



BOOK NOTES

The Intellectual Life

by A.G. Sertillanges

- Intellect is a sacred vocation, not a side project or a credential.
- 'O God, Thou sellest all good things to men at the price of effort'
- Intellect is a tool; character wields it.
- Guard solitude - great work needs a desert.
- The life of the mind is not intermittent. Entrust the problem to the night; the unconscious keeps working even if the day was serious.
- Never read when you can reflect; read only what concerns the purpose you are pursuing; and read little, so as not to eat up your interior silence.
- Notes turn others' ideas into your own.
- Mistrust specialty early; breadth is depth. Genius notices the links between what we do not know and what is every minute before our eyes.
- There is nothing new but what is forgotten.
- Half work, which is half rest, is good neither for rest nor for work.
- True knowledge lies in depth rather than superficial extent.
- The half-informed man is not the man who knows only half of things, but the man who only half knows things.

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