

# Demosthenes Quotes

*Men, Believe, Self, Wish, Inspirational, Tyrants, Wise, May, States, Want, Life,  
War, Deceit, Trust, Facts, Done, Thinking, People, Noble, Past*

Small opportunities are often the beginning of great enterprises.

~Demosthenes

It is not possible to found a lasting power upon injustice, perjury, and treachery.

~Demosthenes

All speech is vain and empty unless it be accompanied by action.

~Demosthenes

A man is his own easiest dupe, for what he wishes to be true he generally believes to be true.

~Demosthenes

Nothing is easier than self-deceit.

~Demosthenes

Success has a great tendency to conceal and throw a veil over the evil deeds of men.

~Demosthenes

Nothing is so easy as to deceive one's self; for what we wish, that we readily believe; but such expectations are often inconsistent with the real state of things.

~Demosthenes

Do you remember that in classical times when Cicero had finished speaking, the people said, "How well he spoke" but when Demosthenes had finished speaking, they said, "Let us march."

~Demosthenes

We need money, for sure, Athenians, and without money nothing can be done that ought to be done.

~Demosthenes

The best protection for the people is not necessarily to believe everything people tell them.

~Demosthenes

It is impossible for men engaged in low and groveling pursuits to have noble and generous sentiments. A man's thought must always follow his employment.

~Demosthenes

There is one safeguard known generally to the wise, which is an advantage and security to all, but especially to democracies as against despots - suspicion.

~Demosthenes

Every dictator is an enemy of freedom, an opponent of law.

~Demosthenes

The man who is in the highest state of prosperity, and who thinks his fortune is most secure, knows not if it will remain unchanged till the evening.

~Demosthenes

He who confers a favor should at once forget it, if he is not to show a sordid ungenerous spirit. To remind a man of a kindness conferred and to talk of it, is little different from reproach.

~Demosthenes

Good fortune is the greatest of blessings, but good counsel comes next, and the lack of it destroys the other also.

~Demosthenes

The end of wisdom is consultation and deliberation.

~Demosthenes

You cannot have a proud and chivalrous spirit if your conduct is mean and paltry; for whatever a man's actions are, such must be his spirit.

~Demosthenes

Whatever shall be to the advantage of all, may that prevail!

~Demosthenes

Great and unexpected successes are often the cause of foolish rushing into acts of extravagance.

~Demosthenes

Everything great is not always good, but all good things, are great.

~Demosthenes

What a man wishes, he will believe.

~Demosthenes

There is a great deal of wishful thinking in such cases it is the easiest thing of all to deceive ones self.

~Demosthenes

It is the natural disposition of all men to listen with pleasure to abuse and slander of their neighbour, and to hear with impatience those who utter praises of themselves.

~Demosthenes

The readiest and surest way to get rid of censure, is to correct ourselves.

~Demosthenes

What we have in us of the image of God is the love of truth and justice.

~Demosthenes

The man who flies shall fight again. [Lat., Qui fugiebat, rusus

praeliabitur.]

~Demosthenes

One believes in what one wants to believe in.

~Demosthenes

Nothing is so easy as to deceive oneself; for what we wish, we readily believe.

~Demosthenes

The man who has received a benefit ought always to remember it, but he who has granted it ought to forget the fact at once.

~Demosthenes

As a vessel is known by the sound, whether it be cracked or not; so men are proved, by their speeches, whether they be wise or foolish.

~Demosthenes

Excessive dealings with tyrants are not good for the security of free states.

~Demosthenes

By persistent labor man may attain to all excellence.

~Demosthenes

Nothing is more easy than to deceive one's self, as our affections are subtle persuaders.

~Demosthenes

Beware lest in your anxiety to avoid war you obtain a master

~Demosthenes

Close alliances with despots are never safe for free states.

~Demosthenes

The more able a man is, if he make ill use of his abilities, the more dangerous will he be to the commonwealth.

~Demosthenes

Clouds cannot cover secret places, nor denials conceal truth.

~Demosthenes

The sower of the seed is assuredly the author of the whole harvest of mischief.

~Demosthenes

The fact speak for themselves.

~Demosthenes

To remind a man of the good turns you have done him is very much like a reproach.

~Demosthenes

Small opportunities often presage great enterprises.

~Demosthenes

No man who is not willing to help himself has any right to apply to his friends, or to the gods.

~Demosthenes

I decline to buy repentance at the cost of ten thousand drachmas.

~Demosthenes

What we wish, that we readily believe.

~Demosthenes

Every advantage in the past is judged in the light of the final issue.

~Demosthenes

We believe whatever we want to believe.

~Demosthenes

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