

# Francesco Guicciardini

## Quotes

*Men, Evil, Affair, Reason, Ambition, Change, People, World, Succeed, Eye, Lying, May, Life, Giving, Thinking, Guides, Wind, Benefits, Running, Males*

Since there is nothing so well worth having as friends, never lose a chance to make them.

~Francesco Guicciardini

We fight to great disadvantage when we fight with those who have nothing to lose.

~Francesco Guicciardini

Waste no time with revolutions that do not remove the causes of your complaints but simply change the faces of those in charge.

~Francesco Guicciardini

The return we reap from generous actions is not always evident.

~Francesco Guicciardini

Keep your eye fixed not so much on what they [people] ought in reason to do, as on what they are likely to do based on their disposition and habits.

~Francesco Guicciardini

By numberless examples it will evidently appear that human affairs are as subject to change and fluctuation as the waters of the sea agitated by the winds.

~Francesco Guicciardini

There is nothing so fleeting as the memory of benefits received.

~Francesco Guicciardini

To give vent now and then to his feelings, whether of pleasure or discontent, is a great ease to a man's heart.

~Francesco Guicciardini

Ambition is not in itself an evil; nor is he to be condemned whose spirit prompts him to seek fame by worthy and honourable ways.

~Francesco Guicciardini

...be more guided by hope than fear.

~Francesco Guicciardini

Affairs that depend on many rarely succeed.

~Francesco Guicciardini

Ambassadors are the eye and ear of states.

~Francesco Guicciardini

Let no one trust so entirely to natural prudence as to persuade himself that it will suffice to guide him without help from experience.

~Francesco Guicciardini

To relinquish a present good through apprehension of a future evil is in most instances unwise ... from a fear which may afterwards turn out groundless, you lost the good that lay within your grasp.

~Francesco Guicciardini

There is no evil in human affairs that has not some good mingled with it. [It., Non e male alcuno nelle cose umane che non abbia congiunto seco qualche bene.]

~Francesco Guicciardini

How much luckier than all the rest of mankind are the astrologers who, if they tell one truth among a hundred lies, obtain so much credit that even their lies are believed.

~Francesco Guicciardini

He who imitates what is evil always goes beyond the example that is set; on the contrary, he who imitates what is good always falls short.

~Francesco Guicciardini

He is less likely to be mistaken who looks forward to a change in the affairs of the world than he who regards them as firm and stable.

~Francesco Guicciardini

It is a great matter to be in authority over others; for authority, if it be rightly used, will make you feared beyond your actual resources.

~Francesco Guicciardini

Experience has always shown, and reason also, that affairs which depend on many seldom succeed.

~Francesco Guicciardini

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