

May 1st: MAKE CHARACTER YOUR LOUDEST STATEMENT

"For philosophy doesn't consist in outward display, but in taking heed to what is needed and being mindful of it."

— Musonius Rufus, *Lectures*, 16.75.15–16

The monk dresses in his robes. A priest puts on his collar. A banker wears an expensive suit and carries a briefcase. A Stoic has no uniform and resembles no stereotype. They are not identifiable by look or by sight or by sound.

The only way to recognize them? By their character.

Key Vocabulary & Phrases:

1. **Character** – The set of moral and ethical traits that define a person.
2. **Outward display** – Visible signs or appearances meant to impress others.
3. **Take heed** – To pay careful attention to something.
4. **Mindful** – Being aware of and attentive to something.
5. **Robes** – Long garments, typically worn by monks or religious figures.
6. **Collar (priest's collar)** – A distinct piece of clothing that identifies clergy members.
7. **Briefcase** – A flat, rectangular container for carrying documents, often used by businesspeople.
8. **Uniform** – A standard set of clothing worn by members of an organization.
9. **Stereotype** – A widely held but oversimplified or generalized idea about a particular group.
10. **Identifiable** – Able to be recognized or distinguished.
11. **Sight** – Visual perception.
12. **Sound** – Auditory perception.
13. **Recognize** – To identify or acknowledge someone or something based on known qualities.