

The Roman emperor, Marcus Aurelius, thanked the gods that he had good parents, grandparents and kinsfolk. It is a proper subject for thankfulness, and it is a stimulus to correct living, proper ambition and earnest endeavor.

With pride and affection we recall the excellent traits and worthy deeds of our ancestors. Thus we link the present with the past, and, while remembering only the good in their lives, we are reminded that we ought to be kind and generous in our treatment of the living.

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