Advice

I have good advice and sound wisdom;

I have insight, I have strength.

(Proverbs 8:14)

I sometimes give myself admirable advice, but I am incapable of taking it. (Mary Wortley Montagu)

We all admire the wisdom of people who come to us for advice. (The Friday Letter)

He who builds according to every man’s advice will have a crooked house. *(Danish proverb)*

Advice is judged by results, not by intentions. *(Cicero)*

Advice is like snow; the softer it falls, the longer it dwells upon, and the deeper it sinks into, the mind. (Samuel Taylor Coleridge)

When you encounter seemingly good advice that contradicts other seemingly good advice, ignore them both. *(Al Franken, in Oh, the Things I Know!)*

Thomas Edison sent the following recommendation to a youth assembly that requested a message from him:

1. Always be interested in whatever you undertake.
2. Don’t mind the clock, but keep at it, and let nature indicate the necessity of rest.
3. Failures, so called, are but fingerposts pointing out the right direction to those who are willing to learn.
4. Hard work and a living general interest in everything that makes for human progress will make men or women more valuable and acceptable to themselves and to the world. *(Bits & Pieces)*

Expert advice is a great comfort, even when it's wrong. *(Quoted by Ellen Currie in New York Times)*

Expert Advice?: “If you are ever tempted to take the advice of a so-called expert, just remember what some experts have said in the past:

“I don’t need bodyguards.” *(Jimmy Hoffa, president of the Teamsters Union, in 1975)*

“TV won’t be able to hold on to any market; it captures after the first six months. People will soon get tired of staring at a plywood box every night.” *(Daryl F. Zanuck, head of 20th Century Fox, in 1946)*

“With over 50 foreign cars already on sale here, the Japanese auto industry isn’t likely to carve out a big slice of the U.S. market for itself.” *(Business Weekly, in 1958)*

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Benjamin Franklin’s advice to those who wanted to be immortalized: “Either write things worth reading or do things worth writing.” *(L. M. Boyd)*

Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let each New Year find you a better man. *(Benjamin Franklin)*

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Friendship will not stand the strain of very much good advice for very long. *(Robert Lynd, in The Peal of Bells)*

Good advice is no better than bad advice unless it is taken at the right time. *(Danish proverb)*

**It takes a great person to give sound advice tactfully, but it takes a greater person to accept it graciously. *(J. C. McCauley)***

**Had I abided by good advice I might have been saved from some of my most valuable mistakes. *(Edna St. Vincent Millay)***

The record shows that Persian Sultan Selim I hanged two doctors simply because they advised him to stop drinking coffee. *(L. M. Boyd, in Boyd’s Book of Odd Facts, p. 1)*

It is a little embarrassing that, after 45 years of research and study, the best advice I can give to people is to be a little kinder to each other. (*Aldous Huxley)*

**If I were asked to give what I consider the single most useful bit of advice for all humanity it would be this: Expect trouble as an inevitable part of life and, when it comes, hold your head high, look it squarely in the eye and say, “I will be bigger than you. You cannot defeat me.” Then repeat to yourself the most comforting of all words, “This too shall pass.” *(Ann Landers, in Reader’s Digest)***

In 1860 campaign photographer of Republican candidate Abraham Lincoln prompted Grace Bedell, 11, of Westfield, New York, to write to him in October with a suggestion: grow a beard. Her Democrat brothers will vote for him, she says, and “all the ladies like whiskers.” Lincoln replied that a beard might strike some as a “silly affectation,” but months later a bearded president-elect stopped in Westfield, kissed Bedell and told the crowd he had taken her advice. An 1864 Bedell letter to Lincoln asking for a job turned up in 2007; embroiled in the Civil War, Lincoln likely did not see it. Bedell died in 1936 at age 88. *(Alison McLean, in Smithsonian magazine)*

Medical practitioners of old Babylonia customarily started treatment by putting their patients on beds in the street. So passersby could offer advice. A pedestrian second opinion. Greek historian Herodotus told about it in his "History." *(L. M. Boyd)*

Never take the advice of someone who has not had your kind of trouble. (Sydney J. Harris, journalist)

Isaac Newton’s mother told him to take up farming. *(L. M. Boyd)*

You don't need to take a person's advice to make him feel good -- just ask for it. *(Laurence J. Peter, in Peter's Almanac)*

To profit from good advice requires more wisdom than to give it. *(John Churton Collins)*

Advice should always be consumed between two thick slices of doubt. *(Walt Schmidt, in Los Angeles Parklabrea News)*

Socrates was a Greek philosopher who went around giving people good advice. They poisoned him. (Anonymous)

When you speak to others for their own good, it’s advice. When they speak to you for your own good, it’s interference. (Bits & Pieces)

No one wants advice -- only corroboration. (John Steinbeck)

The trouble with advice is that you seldom know whether it is good or bad until you no longer need it. (Bits & Pieces)

I have found the best way to give advice to your children is to find out what they want and then advise them to do it. *(Harry Truman)*

We give advice by the bucket but take it by the grain. *(William Alger)*

I don't always follow my own advice . *(Edith Wharton)*

The only thing to do with good advice is to pass it on. It is never of any use to oneself. *(Oscar Wilde)*

Many receive advice; only the wise profit from it. (Latin maxim)

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