

# A. N. Wilson

## Quotes

*People, Thinking, Writing, Book, Men, Church, Queens, History, Christian,  
House, Intellectual, Years, Jobs, Believe, Done, Monsters, Research, Lunch,  
Opposites, Clever*

A busybody's work is never done.

~A. N. Wilson

I very much dislike the intolerance and moralism of many Christians, and feel more sympathy with Honest Doubters than with them.

~A. N. Wilson

It is eerie being all but alone in Westminster Abbey. Without the tourists, there are only the dead, many of them kings and queens. They speak powerfully and put my thoughts into vivid perspective.

~A. N. Wilson

IQ in general has improved since tests first began. Psychologists think that this is because modern life becomes ever more complicated.

~A. N. Wilson

I should prefer to have a politician who regularly went to a massage parlour than one who promised a laptop computer for every teacher.

~A. N. Wilson

I don't think you can tell the objective truth about a person. That's why people write novels.

~A. N. Wilson

The latest research has revealed that women have a higher IQ than men.

~A. N. Wilson

Hitler suffered acutely from meteorism; perhaps he did not suffer so acutely as those around him, since meteorism is uncontrolled farting, a condition exacerbated by Hitler's strictly vegetarian diet.

~A. N. Wilson

The fact that logic cannot satisfy us awakens an almost insatiable

hunger for the irrational.

~A. N. Wilson

I believe the collapse of the House of Windsor is tied in with the collapse of the Church of England.

~A. N. Wilson

We, while noting many things amiss about Victorian society, more often sense them judging us.

~A. N. Wilson

Since Einstein developed his theory of relativity, and Rutherford and Bohr revolutionised physics, our picture of the world has radically changed.

~A. N. Wilson

If you know somebody is going to be awfully annoyed by something you write, that's obviously very satisfying, and if they howl with rage or cry, that's honey.

~A. N. Wilson

In universities and intellectual circles, academics can guarantee themselves popularity - or, which is just as satisfying, unpopularity - by being opinionated rather than by being learned.

~A. N. Wilson

It is hard to think of anything which more tragically and clearly exemplifies the phenomenon of good political intentions achieving the precise opposite of their aim.

~A. N. Wilson

We cannot hope for a society in which formal organized religion dies out. But we can stop behaving as if it was worthy of our collective respect.

~A. N. Wilson

It is remarkable how easily children and grown-ups adapt to living in a dictatorship organised by lunatics.

~A. N. Wilson

History does not eliminate grievances. It lays them down like landmines.

~A. N. Wilson

If you imagine writing 1,000 words a day, which most journalists do, that would be a very long book a year.

~A. N. Wilson

I'm boring. My beliefs are neither here nor there.

~A. N. Wilson

I suppose if I'd got a brilliant first and done research I might still be a don today, but I hope not. People become dons because they are incapable of doing anything else in life.

~A. N. Wilson

I was once naïve enough to ask the late Duke of Devonshire why he liked the town of Eastbourne. He replied with a self-deprecating shrug that one of the things he liked was that he owned it.

~A. N. Wilson

The really clever people now want to be lawyers or journalists.

~A. N. Wilson

I had lost faith in biography.

~A. N. Wilson

Anti-Semitism is extremely common.

~A. N. Wilson

Everyone writes in Tolstoy's shadow, whether one feels oneself to be Tolstoyan or not.

~A. N. Wilson

I do not find it easy to articulate thoughts about religion. I remain the sort of person who turns off 'Thought for the Day' when it comes on the radio.

~A. N. Wilson

Iris Murdoch did influence my early novels very much, and influence is never entirely good.

~A. N. Wilson

I'm not saying all publishers have to be literary, but some interest in books would help.

~A. N. Wilson

In general, Hitler embodied the view of any popular newspaper.

~A. N. Wilson

The approach of death certainly concentrates the mind.

~A. N. Wilson

I don't write books inadvertently.

~A. N. Wilson

I'm like Jane Austen - I work on the corner of the dining table.

~A. N. Wilson

My kind publishers, Toby Mundy and Margaret Stead of Atlantic Books, have commissioned me to write the life of Queen Victoria.

~A. N. Wilson

I think I became a Catholic to annoy my father.

~A. N. Wilson

Fear of death has never played a large part in my consciousness - perhaps unimaginative of me.

~A. N. Wilson

I wanted passionately to be a priest.

~A. N. Wilson

I think that if you can't be loyal to the Church, it's best to get out.

~A. N. Wilson

Truth comes to us mediated by human love.

~A. N. Wilson

Tennyson seems to be the patron saint of the wishy washies, which is perhaps why I admire him so much, not only as a poet, but as a man.

~A. N. Wilson

I think one of the very frightening things about the regime of the National Socialists is that it made people happy.

~A. N. Wilson

We tell ourselves that God is dead, when what we mean is that God is Dad, and we wish him dead.

~A. N. Wilson

As Hitler himself later enunciated, it matters not how idiotic the creed, what matters is the firmness with which it is enunciated.

~A. N. Wilson

I might be deceiving myself but I do not think that I do have an inordinate fear of death.

~A. N. Wilson

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