

# Desiderius Erasmus

## Quotes

*Men, War, Wise, Book, Wisdom, Christian, Peace, Mind, Education, Life, Military, Eye, People, Inspirational, Party, Ignorance, Sweet, May, World, Lying*

Give light, and the darkness will disappear of itself.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Fortune favors the audacious.

~Desiderius Erasmus

A nail is driven out by another nail. Habit is overcome by habit.

~Desiderius Erasmus

By a Carpenter mankind was made, and only by that Carpenter can mankind be remade.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Read first the best books. The important thing for you is not how much you know, but the quality of what you know.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Reflection is a flower of the mind, giving out wholesome fragrance; but revelry is the same flower, when rank and running to seed.

~Desiderius Erasmus

It is the chiefest point of happiness that a man is willing to be what he is.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Besides, it happens (how, I cannot tell) that an idea launched like a javelin in proverbial form strikes with sharper point on the hearer's mind and leaves implanted barbs for meditation.

~Desiderius Erasmus

They take unbelievable pleasure in the hideous blast of the hunting horn and baying of the hounds. Dogs dung smells sweet as cinnamon to them.

~Desiderius Erasmus

No Man is wise at all Times, or is without his blind Side.

~Desiderius Erasmus

The majority of the common people loathe war and pray for peace; only a handful of individuals, whose evil joys depend on general misery, desire war.

~Desiderius Erasmus

The main hope of a nation lies in the proper education of its youth

~Desiderius Erasmus

War is sweet to those who haven't tasted it. Dulce bellum inexpertis.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Luther was guilty of two great crimes - he struck the Pope in his crown, and the monks in their belly.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Prevention is better than cure.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Nothing is as peevish and pedantic as men's judgments of one another.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Your library is your paradise.

~Desiderius Erasmus

War is delightful to those who have had no experience of it.

~Desiderius Erasmus

He who allows oppression shares the crime.

~Desiderius Erasmus

It is a greater advantage to be honestly educated than honorably born.

~Desiderius Erasmus

What is popularly called fame is nothing but an empty name and a legacy from paganism.

~Desiderius Erasmus

He who doesn't sin, is the greatest sinner of all.

~Desiderius Erasmus

What passes out of one's mouth passes into a hundred ears. It is a great misfortune not to have sense enough to speak well.

~Desiderius Erasmus

In the kingdom of the blind, the one-eyed man is king.

~Desiderius Erasmus

I put up with this church, in the hope that one day it will become better, just as it is constrained to put up with me in the hope that I will become better.

~Desiderius Erasmus

By burning Luther's books you may rid your bookshelves of him, but you will not rid men's minds of him.

~Desiderius Erasmus

The highest form of bliss is living with a certain degree of folly

~Desiderius Erasmus

The chief element of happiness is this: to want to be what you are.

~Desiderius Erasmus

It seems to me to be the best proof of an evangelical disposition, that persons are not angry when reproached, and have a Christian charity

for those that ill deserve it.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Do not be guilty of possessing a library of learned books while lacking learning yourself.

~Desiderius Erasmus

When I get a little money I buy books; and if any is left I buy food and clothes.

~Desiderius Erasmus

At last concluded that no creature was more miserable than man, for that all other creatures are content with those bounds that nature set them, only man endeavors to exceed them.

~Desiderius Erasmus

There is no joy in possession without sharing.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Everybody hates a prodigy, detests an old head on young shoulders.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Man's mind is so formed that it is far more susceptible to falsehood than to truth.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Apothegms are in history, the same as pearls in the sand, or gold in the mine.

~Desiderius Erasmus

I am a citizen of the world, known to all and to all a stranger.

~Desiderius Erasmus

The most disadvantageous peace is better than the most just war.

~Desiderius Erasmus

It is an unscrupulous intellect that does not pay to antiquity its due reverence.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Wherever you encounter truth, look upon it as Christianity.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Now I believe I can hear the philosophers protesting that it can only be misery to live in folly, illusion, deception and ignorance, but it isn't -it's human.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Eagles don't catch flies.

~Desiderius Erasmus

They may attack me with an army of six hundred syllogisms; and if I do not recant, they will proclaim me a heretic.

~Desiderius Erasmus

[N]o party is any fun unless seasoned with folly.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Fortune favours the audacious.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Heaven grant that the burden you carry may have as easy an exit as it had an entrance. Prayer To A Pregnant Woman

~Desiderius Erasmus

Our determination to imitate Christ should be such that we have no time for other matters.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Fools are without number.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Before you sleep, read something that is exquisite, and worth remembering.

~Desiderius Erasmus

You must acquire the best knowledge first, and without delay; it is the height of madness to learn what you will later have to unlearn.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Frugality is a handsome income.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Don't give your advice before you are called upon.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Great abundance of riches cannot be gathered and kept by any man without sin.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Bidden or unbidden, God is present.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Time takes away the grief of men.

~Desiderius Erasmus

By identifying the new learning with heresy, you make orthodoxy synonymous with ignorance.

~Desiderius Erasmus

No one respects a talent that is concealed.

~Desiderius Erasmus

The desire to write grows with writing.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Great eagerness in the pursuit of wealth, pleasure, or honor, cannot exist without sin.

~Desiderius Erasmus

There is nothing I congratulate myself on more heartily than on never having joined a sect.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Many times what cannot be refuted by arguments can be parried by laughter.

~Desiderius Erasmus

So our student will flit like a busy bee through the entire garden of literature, light on every blossom, collect a little nectar from each, and carry it to his hive.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Concealed talent brings no reputation.

~Desiderius Erasmus

The more ignorant, reckless and thoughtless a doctor is, the higher his reputation soars even amongst powerful princes.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Love that has nothing but beauty to keep it in good health is short-lived.

~Desiderius Erasmus

I have turned my entire attention to Greek. The first thing I shall do, as soon as the money arrives, is to buy some Greek authors; after that, I shall buy clothes.



~Desiderius Erasmus

Nowadays the rage for possession has got to such a pitch that there is nothing in the realm of nature, whether sacred or profane, out of which profit cannot be squeezed.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Of two evils choose the least.

~Desiderius Erasmus

War is sweet to those who have not experienced it.

~Desiderius Erasmus

It's the generally accepted privilege of theologians to stretch the heavens, that is the Scriptures, like tanners with a hide.

~Desiderius Erasmus

It is wisdom in prosperity, when all is as thou wouldn't have it, to fear and suspect the worst.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Only a very few can be learned, but all can be Christian, all can be devout, and - I shall boldly add - all can be theologians.

~Desiderius Erasmus

The entire world is my temple, and a very fine one too, if I'm not mistaken, and I'll never lack priests to serve it as long as there are men.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Man is to man either a god or a wolf.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Whether a party can have much success without a woman present I

must ask others to decide, but one thing is certain, no party is any fun unless seasoned with folly.

~Desiderius Erasmus

He who shuns the millstone, shuns the meal.

~Desiderius Erasmus

If you look at history you'll find that no state has been so plagued by its rulers as when power has fallen into the hands of some dabbler in philosophy or literary addict.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Young bodies are like tender plants, which grow and become hardened to whatever shape you've trained them.

~Desiderius Erasmus

A good portion of speaking will consist in knowing how to lie.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Human affairs are so obscure and various that nothing can be clearly known.

~Desiderius Erasmus

[Only by] the good influence of our conduct may we bring salvation in human affairs; or like a fatal comet we may bring destruction in our train.

~Desiderius Erasmus

God has administered to us of the present age, a bitter draught and a harsh physician, on account of our abounding infirmities.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Scarcely is there any peace so unjust that it is better than even the fairest war. -Vix ulla tam iniqua pax, quin bello vel aequissimo sit potior

~Desiderius Erasmus

War is delightful for those who don't know it

~Desiderius Erasmus

Invoked or not invoked, the god is present.

~Desiderius Erasmus

It is folly alone that stays the fugue of Youth and beats off touring Old Age.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Anything which causes trouble has special merit in their eyes.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Given a choice between a folly and a sacrament, one should always choose the folly because we know a sacrament will not bring us closer to god and there's always the chance that a folly will.

~Desiderius Erasmus

They are looking in utter darkness for that which has no existence whatsoever.

~Desiderius Erasmus

The wedlocks of minds will be greater than that of bodies.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Dulce bellum inexpertis. - War is lovely for those who know nothing about it.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Human affairs are so obscure and various that nothing can be clearly known. This was the sound conclusion of the Academic sceptics, who were the least surly of philosophers.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Do not put chewed bones back on plates. Instead, throw them on the floor for the dog.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Modern church music is so constructed that the congregation cannot hear one distinct word.

~Desiderius Erasmus

To know nothing is the happiest life.

~Desiderius Erasmus

...it is a sneaking piece of cowardice for authors to put feigned names to their works, as if, like bastards of their brain, they were afraid to own them.

~Desiderius Erasmus

'Tis an easier matter to raise the devil than to lay him.

~Desiderius Erasmus

The opinion formulated by the Church has more value in my eyes than human reasons, whatever they may be.

~Desiderius Erasmus

Retain the wind by compressing the belly.

~Desiderius Erasmus

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