

— WINSTON —
CHURCHILL
A LIFE FROM BEGINNING TO END



WINSTON CHURCHILL

A Life from Beginning to End

Copyright © 2017 by Hourly History

All rights reserved.

Table of Contents

[Introduction](#)

[Love and War](#)

[Churchill Comes into His Own](#)

[A More Hands-On Approach](#)

[Courting the Americans](#)

[The Allies Show their Teeth](#)

[A Warning Unheeded](#)

[Preparing for the Post-war World](#)

[Wrestling the Reins of Power](#)

[Churchill's Hiatus](#)

[The End of an Empire](#)

[Conclusion](#)

[Your Free eBooks!](#)

Introduction

At face value, Winston Churchill would appear to be an unlikely candidate for prominence on the world stage. The nature of his short and stout physique seems in itself as a disqualifier. Instead of a bold and majestic hero making his way through Parliament in big strides, Churchill ambled about with a limp.

When he wasn't tottering about on his uncertain feet in the House of Commons, he just may have been still home in bed under the covers suffering from severe and debilitating depression. Churchill and those who knew him best were so used to his frequent bouts of melancholy that Churchill even decided to name it, often referring to his personal despair as a "black dog" that followed close to his heels wherever he went.

When Churchill was successful in keeping this black dog at bay, he was able to achieve some of the most impressive feats of statecraft that the world has ever seen. On the opposite end of Churchill's depression was a manic energy and passion that drove him to work tirelessly, staying up days on end working to pass proposals and legislation.

He was both a vigorous speaker and writer, and when he wasn't voicing his opinions in the British Parliament, he was writing them down in lengthy books and treatises that are still being researched by academics to this day. Churchill often had so many projects and efforts unfolding all at the same time that the American President Franklin Delano Roosevelt once remarked with a bit of sarcasm, "He has a thousand ideas a day, four of which are good."

These were just friendly little quips on the part of F.D.R., but even this good-natured humor serves as a testament to just how energetic and effective Churchill really was. However, this frenetic pace came at a cost, and Winston Churchill, like many who suffered from destabilizing mood disorders, often found himself attempting to augment the wild swings of his mental state by self-medicating. Churchill was an alcoholic for much of his life, and he was also dependent on routine doses of barbiturates and amphetamines just to get him through the day.

It has been hard for many historians to square such unsettling accounts with the great work that Winston Churchill achieved, but even great men

like Churchill can come with some pretty great flaws. In order to really know the man we have to take him as he comes, blemishes and all. When you understand the personal hardships that a man like Winston Churchill had to overcome, it just makes you appreciate his achievements all the more.