

PD24 - Commentary and Translation of PD 24

Post by "Kalosyni" of June 21, 2026 at 12:23 PM

This may need it's own thread, but currently this section of the forum is set up so that no new threads can be added.

Does Principal Doctrine 24 & 25, describe how "principled action" is arrived at?

(24) "...And if among the mental images created by your opinion you affirm both that which awaits confirmation, and that which does not, you will not escape error, since you will have preserved the whole cause of doubt in every judgment between what is right and what is wrong."

(25) "If on each occasion, instead of referring your actions to the end of nature, you turn to some other, nearer, standard, when you are making a choice or an avoidance, your actions will not be consistent with your principles."

First we would need to consider what does "being principled" mean?

A possible first step of defining it:

Quote

(From Google)

Being a deeply principled person means consistently aligning your thoughts, choices, and actions with a clear, consciously chosen set of ethical standards. It is defined by having unshakeable core values and the integrity to maintain those truths, even when it is costly, inconvenient, or unpopular.

Defining traits of deeply principled individuals include:

- **Unwavering Integrity:** Maintaining total alignment between words and actions. Principled people act according to their character rather than changing their behavior based on the audience.
- **Moral Courage:** Standing firm in one's convictions rather than taking the easy way out or giving in to peer pressure.
- **Sense of Fairness and Justice:** Treating others with respect, honesty, and empathy, while advocating for equality and ethical standards.
- **Self-Awareness and Responsibility:** Taking ownership of personal actions, accepting the consequences of decisions, and continuously reflecting on personal growth.

- **Consistency over Perfection:** While a principled person strives to do what is morally right, they are recognizable through consistent, everyday choices rather than the illusion of flawlessness.