

# Annie Besant Quotes

*Men, Spiritual, Thinking, Law, Karma, Body, Islam, Children, Country, India,  
Self, World, Needs, Mother, Strong, People, Believe, Character, Home, Names*

Better remain silent, better not even think, if you are not prepared to act.

~Annie Besant

There is no life without consciousness; there is no consciousness without life.

~Annie Besant

Someone ought to do it, but why should I? Someone ought to do it, so why not I? Between these two sentences lie whole centuries of moral evolution.

~Annie Besant

No soul that aspires can ever fail to rise; no heart that loves can ever be abandoned. Difficulties exist only that in overcoming them we may grow strong, and they who have suffered are able to save.

~Annie Besant

Thought creates character.

~Annie Besant

No philosophy, no religion, has ever brought so glad a message to the world as this good news of Atheism.

~Annie Besant

Socialism is the ideal state, but it can never be achieved while man is so selfish.

~Annie Besant

For centuries the leaders of Christian thought spoke of women as a necessary evil, and the greatest saints of the Church are those who despise women the most.

~Annie Besant

India is the mother of religion. In her are combined science and religion in perfect harmony, and that is the Hindu religion, and it is India that shall be again the spiritual mother of the world.

~Annie Besant

You should always take a religion at its best and not at its worst, from its highest teachings and not from the lowest practices of some of its adherents.

~Annie Besant

The man of meditation is the man who wastes no time, scatters no energy, misses no opportunity.

~Annie Besant

Knowledge is essential to conquest; only according to our ignorance are we helpless. Thought creates character. Character can dominate conditions. Will creates circumstances and environment.

~Annie Besant

Nature is always lavish of her gifts even to the most insignificant forms. The butterflies and moths are richly dowered in this respect.

~Annie Besant

A common religion is not possible for India, but a recognition of a common basis for all religions, and the growth of a liberal, tolerant spirit in religious matters, are possible.

~Annie Besant

An accurate knowledge of the past of a country is necessary for everyone who would understand its present, and who desires to judge of its future.

~Annie Besant

No durable things are built on violent passion. Nature grows her plants

in silence and in darkness, and only when they have become strong do they put their heads above the ground.

~Annie Besant

Celibacy is not natural to men or to women; all bodily needs require their legitimate satisfaction, and celibacy is a disregard of natural law.

~Annie Besant

Where love rules, laws are not needed.

~Annie Besant

Refusal to believe until proof is given is a rational position; denial of all outside of our own limited experience is absurd.

~Annie Besant

A myth is far truer than a history, for a history only gives a story of the shadows, whereas a myth gives a story of the substances that cast the shadows.

~Annie Besant

We learn much during our sleep, and the knowledge thus gained slowly filters into the physical brain, and is occasionally impressed upon it as a vivid and illuminative dream.

~Annie Besant

Continents may break up, continents may emerge, but the human race is immortal in its origin and in its growth, and there is nothing to be afraid of, even if the foundations of the earth be moved.

~Annie Besant

To me in my childhood, elves and fairies of all sorts were very real things, and my dolls were as really children as I was myself a child.

~Annie Besant

Never yet was a nation born that did not begin in the spirit, pass to the heart and the mind, and then take an outer form in the world of men.

~Annie Besant

The essence of religion is the knowledge of God which is eternal life. That and nothing less than that is religion. Everything else is on the surface, is superfluous save for the needs of men.

~Annie Besant

In a 50 mile radius around Chicago one can see the red aura of pain, agony, terror, anger from all the animals being butchered there.

~Annie Besant

Empty-brained triflers who have never tried to think, who take their creed as they take their fashions, speak of atheism as the outcome of foul life and vicious desires.

~Annie Besant

What is the constitution of the universe? The universe is the manifestation of the divine thought; the thought of God embodies itself in the thought-forms that we call worlds.

~Annie Besant

Matter is, in its constituent elements, the same as spirit; existence is one, however manifold in its phenomena; life is one, however multiform in its evolution.

~Annie Besant

A people can prosper under a very bad government and suffer under a very good one, if in the first case the local administration is effective and in the second it is inefficient.

~Annie Besant

Islam believes in many prophets, and Al Quran is nothing but a

confirmation of the old Scriptures.

~Annie Besant

The Atheist waits for proof of God. Till that proof comes he remains, as his name implies, without God. His mind is open to every new truth, after it has passed the warder Reason at the gate.

~Annie Besant

Yoga is a science, and not a vague dreamy drifting or imagining.

~Annie Besant

The worlds in which man is evolving as he treads the circle of births and deaths are three: the physical world, the astral or intermediate world, the mental or heavenly world.

~Annie Besant

As the heat of the coal differs from the coal itself, so do memory, perception, judgment, emotion, and will, differ from the brain which is the instrument of thought.

~Annie Besant

It is not monogamy when there is one legal wife, and mistresses out of sight.

~Annie Besant

The Buddha over and over again spoke clearly and definitely on post-mortem states - as in his conversation with Vasetta.

~Annie Besant

After death we live for some time in the astral world in the astral body used during our life on earth, and the more we learn to control and use it wisely now the better for us after death.

~Annie Besant

There is much, of course, in the exclusive claims of Christianity which make it hostile to other faiths.

~Annie Besant

What, after all, is the object of education? To train the body in health, vigor and grace, so that it may express the emotions in beauty and the mind with accuracy and strength.

~Annie Besant

Every person, every race, every nation, has its own particular keynote which it brings to the general chord of life and of humanity.

~Annie Besant

The world, with all its beauty, its happiness and suffering, its joys and pains, is planned with the utmost ingenuity, in order that the powers of the Self may be shown forth in manifestation.

~Annie Besant

Man peoples his current living space with a world of his own, crowded with the offspring of his fancies, desires, impulses, and passions.

~Annie Besant

The birth of science rang the death-knell of an arbitrary and constantly interposing Supreme Power.

~Annie Besant

Morality is the Science of harmonious relations between intelligent beings.

~Annie Besant

I have ever been the queerest mixture of weakness and strength, and have paid heavily for the weakness.

~Annie Besant

Sun-worship and pure forms of nature-worship were, in their day, noble religions, highly allegorical but full of profound truth and knowledge.

~Annie Besant

It is the duty of the followers of Islam to spread through the civilised world, a knowledge of what Islam means - its spirit and message.

~Annie Besant

India is a country in which every great religion finds a home.

~Annie Besant

There is far more misunderstanding of Islam than there is, I think, of the other religions of the world. So many things are said of it by those who do not belong to that faith.

~Annie Besant

No circumstances can ever make or mar the unfolding of the spiritual life. Spirituality does not depend upon the environment; it depends upon one's attitude towards life.

~Annie Besant

The idea that Buddhism denies what is called in the West individual immortality is a mistake, so far as the Buddhist scriptures are concerned.

~Annie Besant

A prophet is always much wider than his followers, much more liberal than those who label themselves with his name.

~Annie Besant

That is the true definition of sin; when knowing right you do the lower, ah, then you sin. Where there is no knowledge, sin is not present.

~Annie Besant

When a man, a woman, see their little daily tasks as integral portions of the one great work, they are no longer drudges but co-workers with God.

~Annie Besant

The wanting of advice is the sign that the Spirit in you has not yet spoken with the compelling voice that you ought to obey.

~Annie Besant

Death is but an aspect of life, and the destruction of one material form is but a prelude to building up of another.

~Annie Besant

My own life in India, since I came to it in 1893 to make it my home, has been devoted to one purpose, to give back to India her ancient freedom.

~Annie Besant

The body is never more alive than when it is dead; but it is alive in its units, and dead in its totality; alive as a congeries, dead as an organism.

~Annie Besant

The destruction of India's village system was the greatest of England's blunders.

~Annie Besant

There can be no wise politics without thought beforehand.

~Annie Besant

Let Indian history be set side by side with Europe history with what there is of the latter century by century and let us see whether India need blush at the comparison.

~Annie Besant

Representative institutions are as much a part of the true Briton as his language and his literature.

~Annie Besant

God' is always the equivalent of 'I do not know.

~Annie Besant

Strange indeed would it be if all the space around us be empty, mere waste void, and the inhabitants of Earth the only forms in which intelligence could clothe itself.

~Annie Besant

When we realise our oneness with our RULER, then the matter shall have no longer power over us, and we shall see it as the unreality it is.

~Annie Besant

Purification is but the cleaning of the lamp-glass which hides the Light

~Annie Besant

Evil is only imperfection, that which is not complete, which is becoming, but has not yet found its end.

~Annie Besant

Never yet has a God been defined in terms which were not palpably self-contradictory and absurd; never yet has a God been described so that a concept of Him was made possible to human thought.

~Annie Besant

The misery we inflict on sentient beings slackens our human evolution.

~Annie Besant

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