

D. A. Carson Quotes

*Christian, People, Prayer, Jesus, Heart, Mean, Self, Want, Book, Thinking,
Wrath, Sin, Teaching, Way, Scripture, Important, Suffering, Spiritual, Long, Doe*

All of us would be wiser if we would resolve never to put people down, except on our prayer lists.

~D. A. Carson

The aim is never to become a master of the Word, but to be mastered by it.

~D. A. Carson

...sometimes God chooses to bless us and make us people of integrity in the midst of abominable circumstances, rather than change our circumstances.

~D. A. Carson

Effective prayer is the fruit of a relationship with God, not a technique for acquiring blessings.

~D. A. Carson

We are lost when human opinion means more to us than God's.

~D. A. Carson

Many of us in our praying are like nasty little boys who ring front door bells and run away before anyone answers.

~D. A. Carson

If you want to see what judgment looks like, go to the cross. If you want to see what love looks like, go to the cross.

~D. A. Carson

A billion years or so into eternity, how many toys we accumulated during this life will not seem too terribly important.

~D. A. Carson

The way to be anxious about nothing is to be prayerful about everything.

~D. A. Carson

We do not drift into spiritual life or disciplined prayer. We will not grow in prayer unless we plan to pray.

~D. A. Carson

Some Christians want enough of Christ to be identified with him but not enough to be seriously inconvenienced.

~D. A. Carson

Hell is not filled with people who are deeply sorry for their sins. It is filled with people who for all eternity still shake their puny fist in the face of God Almighty.

~D. A. Carson

True freedom is not the liberty to do anything we please, but the liberty to do what we ought; and it is genuine liberty because doing what we ought now pleases us

~D. A. Carson

How much would our churches be transformed if each of us made it a practice to thank God for others and then to tell those others what it is about them that we thank God for?

~D. A. Carson

Either worrying drives out prayer, or prayer drives out worrying.

~D. A. Carson

If the text is God's Word, it is appropriate that we respond with reverence, a certain fear, a holy joy, a questing obedience.

~D. A. Carson

The place where God has supremely destroyed all human arrogance and pretension is the cross.

~D. A. Carson

The person who prays more in public than in private reveals that he is less interested in God's approval than in human praise. Not piety but a reputation for piety is his concern.

~D. A. Carson

It was not nails that held Jesus to that wretched cross; it was his unqualified resolution, out of love for his Father, to do his Father's will-and it was his love for sinners like me.

~D. A. Carson

Effectiveness in teaching the Bible is purchased at the price of much study, some of it lonely, all of it tiring.

~D. A. Carson

Worship is the proper response of all moral, sentient beings to God, ascribing all honor and worth to their Creator-God precisely because he is worthy, delightfully so.

~D. A. Carson

Despite the protestations, one sometimes wonders if we are beginning to worship, worship rather than worship God.

~D. A. Carson

The Bible does not tell us that life in this world will be fair. Evil and sin are not Victorian gentlemen; they do not play fair.

~D. A. Carson

To know God is to be transformed, and thus to be introduced to a life that could not otherwise be experienced.

~D. A. Carson

The heart of all idolatry in the Bible is the de-godding of God.

~D. A. Carson

A text without a context is a pretext for a proof text.

~D. A. Carson

Christians have learned that when there seems to be no other evidence of God's love, they cannot escape the cross.

~D. A. Carson

Do you wish to see God's love? Look at the cross. Do you wish to see God's wrath? Look at the cross.

~D. A. Carson

That God normally operates the universe consistently makes science possible; that he does not always do so ought to keep science humble.

~D. A. Carson

You cannot find excellent corporate worship until you stop trying to find excellent corporate worship and pursue God himself.

~D. A. Carson

A weak understanding of what the Bible says about sin is tied to a weak understanding of what the Bible says is achieved by the cross.

~D. A. Carson

The New Testament writers did not invent a doctrine of Scripture they inherited it.

~D. A. Carson

Sin defies God, utterly corrupts each individual, corrodes all social relationships, and issues in death.

~D. A. Carson

What the Bible says is what God has disclosed and we want to

approach this sacred text with cognitive reverence.

~D. A. Carson

The Christian's whole desire, at its best and highest, is that Jesus Christ be praised. It is always a wretched bastardization of our goals when we want to win glory for ourselves instead of for him.

~D. A. Carson

Justice is not always done in this world; we see that everyday. But on the Last Day it will be done for all to see. And no one will be able to complain by saying, "This isn't fair."

~D. A. Carson

... the worst possible heritage to leave with children: high spiritual pretensions and low performance.

~D. A. Carson

Love the church because Jesus loves it.

~D. A. Carson

There is a certain kind of maturity that can be attained only through the discipline of suffering.

~D. A. Carson

A prayerless person is a disaster waiting to happen.

~D. A. Carson

There is no long-range effective teaching of the Bible that is not accompanied by long hours of ongoing study of the Bible.

~D. A. Carson

The kingdom of heaven is worth infinitely more than the cost of discipleship, and those who know where the treasure lies joyfully abandon everything else to secure it.

~D. A. Carson

The more clearly we see sins horror, the more we shall treasure the cross.

~D. A. Carson

The way you lose the gospel is not by denying it, but by assuming it.

~D. A. Carson

It is a cheap zeal that reserves its passions to combat only the sins and temptations of others.

~D. A. Carson

Sin corrupts even our good deeds. We injure our shoulder trying to pat ourselves on the back.

~D. A. Carson

God's love in John 3:16 is not amazing because the world is so big, but because the world is so bad.

~D. A. Carson

God is absolutely sovereign, but his sovereignty never mitigates human responsibility.

~D. A. Carson

When we suffer, there will sometimes be mystery... Will there also be faith?

~D. A. Carson

If it is hard to accept a rebuke, even a private one, it is harder still to administer one in loving humility.

~D. A. Carson

Sex is about timing. The world says: any time, any place. God says: my

time, my place.

~D. A. Carson

The truth of the matter is that inerrancy is simply a way of saying that there are no errors that call into question the truthfulness of Scripture wherever Scripture is making truth claims.

~D. A. Carson

Prayer is God's appointed means for appropriating the blessings that are ours in Christ Jesus.

~D. A. Carson

The more we get to know God, the more we want to know him better.

~D. A. Carson

To God on whom we rely knows what suffering is all about- not merely in the way that God knows everything, but by experience.

~D. A. Carson

To assume the gospel in one generation is to lose it in the next.

~D. A. Carson

We are dealing with God's thoughts: we are obligated to take the greatest pains to understand them truly and to explain them clearly.

~D. A. Carson

Failure to believe stems from moral failure to recognize the truth, not from want of evidence, but from willful neglect or distortion of the evidence.

~D. A. Carson

The Bible is not interested in precisionism unless the context indicates that precision is particularly important.

~D. A. Carson

Good praying is more easily caught than taught.

~D. A. Carson

When we suffer, there will sometimes be mystery. Will there also be faith? Yes, if our attention is focused more on the cross, and on the God of the cross, than on the suffering itself.

~D. A. Carson

Unchecked, the new tolerance will sooner or later put many people in chains.

~D. A. Carson

We treat the Bible, not as if it's a magic book that has to be handled like a piece of abracadabra, make sure it's dusted, never put it on the floor, and things like that.

~D. A. Carson

At the end of the day, in brief summary: inerrancy is interested in the truthfulness of Scripture and it is a powerful way forcing people to think about that reliability that is God-given.

~D. A. Carson

Some have argued that the Christian notion of Scripture is not epistemologically sustainable. It's not philosophically possible with rigor to uphold the Christian understanding of Scripture.

~D. A. Carson

There is no sense in which Mohammed is viewed as a writer.

~D. A. Carson

Some forms of absolutism are not bad; they may even be heroic.

~D. A. Carson

Most good evangelical Study Bibles have more in common than people

sometimes realize. All of them are committed to explaining the Bible to lay readers.

~D. A. Carson

The truth of the matter is that all we have to do is live long enough and we will suffer.

~D. A. Carson

Damn all false dichotomies to hell

~D. A. Carson

Our prayers may be an index of how small and self-centered our world is.

~D. A. Carson

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- Long Quotes
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