

Quotations

(In the order of which I found / quined them.)

- “Always forgive your enemies: nothing else annoys them so much.” *(Oscar Wilde)*
- “Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.” *(Hilary Cooper)*
- “We only know what we’re told” *(Howard Brayton)*
- “We don’t know what we don’t know.” *(Howard Brayton)*
- “Planning is more important than the plan.” *(Howard Brayton)*
- “People need freedom within a structure. Without a structure they have licence and licence leads to anarchy.” *(Howard Brayton)*
- “It is better to travel than to arrive.” *(Guy Underwood)*
- “The older you get, the faster time goes.” *(Howard Brayton)*
- “People who talk, don’t know. People who know, don’t talk.” *(Chinese Proverb)*
- “Frequently the bandwagon rolls, just as those who first pushed it, are jumping off.” *(Anon)*
- “I hear and I forget; I see and I remember; I do and I understand” *(Confucius)*
- “Children are far more resilient than we give them credit for.” *(Howard Brayton)*
- “When you’re at the top, the only way is down; and there are plenty of people just waiting to drag you.” *(Howard Brayton)*
- “A woman of few words is a gift of God” *(Proverbs 19)*
- “You can be rude to your friends.” *(Rt Rev Walter Hussey)*
- “Don’t raise your voice. Improve your argument.” *(Archbishop Desmond Tutu)*
- “To every complex question, there is a simple answer; and it is wrong.” *(HL Mencken)*
- “If you can keep your head, when all about you are losing theirs, then you just don’t understand the problem.” *(Evan’s Law)*
- “Those who can - do. Those who can’t, teach.” *(HL Mencken)*
- “Those who can’t teach - advise others” *(Howard Brayton)*
- “An expert is an ordinary man away from home.” *(Charles Handy)*

“Frequently the bandwagon rolls, just as those who first pushed it are jumping off.”
(Anon)

“Education is what’s left when you’ve forgotten what you learned in school.”
(R.F. McKenzie)

“School is a brief irrelevant prelude to work.” (BBC Horizon 12-10-71)

“Children are far more resilient than we give them credit for.” (Howard Brayton)

“Believe nothing you hear and only half of what you see.” (M.F. Clough)

“The bad do bad things better than the good do good.” (Anon)

“When I’m good, I’m *very* good; but when I’m bad, I’m better.” (Mae West)

“If at first you don’t succeed, you don’t succeed.” (BBC Horizon 12-10-71)

“The authority of the teacher is generally prejudicial to those who desire to learn.”
(Plato 427 - 347 - quoted by Michel de Montaigne 1522 – 1595)

“A child should not be discouraged from reading anything that he takes a liking to,
from a notion that it is above his reach.” (Dr Johnson)

“Grant me patience Lord, but hurry” (Anon)

“The meaning of deprivation, is the deprivation of meaning.”
(BBC Horizon 12-10-71)

“Can all this beauty be just a monument to man’s ability to deceive himself?”
(Colin Wilson on Cathedrals)

“Revenge is a dish people of taste wish to take cold.” (Old Italian Saying)

“Shows great originality, which should be curbed at all costs.”
(Peter Ustinov’s school report)

“Committed friendships prevent depression more effectively than Prozac. (Anon)

“Philosophy ... the pursuit of reality through intuition aided by intellect.”
(Colin Wilson)

“Intelligence equals Intellect plus Intuition.” (Howard Brayton)

“It is very easy to be busy doing the wrong thing.” (KB Everard & G Morris)

“Change must be need driven not resource driven.” (KB Everard & G Morris)

“Praestate, dicete, tacete” (Stand up, speak up and shut up.) (Anon)

“It’s not lack of leadership, it’s lack of followership.” *(Anon)*

“Historically, when people get to imposing their own definition of religiosity on others, you’re looking at persecution.” *(Giles Cohen)*

“If you are not confused, you are ill-informed.” *(Anon)*

“Faith is part of the human condition.” *(Alister McGrath)*

“Attempts to appear totally competent, divorce you from humanity.”
(James Gray & John Ritcher)

“Baseball is like church. Many attend, few understand. “ *(Leo Durocher)*

"Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car." *(Anon)*

“What would the historical Jesus of Nazareth have made of the Council of Nicea?”
(Geza Vermes)

"Lighthouses are more helpful than churches" *(Benjamin Franklyn)*

“I would infinitely rather have been a born-again communist, than a born-again Christian. ” *(Donald Soper)*

“Religion is a profound search for meaning. It is not interested in dogmatic belief.”
(Karen Armstrong)

“Brother Jude tells us, that the journey to faith is a personal one, that each one of us must listen to our hearts to find, the way, inside or outside of a specific religion.”
(Jennifer Lauck)

“The truth is never pure and rarely simple.” *(Oscar Wilde)*

“There is no truth, only points of view.” *(Edith Sitwell)*

“Truth, is itself, a personal concept.” *(Emil Brunner)*

“Truth is not something permanent.” *(Emil Brunner)*

“They are ready to die for the truth, if only they knew what the truth was.”
(Winston Churchill on Conservatives)

“It really is important to ask the right question.” *(Edgar Andrews)*

“Good answers show intelligence: good questions show wisdom ” *(Anon)*

“What is really important in life, is not so much to provide answers, as to discern true questions.”
(Archbishop Forte)

“It’s a great life if you don’t weaken; and I ain’t goin’ t’ weaken.” *(Howard Brayton)*

- “Growing old is lousy.” *(Lionel Brayton - father)*
- “But it can’t be half as bad as growing up.” *(Howard Brayton - son)*
- “By the time a man realises that maybe his father was right, he usually has a son who thinks he’s wrong.” *(Charles Wadsworth)*
- “...religious energy is actually in the dark questions ...” *(Bp John Pritchard)*
- “God is not the answer, He is the question” *(Thomas Aquinas)*
- “If a church thinks it has all the answers, then it isn’t asking big enough questions” *(Bp John Pritchard)*
- “Christian theology doesn’t seem to have made much adjustment to the huge amount of new information about the universe that has accumulated in the past century.” *(Simon Jenkins)*
- “Jesus’ message was usually one of forgiveness and kindness. These are wonderful virtues, but I have seen them discarded by many so-called God-fearers when it suits them.” *(Ricky Gervais)*
- “There are some questions which can’t be answered by Google.” *(Sign out side a USA Presbyterian church)*
- “My religion is to wrestle with God.” *(Archbishop Forte)*
- “We must be critical of our beliefs, subjecting them to interrogation.” *(Alister McGrath)*
- “Many thoughtful people are truly looking for a deeper engagement with the Christian faith. They have genuine question, a real inquisitiveness, and a desire to be taken seriously.” *(Bp John Pritchard)*
- “God is not hugely concerned as to whether we are religious or not. What matters to God ... is whether we are alive or not.”
- “...if your religion inhibits your capacity for life or makes you run away from it, you may be sure God is against it, just as Jesus was.” *(Bp John Pritchard)*
- “All religion does is offer a vehicle in which faith can travel.” *(Bp John Pritchard)*
- “Faith doesn’t depend on success; it depends upon having a consistent direction which we try to follow ...”
- “Hope is a core element of faith.” *(Bp John Pritchard)*
- “There is such a condition as death by religion ... sometimes churches can be short on sunshine.” *(Bp John Pritchard)*

“The church will often fail us, but the Christian faith ... gives access to a universe that expands to infinity.”
(Bp John Pritchard)

“The insular navel-gazing ... for years, over gender ... and sexuality ... has made the church appear to belong to another age.”
(Bp John Pritchard)

“Why would people want to join what looks like a dysfunctional organisation, when they’ve got enough dysfunctionality of their own?”
(Bp John Pritchard)

“We easily get hooked on religious activity, rather than the redemption of the world.”
(Bp John Pritchard)

“When faith is institutionalised and domesticated, it has lost its way and got stuck in a corner.”
(Bp John Pritchard)

“Literalism is usually the lowest and least level of meaning. It (Bible) must be read with care, respect, and an open mind. Literalism is a poor tool.” (Bp John Pritchard)

“Humankind can’t stand too much goodness ... because it shows us up too much.”
(Bp John Pritchard)

“The resurrection is the single, blistering, whirligig event that changed everything.”
(Bp John Pritchard)

“Christian action is the key distinguishing work of a vibrant faith.”
(Bp John Pritchard)

“We don’t come to church for more laws, we come for grace.” (Bp John Pritchard)

“Far more people pray, than go to church.” (Bp John Pritchard)

“Practice makes progress – not perfect.” (Bp John Pritchard)

“Jesus was in the public eye for less time than it takes an undergraduate to get a degree.”
(Bp John Pritchard)

“The Ten Commandments, you know as well as I do, that they’re only useful for giving the school chaplain the right answers on examination day.” (Leo Tolstoy)

“There is too much religion in the World, and not enough faith.” (John Saxbee)

“We should not bring God down to our imaginations, but raise our imaginations up to God.”
(Richard Stibbes (1557 – 1635))

“Love is God himself and outside it there is no God. Love makes man God and God man.”
(Ludwig Feuerbach 1804 – 1972)

“We believe in God in spite of the church.” (Michael Arditti)

“The Bible makes little mention of much that is central to the church’s teaching”
(Michael Arditti)

- “Christ came not to save mankind, but to share in the suffering that was the inevitable result of our existence in time.” (Michael Arditti)
- “Religion is the triumph of tradition over truth.” (Michael Arditti)
- “The concept of Hell was devised by men to excuse their cruelty.” (Michael Arditti)
- “... not the traditional Christ who comes laden with two thousand years of baggage, but the essential Christ, unvarnished and free.” (Michael Arditti)
- “Buddhist ‘don’t take our word for it, but seek out the truth in your own lives’ credo, was the antithesis of Christianity.” (Michael Arditti)
- “Some people seek answers in the Bible or the Quran, observing man-made laws that purport to be God’s.” (Michael Arditti)
- “Christ makes very little mention of sin.” (Michael Arditti)
- “To place so much trust in a book – any book – is as dangerous as burning it. Books should stimulate debate, not stifle it.” (Michael Arditti)
- “Christians believe that on man’s body redeemed the world ... Redeemed, no. Revitalised, yes.” (Michael Arditti)
- “The real horror of growing old, was not to lose one’s mind, but to doubt one’s memories.” (Michael Arditti)
- “Doubt is an essential element of faith.” (Michael Arditti)
- “A liberal Christian is a contradiction in terms, because liberals believe in asking questions, to which Christians already have the answers.” (Michael Arditti)
- “... bypass the preachers and work things out for yourself. Be sceptical above all else, of people who tell you that they alone have access to the truth: the ‘*my God is bigger than your God*’ brigade, whose creed isn’t ‘*I believe in God*’, but ‘*I know God*.’” (Michael Arditti)
- “Faith can never be a *fait accompli*. Anyone who follows Christ will have doubts. After all, He did. To live in total certainty, seems to me to be the definition of madness – like the men who think they’re Napoleon.” (Michael Arditti)
- “To respond to the Easter message, we must give up our obsession with sin - and in particular, Original Sin, - which is a libel both on us and Our Creator. We must renounce the myth of the Fall, which by spreading a gospel of despair, gives rise to the very evil it purports to explain.” (Michael Arditti)
- “Christ became incarnate not in order to redeem a sinful people who had cut themselves off from salvation, but to reassure a suffering people of their unity with God ... the world was not in a state of sin waiting for Christ to rescue it; the world

was in a state of grace, waiting for us to recognise it.” (Michael Arditti)

"Dieu bénit l'homme non pour avoir trouvé, mais pour avoir cherché."
- "God blesses man not for having found, but for having searched."
(Victor Hugo - 'Les Contemplations')

"There is a very good saying, that if triangles invented a god, they would make him three-sided". (17th/18th century philosopher Montesquieu)

".. if oxen or lions had hands and could draw ... horses would have drawn the form of gods like horses, and oxen gods like oxen..." (Xenophanes 570 – 478 BC)

"... I feel the church has got less and less forgiving, and its rhetoric more hard-line ... more austere and judgemental. They alienate someone like me."
(Rt Hon Andy Burnham)

"It is vital that Christians live out their faith publicly, rather than settling for the deathly cosiness of private beliefs expressed in sanctified settings." (Jon Kuhrt)

"A conclusion is the place where you get tired of thinking." (Arthur Bloch)

"If you talk to God, you are praying; if God talks to you, you have schizophrenia."
(Archbishop William Temple)

"When I pray, coincidences happen; when I do *not* pray, they do not happen,"
(Archbishop William Temple)

"Prayer is the assurance of the possibility of God's intervention." (Anon)

"Faith goes hand in hand with a willingness to question." (Tina Beattie)

"Faith is not about absolute certainty, but a readiness to explore mystery. It is not a method of finding all the answers, but of living with the questions."
(Michael Mayne)

"Religion is a profound search for meaning. It is not interested in dogmatic belief."
(Karen Armstrong)

"Liberal Quakerism is not just about the possibility of seeking, it is about the certainty of never finally finding."
(Pink Dandelion)

"I love your Christ, but I hate your Christians, they are so unlike Him."
(Mahatma Gandhi)

"Respect the mystery! Don't try to find an answer." (Paulo Coelho)

"Bold humility must replace arrogant insecurity." (Stuart Murray)

"The believer has to keep thinking about his deeply problematic faith commitment ... faith demands thought."
(Theo Hobson)

“... if your religion inhibits your capacity for life or makes you run away from it, you may be sure God is against it, just as Jesus was.” *(Bp John Pritchard)*

“We may be in the Universe, as dogs and cats are in our libraries, seeing the books and hearing the conversation, but having no inkling of the meaning of it all.” *(William James - brother of Henry)*

“It is a traditional definition of Oxford scholars, that they know everything about nothing, whereas Cambridge scholars know nothing about everything.” *(Keith Ward)*

“The church has often left me bemused, bored or mystified, but I can no more abandon it than I can myself.” *(John Koessler)*

“Most of the Christians I know, are disappointed with their churches” *(John Koessler)*

“British people seem to be functionally agnostic, happy not to get deeply into the quesiton.” *(Anon - Third Way)*

“Vienna is the tuning fork for the entire world.” *(Sandor Marai)*

“The more we give, the less we expect.” *(Sandor Marai)*

“He is asked to stand, he wants to sit, he is expected to lie.” *(Winston Churchill on Parliamentary candidates)*

“Young lady, I’d rather commit adultery than take an intoxicating beverage.
“Come back miss - I didn’t know we had a choice.”
(Churchill’s response to a Canadian Methodist minister being offered a drink)

“Dead birds don’t fall out of their nests.”
(Winston Churchill on being told that his flies were unbuttoned.)

“A fanatic is one who can’t change his mind, and won’t change the subject.”
(Winston Churchill)

“The poet is the man who sees. The philosopher is the man who thinks ...
The scientist is the man who discovers.” *(John Stewart Collis)*

“God is greater than religion.” *(Jeanette Winterson)*

“The goal of old age is not senility, but wisdom.” *(Carl Jung)*

“Death is a fact of Life.” *(Howard Brayton)*

“Life is a compromise.” *(Howard Brayton)*

“Life is a Lottery” *(Howard Brayton)*

“The aim of all life is death.” *(Sigmund Freud)*

- “Don’t look for the flaws as you go through life,
And even when you find them,
It is wise and kind to be somewhat blind,
And look for the virtue behind them.” (Anon)
- “ ‘The Brompton Oratory’ – the only place in London where one can forget that it is
Sunday.” (Aubrey Beardsley)
- “If it can go wrong, it will.” (Murphy’s (Sod’s) Law)
- “No books are lost by lending, except those you particularly want to keep.”
(Atwood’s 14th Corollary)
- “The other line moves faster” (Etorre’s Observation)
- “If it jams – force it. If it breaks, it needed replacing anyway.” (Lowery’s Law)
- “When all else fails, read the instructions.” (Cahn’s Axiom)
- “Everyone rises to the level of their own incompetence.” (The Peter Principle)
- “The efficiency of a meeting, is inversely proportional to the number of participants,
and the time spent on deliberations.” (Old & Kahn’s Law)
- “If you can’t convince them, confuse them.” (Truman’s Law)
- “Work expands to fill the time available.” (Parkinson’s First Law)
- “Expenditure rises to meet income.” (Parkinson’s Second Law)
- “Only God can make a random selection.” (Levy’s ninth Law)
- “Beauty, times brains, equals a constant.” (“Beckhap’s Law)
- “You can lead a horse to water, but if you can get it to float on its back, you’ve got
something.” (Hartley’s First Law)
- “If you do something right once, someone will ask you to do it again.”
(Denniston’s Corollary)
- “Do someone a favour, and it becomes your job.” (Pinto’s Law)
- “Two monologues do not make a dialogue.” (De Nevers’ Law of Debate)
- “The hardness of the butter is in direct proportion to the softness of the roll.”
(Thiessen’ Law of Gastronomy)
- “Say or do anything with authority, and anyone will believe you”. (Howard Brayton)
- “Whatever happens, look as if it were intended.” (First Rule of Acting)

“A myth is a work of imagination and therefore a work of art” *(GK Chesterton)*

“The Bible...is simply the selection made by the authority of the Church from a mass of early Christian literature.” *(G K Chesterton)*

“Books are the gateway to most things in life: that’s how I connect with the universe.” *(Elif Shafk)*

“There is sometimes a gap between the scholar, who concentrates solely on the surface, on the word, the rules and regulations ... and the other approach which is much more holistic, more mystical, that wants to see what is beyond and underneath, and looks for the inner meaning. ” *(Elif Shafak)*

“There are lots of agnostics who think about religion much more deeply than some who call themselves very religious and don’t think any further.” *(Elif Shafak)*

“I found Jesus compelling. But church didn’t seem very interesting ... I always had a running list of questions.” *(US Pastor Bob Bell)*

“There are lots of people who have some affinity for Jesus, but they go and visit a church, and they just can’t stomach the sort of package (they are presented with. *(US Pastor Bob Bell)*

"Some know for all their lives that Christ is God,
Some start upon that arduous love affair
In clouds of doubt and argument; and some
(My closest friends) seem not to want His love
And why this is I wish to God I knew" *(John Betjemen, Summoned By Bells)*

“The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong.” *(Mahatma Gandhi)*

“Chastity remains at home.” *(Howard Brayton)*

“Patience is a Virtue, Virtue is a Grace, Grace is a little girl who wouldn’t wash her face.” *(Anon)*

“When people get to imposing their own definitions of religiosity on others, you’re looking at persecution.” *(Giles Coren)*

“Blessed are they who do nothing, for they can never be wrong.” *(Howard Brayton)*

“Sadly, Christianity has been more intent on repressing and misrepresenting sex, than on helping people manage it wisely.” *(Bp Richard Holloway 1934-)*

“Sex is the imperative that drives life ... because of it’s gross misunderstanding of the real nature of sex, Christianity has become a dangerous and untrustworthy guide on the subject.” *(Bp Richard Holloway 1934-)*

“Religion was made for man, not man for religion.” *(Bp Richard Holloway 1934-)*

- “The opposite of faith is not doubt, but certainty. Where you have certainty, you don’t need faith. (Bp Richard Holloway 1934-)
- “Religions may begin as vehicles of longing for mysteries beyond description, but they end up claiming exclusive descriptive rights to them.” (Bp Richard Holloway 1934-)
- “The Church wastes its substance in prolonged meetings to discuss, and refine and endlessly reorganise itself.” (Bp Richard Holloway 1934-)
- “Recognise that no certainty (is) available to us as we wrestle with ultimate questions.” (Bp Richard Holloway 1934-)
- “Whether they acknowledge it or not, preachers are usually preaching to themselves.” (Bp Richard Holloway 1934-)
- “I was less sure whether God was a human invention, but I was quite sure religion was.” (Bp Richard Holloway 1934-)
- “As with the Christian religion, the worst advertisement for socialism, is its adherents.” (George Orwell 1903-1950)
- “One cannot really be a Catholic and grow up.” (George Orwell 1903-1950)
- “Growing old is a privilege denied to many” (Anon)
- “When the white missionaries came to Africa *they* had the Bible and *we* had the land. They said, ‘Let us pray’. When we opened our eyes, *we* had the Bible and *they* had the land.” (Archbishop Desmond Tutu 1931-)
- “Don’t raise your voice, improve your argument.” (Archbishop Desmond Tutu 1931-)
- “Take risks, and only regret the things you *didn’t* do.” (Anon)
- “Ask the question, even when you know there’s no answer.” (Howard Brayton)
- “There’s an answer to everything, find it.” (Howard Brayton)
- “Be good; but be good for something.” (Howard Brayton)
- “Faith is not a leap in the dark; it’s a leap into the light.” (Howard Brayton)
- “God helps him who helps himself; but God help him who’s *caught* helping himself.” (Howard Brayton)
- “Peace is the at-onement of self with God.” (Howard Brayton)
- “Religion is the distortion of belief.” (Howard Brayton)
- “The secret of living, is loving.” (Howard Brayton)

“There is no truth; but truths.” *(Howard Brayton)*

“There can be no good without evil.” *(Howard Brayton)*

“When I doubt; Pray.” *(Howard Brayton)*

“Where two or three are gathered together, there is a church.” *(Howard Brayton)*

“Every day is a special occasion; celebrate it, don’t waste it.” *(Howard Brayton)*

02/03/19