

Adventurous Judas/Matthias

The following eight traits and behaviors are clues to the presence of the Adventurous Judas/Matthias personality style and characteristics. A person who has a strong Adventurous tendency will demonstrate more of these behaviors more intensely than someone who has relatively less of this style.

1. **Nonconformity:** Men and women who have the Adventurous personality style live by their own internal code of values. They are not strongly influenced by other people or by the norms of society.
2. **Challenge:** To live is to dare. Adventurers love the thrill of risk and routinely engage in high-risk activities.
3. **Mutual Independence:** They do not worry too much about others, for they expect each human being to be responsible for him- or herself.
4. **Persuasiveness:** They are silver-tongued, gifted in the art of winning friends and influencing people.
5. **Wanderlust:** They love to keep moving. They settle down only to have the urge to pick up and go, explore, move out, move on. They do not worry about finding work, and live well by their talents, skills, and ingenuity.
6. **Wild Oats:** In their childhood and adolescence, people with the Adventurous personality style were usually high-spirited hell-raisers and mischief-makers.
7. **True Grit:** They are courageous, and physically bold, and tough. They will stand up to anyone who dares to take advantage of them.
8. **No Regrets:** Adventurers live in the present. They do not feel guilty about the past or anxious about the future. Life is meant to be experienced now.

The Adventurous Judas/Matthias in Action

Adventurous people live on the edge. They love the thrill of high-risk activity and believe that things will always work out. They live in the present and are governed by feelings, not logic. They need thrilling challenge the way most people need food and shelter. Whether in sports, in their careers, in their sex lives, in the stock market, or at the gambling tables, fulfilling their thrill quotient is the *raison d'être* for all levels of Adventurers. How they do it is key. A little of the Adventurous personality style goes a long way. With some of it a person can often build a meaningful, certainly interesting life. A predominance of this style can be a problem, because then these individuals may not sufficiently calculate their risks.

The daily sameness of a 9-to-5 job can be hard on Adventurous people. However, when their jobs are exciting and highly stimulating, they love the challenge and give a high-quality performance. They appreciate newness and are not loath to undertake a difficult or dangerous project, but routine sends them flying.

Predominantly Adventurous people are not motivated toward settling down with one person. They are drawn to people like themselves, who like action and excitement and who are highly sexual. They don't tolerate relationships well when the fire dies or the

newness fades. They operate best in relationships with partners who are independent and do not begrudge them their freedom.

Adventurous people as they grow older may become depressed that they can no longer keep up with younger people or that younger people are no longer so attracted to them. Learning to think about the future, and to consider where they will be in five, ten, or fifteen years, can help them forestall this otherwise inevitable letdown.

Issues of the Adventurous Judas/Matthias

Burnout and betrayal are the two primary issues of the Adventurous Judas/Matthias personality type. As they age they encounter more difficulty with their adventurousness either through inability to compete and perform or inappropriate adventures that frequently cause them to have trouble with authorities or those they love and may lead to depression, destitution, disgrace, disability, or death. They have a tendency to betray themselves and others in their passion or lust for adventure.

Scripture for the Adventurous Judas/Matthias

Being fighters by nature they can relate to the ultimate personality of a fighter, which was Peter even though their method of fighting is different since it may involve manipulation or even deception in extreme cases. This is why Peter can say with authority in his book of 1st Peter in chapter 4 verses 1-6 when he writes: ¹So then, since Christ suffered physical pain, you must arm yourselves with the same attitude he had, and be ready to suffer, too. For if you are willing to suffer for Christ, you have decided to stop sinning. ²And you won't spend the rest of your life chasing after evil desires, but you will be anxious to do the will of God. ³You have had enough in the past of the evil things that godless people enjoy—their immorality and lust, their feasting and drunkenness and wild parties, and their terrible worship of idols.

⁴Of course, your former friends are very surprised when you no longer join them in the wicked things they do, and they say evil things about you. ⁵But just remember that they will have to face God, who will judge everyone, both the living and the dead. ⁶That is why the Good News was preached even to those who have died—so that although their bodies were punished with death, they could still live in the spirit as God does.

What he is saying in this passage is that Adventurous Judas/Matthias personalities must literally have a change of heart. They must do a 180 and go in the opposite direction. Their life can still be an adventure but an adventure for Christ. This will be more of an adventure they even they can imagine. God knows their heart and can give them a new one. Therefore Judas becomes Mathias and his lust for adventure becomes a desire for God.

Desires

IS IT OK TO WANT SOMETHING?

1 KINGS 3:5; PROVERBS 13:12

God created desire within us as a means of expressing ourselves. Desire is good and healthy if directed toward the proper object of desire: that which is good and right and God honoring.

PSALM 73:25; ISAIAH 26:8; JEREMIAH 29:13

Our greatest desire should be to seek after God.

PHILIPPIANS 4:8

Desiring sin is always wrong. Make sure the object of your desire is good, consistent with God's Word, and not harmful to others.

HOW DO I RESIST EVIL DESIRES?

JAMES 3:13

Keep yourself busy.

MATTHEW 6:13

Pray about it.

2 CHRONICLES 34:33

Take away the source of temptation.

COLOSSIANS 3:2; PROVERBS 15:22

Find a person willing to help you.

CAN GOD HELP ME CHANGE THE DESIRES WITHIN MY HEART? HOW?

ROMANS 7:5-6

When we commit our life to God, he gives us a new heart, a new nature, along with a new desire to please him.

EZRA 1:5

God stirs our hearts with right desires. It is up to us to act on them.

Promise from God: Ezekiel 36:26

²⁶And I will give you a new heart with new and right desires, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony heart of sin and give you a new, obedient heart. ²⁷And I will put my Spirit in you so you will obey my laws and do whatever I command.

Accountability

HOW DO I BECOME MORE ACCOUNTABLE?

PSALM 1:1; PROVERBS 27:6

To become more accountable, follow God's commands as outlined in his Word, the Bible. And choose wise friends to whom you can feel free to give an account of yourself.

PROVERBS 12:15

Good advisers keep us from actions that can hurt us.

HOW CAN WE CHOOSE PEOPLE TO HOLD US ACCOUNTABLE?

1 KINGS 12:8-11

Friends are not always the best advisers, especially if their counsel is not consistent with God's Word.

HOW CAN I EFFECTIVELY HOLD SOMEONE ELSE ACCOUNTABLE?

EXODUS 18:21-24; TITUS 1:6-9

If we are going to minister to others by holding them accountable, we must be wise, honest, godly, and trustworthy.

DOES GOD REALLY HOLD US ACCOUNTABLE FOR ALL OUR ACTIONS?

ECCLESIASTES 11:9

Enjoy life, but stay within God's guidelines. God will hold us accountable for everything we do, and who wants to explain ungodliness to a holy God on the Day of Judgment?

JEREMIAH 23:24

What you withhold from another often bursts into full view at a later time. So why not seek advice now? Besides, God knows all the secrets in your heart.

Promise from God: Psalm 119:9, 66

⁹ How can a young person stay pure?

By obeying your word and following its rules.

⁶⁶ I believe in your commands;

now teach me good judgment and knowledge.

The Adventurous Judas/Matthias' Role in God's Kingdom

To be used of God they must be sold out for God. When they are it is quite an adventure and unbelievably exciting. When God changes an Adventurous person's heart the sky is the limit of what they can do under God's leading for the kingdom of Heaven. Judas becomes Matthias. Judas dies and literally God replaces him with Matthias with a role of the dice, something every adventurous person can relate to. In the Old Testament Jacob becomes Israel. His name is changed after wrestling with God or more specifically an angel of God. If you want to better understand the adventure of living for God read Jacob's story.

Jacob

Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are among the most significant people in the Old Testament. It is important to realize that this significance is not based upon their personal characters, but upon the character of God. They were all men who earned the grudging respect and even fear of their peers; they were wealthy and powerful, and yet each was capable of lying, deceit, and selfishness. They were not the perfect heroes we might have expected; instead, they were just like us, trying to please God, but often falling short.

Jacob was the third link in God's plan to start a nation from Abraham. The success of that plan was more often in spite of than because of Jacob's life. Before Jacob was born, God promised that his plan would be worked out through Jacob and not his twin brother, Esau. Although Jacob's methods were not always respectable, his skill, determination, and patience have to be admired. As we follow him from birth to death, we are able to see God's work.

Jacob's life had four stages, each marked by a personal encounter with God. In the first stage, Jacob lived up to his name, which means, "he grasps the heel" (figuratively, "he deceives"). He grabbed Esau's heel at birth, and by the time he fled from home, he had also grabbed his brother's birthright and blessing. During his flight, God first appeared to him. Not only did God confirm to Jacob his blessing, but also he awakened in Jacob a personal knowledge of

himself. In the second stage, Jacob experienced life from the other side, being manipulated and deceived by Laban. But there is a curious change: The Jacob of stage one would simply have left Laban, whereas the Jacob of stage two, after deciding to leave, waited six years for God's permission. In the third stage, Jacob was in a new role as grabber. This time, by the Jordan River, he grabbed on to God and wouldn't let go. He realized his dependence on the God who had continued to bless him. His relationship to God became essential to his life, and his name was changed to Israel, "he struggles with God." Jacob's last stage of life was to *be* grabbed—God achieved a firm hold on him. In responding to Joseph's invitation to come to Egypt, Jacob was clearly unwilling to make a move without God's approval.

Can you think of times when God has made himself known to you? Do you allow yourself to meet him as you study his Word? What difference have these experiences made in your life? Are you more like the young Jacob, forcing God to track you down in the desert of your own plans and mistakes? Or are you more like the older Jacob who presented his desires and plans before God for his approval before taking any action?

STRENGTHS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ◆ Father of the 12 tribes of Israel
- ◆ Third in the Abrahamic line of God's plan
- ◆ Determined, willing to work long and hard for what he wanted
- ◆ Good businessman

WEAKNESSES AND MISTAKES

- ◆ When faced with conflict, relied on his own resources rather than going to God for help
- ◆ Tended to accumulate wealth for its own sake

LESSONS FROM HIS LIFE

- ◆ Security does not lie in the accumulation of goods
- ◆ All human intentions and actions—for good or evil—are woven by God into his ongoing plan

VITAL STATISTICS

- ◆ Where: Canaan
- ◆ Occupation: Shepherd, livestock owner
- ◆ Relatives: Parents: Isaac and Rebekah. Brother: Esau. Father-in-law: Laban. Wives: Rachel and Leah. Twelve sons and one daughter are mentioned in the Bible

KEY VERSE

"What's more, I will be with you, and I will protect you wherever you go. I will someday bring you safely back to this land. I will be with you constantly until I have finished giving you everything I have promised" (Genesis 28:15).

Jacob's story is told in Genesis 25—50. He is also mentioned in Hosea 12:2–5; Matthew 1:2; 22:32; Acts 7:8–16; Romans 9:11–13; Hebrews 11:9, 20, 21.