of what justice is hasn’t changed in millennia.

Give your mind, attention, and energy only to *good* sources of news and entertainment.

Your view of justice can be perverted by what you pay attention to. And what you pay attention to is your priority. It’s important to be informed, but it’s just as important to inform yourself intelligently.

JUSTICE

Much of our media is trash. They focus on the trivial to ignore the underlying truth or even some of the bigger issues happening in our world. Pay attention to what's going on but seek out good sources that aren't slanted or fueled by an agenda other than reporting pertinent information and freedom.

Educate through experience, travel.

Justice is far more finite in some parts of the world where its carrying out is more necessary. Where life is more immediate, and death a constant, justice is dished out far more harshly.

Travel exposes us to both the brutal justice of nature and the different shades of justice of humans.

You have to form your own code or at least align yourself with something you can agree with.

You also, no matter where you are, be it home or in foreign lands, have to *act* on your sense of justice. It may get you in hot water, even killed, but a man stands by and acts on what he sees as unjust or just.

It's not always about you and bettering yourself. Sometimes it's simply about honor, justice, and the code you prescribe to.

Know what others are due, and yourself, not more, not less.

Know what should be handed out or held back.

If you're a boss, have a firm understanding of *your market value*, and that if your company fails, you don't take a bonus. But also know what employees are worth.

As a man, an employee, understand your worth to the company and hold yourself to that standard. If you're offered too much, understand that it's too much and do what your code determines you do. If you're offered too little, another course of action is in order.

Don't stand idly by; hold others and our institutions to a just standard.

JUSTICE

Modern politics is rife with injustice. The ruling class abides by a different rule than even the military, but especially its civilians. While politicians are to blame, citizens who ignore and even write such injustice off as 'the way things are' carry just as much blame.

Change in a republic, like that of America, comes from an informed citizenry.

It's the same for any nation where a vote counts. To be informed is step 1. To take action on said information is step 2.

Be just, don't just understand what justice is.

Carry it out.

GIVE

In my own mind I won the birth lottery.

I wasn't born into wealth in comparison to most North Americans, but in comparison to the rest of the world if you're earning over 30k a year you're in the 1%.

Growing up, my family was in or near that 1%.

I did, however, win the birth lottery when it comes to parents.

I won the birth lottery when it comes to the nation and the town I was born into.

I could go down the list, the point is to rationalize your view on how you've been blessed in life.

To know you've been blessed is to understand that it's a gift, in part. And gifts can be paid forward.

One aspect of justice that we didn't cover yesterday was the concept of giving or tithing. It's justice in that you have been blessed if you think about your life in the right way, and as a leader it's your duty to pay it forward.

Tithing is easy, giving 10% of your income to a charity, a church, something that does someone some good besides yourself.

But you can also tithe with your time. You can become a big brother, you can volunteer, you can give the most precious commodity there is on this planet to someone else.

That's the challenge this month:

GIVE.

I donate to a company called Plan. Ideally you want a charity that gives 78% or more to the actual people they're trying to help. Sponsoring a couple kids is a great way to get started. Just don't give to the Clinton Foundation – they're at about 6% or 10%, depending on which report you believe.

You can also schedule some time to *give justice back*. Help out with your church or at a soup kitchen.

This tribe is made up of strong men. There are warriors here, leaders in the community, ambitious entrepreneurs and so forth. If we can also become givers, that would be an amazing thing.

JUSTICE

Now, I know a lot of you probably blow me out of the water with the giving, so let me know what you're doing. It's inspiring to hear about stuff like this.

Email me at chad@chadhowsefitness.com (make sure A2A or 12 is in the subject, that way I'll read it right away).