

The Crucible

According to dictionary.com, a principle is "a fundamental truth or proposition that serves as the foundation for a system of belief or behavior or for a chain of reasoning". One of my principles I live by is when people try and tempt me into things, I stand firm to what I believe. This is an important thing that I think most people my age don't understand. Standing strong to your beliefs is so important to show you are a leader and not a follower. Dying for what you believe is a much more respectable thing, rather than living for something you don't believe to be true or that goes against your own principles. It is better to die by violating ones principles rather than lying to live.

It is respectfully better to die for your principles. John Proctor died for his principles and was hung for staying strong in it. In *The Crucible*, John Proctor wouldn't go against his principles and morals, and he wouldn't confess because then that would be lying; he would be a liar and would've gone against his own principles. In the play John says in *The Crucible*, in act IV, "Because it is my name? Because I cannot have another in my life! Because I lie and sign myself to lies! Because I am not worth the dust on the feet of them that hang! How may I live without my name? I have given you my soul; leave me my name!" John is clearly wanting to keep his good reputation rather than one of a liar. Which for any man, is much understood. Someone's name is almost identical to their reputation. Your name is carried along with your reputation. Both as important, both as meaningful. In John's case, he didn't want anyone to know him as a liar or someone that he was not. He didn't want to have to walk around having people look at him in a way that he was conceived by the judges as. He wanted to have his name kept with respect.

Another example of someone dying for what they believed in, was Jesus Christ. He died

for what He believed in. Jesus was the foundation of Christianity and was put up against the Romans to be brutally murdered. He died for telling everyone that He was the Son of God, King of Kings, Lord of Lords. Even though all those things were true, people called Him out on blasphemy and instead of believing in Him, they wanted to have Him killed. Instead of simply saying that He was lying or saying that He wasn't actually the Son of God, He kept strong for His beliefs and His name, that He in fact died for it. It could have been so easy for Jesus to just escape and live His life, but instead, He chose to die for it and not back down.

All in all, believing in your principles is one thing, but dying for them is another. It is the much more respectable thing to do rather than backing down. Having your name and reputation being protected by your truth rather than your name being brought down with lies, will be better for the future. More people will notice you dying for your principles, than confessing for something you clearly didn't do, just so that you could live.

557 words

Works Cited

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(614 words)