

THE HOUR OF TRUTH

Character of Baldwin

The Hour of Truth by Percival wilde is a psychological study of the corrupting influence of money on people. Mr.Robert Baldwin is the main character in the story. He is very just and honest.He is also sincere in his work.He is working as the secretary of the bank president, Mr.John Gresham. He represents an everyday American man who works for a living and his salary is not good enough to support his family. Still he is very upright in his thoughts and deeds.

The strength of Baldwin's honesty is evident when Mr.Gresham , Robert's Boss is accused of mishandling bank's money. Mr.Gresham requests Baldwin to say just three words- 'I don't remember' to escape from the crime.He also offers him one hundred thousand dollars as a reward for it. Though all tries to make Baldwin accept the money, he is the same as he has been known for being true to himself. He is not ready not only to accept bribe also to tell a lie. Moreover it makes Gresham confess his crime. Baldwin is rewarded for his plain and moral character. He gets a better job at a different bank for his honesty and frankness.

Thus the story presents the contemporary theme of greed and its effects and also how one can overcome such corrupting things by fixing oneself as constant and virtuous personage through the role played by Baldwin.