

Francois Rabelais

Quotes

*Men, Drinking, War, Wine, World, Food, Religion, Believe, Hunger, Laughter,
Life, Faith, Doe, Mind, Wisdom, Waiting, Devil, Order, Art, Wise*

We always long for the forbidden things, and desire what is denied us.

~Francois Rabelais

A habit does not a monk make.

~Francois Rabelais

Tell the truth and shame the devil.

~Francois Rabelais

A child is not a vase to be filled, but a fire to be lit.

~Francois Rabelais

Keep running after a dog and he will never bite you.

~Francois Rabelais

If the skies fall, one may hope to catch larks.

~Francois Rabelais

If you wish to avoid seeing a fool, you must first break your mirror

~Francois Rabelais

You have no obligation under the sun other than to discover your real needs, to fulfill them, and to rejoice in doing so.

~Francois Rabelais

If the head is lost, all that perishes is the individual; if the balls are lost, all of human nature perishes.

~Francois Rabelais

Ignorance is the mother of all evils.

~Francois Rabelais

Gestures, in love, are incomparably more attractive, effective and valuable than words.

~Francois Rabelais

When I drink, I think; and when I think, I drink.

~Francois Rabelais

One falls to the ground in trying to sit on two stools.

~Francois Rabelais

Science without conscience is the soul's perdition.

~Francois Rabelais

Appetite comes with eating.....but thirst goes away with drinking.

~Francois Rabelais

I place no hope in my strength, nor in my works: but all my confidence is in God my protector, who never abandons those who have put all their hope and thought in him.

~Francois Rabelais

It is my feeling that Time ripens all things; with Time all things are revealed; Time is the father of truth.

~Francois Rabelais

The scent of wine, oh how much more agreeable, laughing, praying, celestial and delicious it is than that of oil!

~Francois Rabelais

I drink no more than a sponge.

~Francois Rabelais

I never sleep comfortably except when I am at sermon or when I pray to God.

~Francois Rabelais

A war undertaken without sufficient monies has but a wisp of force.
Coins are the very sinews of battles.

~Francois Rabelais

There is no truer cause of unhappiness amongst men than, where naturally expecting charity and benevolence, they receive harm and vexation.

~Francois Rabelais

Languages exist by arbitrary institutions and conventions among peoples; words, as the dialecticians tell us, do not signify naturally, but at our pleasure.

~Francois Rabelais

Debts and lies are generally mixed together.

~Francois Rabelais

Remove idleness from the world and soon the arts of Cupid would perish.

~Francois Rabelais

No clock is more regular than the belly.

~Francois Rabelais

I'd rather write about laughing than crying, For laughter makes men human, and courageous.

~Francois Rabelais

Half the world does not know how the other half lives.

~Francois Rabelais

Machination is worth more than force.

~Francois Rabelais

I drink eternally. For me it is an eternity of drinking, and a drinking up of eternity.

~Francois Rabelais

Everything comes in time to those who can wait.

~Francois Rabelais

So much is a man worth as he esteems himself.

~Francois Rabelais

The deed will be accomplished with the least amount of bloodshed possible, and, if possible ..., we'll save all the souls and send them happily off to their abode.

~Francois Rabelais

A good intention does not mean honor. [Fr., A bon entendeur ne faut qu'un parole.]

~Francois Rabelais

Nature abhors a vacuum.

~Francois Rabelais

Friends, you will notice that in this world there are many more ballocks than men. Remember this.

~Francois Rabelais

It's a shame to be called "educated" those who do not study the ancient Greek writers.

~Francois Rabelais

Bring down the curtain, the farce is over

~Francois Rabelais

Frugality is for the vulgar.

~Francois Rabelais

If you understand why a monkey in a family is always mocked and harassed, you understand why monks are rejected by all--both old and young.

~Francois Rabelais

I am going to seek a great purpose, draw the curtain, the farce is played.

~Francois Rabelais

I build only living stones--men.

~Francois Rabelais

To good and true love, fear is forever affixed.

~Francois Rabelais

There are more old drunkards than old physicians.

~Francois Rabelais

How do you know antiquity was foolish? How do you know the present is wise? Who made it foolish? Who made it wise?

~Francois Rabelais

All's well in the end, if you've only the patience to wait.

~Francois Rabelais

He who has not an adventure has not horse or mule, so says Solomon.--Who is too adventurous, said Echephron,--loses horse and mule.

~Francois Rabelais

One inch of joy surmounts of grief a span, Because to laugh is proper to the man.

~Francois Rabelais

Appetite comes with eating.

~Francois Rabelais

Because just as arms have no force outside if there is no counsel within a house, study is vain and counsel useless that is not put to virtuous effect when the time calls.

~Francois Rabelais

Petite ville, grand renom. Small town, great renown.

~Francois Rabelais

Between two stools one sits on the ground.

~Francois Rabelais

Time, which wears down and diminishes all things, augments and increases good deeds, because a good turn liberally offered to a reasonable man grows continually through noble thought and memory.

~Francois Rabelais

Of a young hermit, an old devil. [Fr., De jeune hermite, vieil diable.]

~Francois Rabelais

How shall I be able to rule over others, that have not full power and command of myself?

~Francois Rabelais

Misery is the company of lawsuits.

~Francois Rabelais

I am going to seek a grand perhaps.

~Francois Rabelais

To laugh is proper to man.

~Francois Rabelais

Hungry bellies have no ears. [Fr., La ventre affame n'point d'oreilles.]

~Francois Rabelais

I am going to seek a great perhaps.

~Francois Rabelais

I never sleep in comfort save when I am hearing a sermon or praying to God.

~Francois Rabelais

We will take the good-will for the deed.

~Francois Rabelais

Against fortune the carter cracks his whip in vain. [Fr., Centre fortune, la diverse un chartier rompit nazardes son fouet.]

~Francois Rabelais

It is the custom on Africa to always produce new and monstrous things. [Fr., Afrique est coustumiere toujours choses produire nouvelles et monstrueuses.]

~Francois Rabelais

Hungry bellies have no cars.

~Francois Rabelais

It is folly to put the plough in front of the oxen.

~Francois Rabelais

The remedy for thirst? It is the opposite of the one for a dog bite: run always after a dog, he'll never bite you; drink always before thirst, and it will never overtake you.

~Francois Rabelais

He that has patience may compass anything.

~Francois Rabelais

Bottle, whose Mysterious Deep Do's ten thousand Secrets keep, With attentive Ear I wait; Ease my Mind, and speak my Fate.

~Francois Rabelais

From the gut comes the strut, and where hunger reigns, strength abstains.

~Francois Rabelais

The farce is finished. I go to seek a vast perhaps.

~Francois Rabelais

A crier of green sauce.

~Francois Rabelais

The Devil was sick - the Devil a monk would be, The Devil was well the devil a monk was he

~Francois Rabelais

The appetite grows with eating.

~Francois Rabelais

But where are the snows of last year? That was the greatest concern of Villon, the Parisian poet.

~Francois Rabelais

A bellyful is a bellyful.

~Francois Rabelais

Believe me, 'tis a godlike thing to lend; to owe is a heroic virtue.

~Francois Rabelais

Don't limp in front of the lame.

~Francois Rabelais

I owe much; I have nothing; the rest I leave to the poor.

~Francois Rabelais

Wisdom entereth not into a malicious mind.

~Francois Rabelais

I've often heard it said, as the common proverb goes, that a fool can teach a wise man well.

~Francois Rabelais

In their rules there was only one clause: Do what you will.

~Francois Rabelais

It is better to write of laughter than of tears, for laughter is the property of man.

~Francois Rabelais

Let every one be fully convinced in his own mind.

~Francois Rabelais

Indeed, said the monk, a mass, a matins, and vespers well rung are half-said.

~Francois Rabelais

So that we may not be like the Athenians, who never consulted except after the event done. [Fr., Afin que ne semblons es Athenians, qui ne consultoient jamais sinon apres le cas faict.]

~Francois Rabelais

Plain as a nose in a man's face.

~Francois Rabelais

I do not drink more than a sponge.

~Francois Rabelais

The belly has no ears nor is it to be filled with fair words.

~Francois Rabelais

Row on [whatever happens]. [Lat., Vogue la galere.]

~Francois Rabelais

I urge you to spend your youth profitably in study and virtue.... In brief, let me see in you an abyss of knowledge.

~Francois Rabelais

The dress does not make the monk. [Fr., L'habit ne fait le moine.]

~Francois Rabelais

I won't undertake war until I have tried all the arts and means of peace.

~Francois Rabelais

I have known many who could not when they would, for they had not done it when they could.

~Francois Rabelais

I know of a charm by way of a prayer that will preserve a man from the violence of guns and all manner of fire-weapons and engines but it will do me no good because I do not believe it

~Francois Rabelais

Science sans conscience n' est que le ruine de l'Âme. Knowledge without conscience is but the ruine of the soule.

~Francois Rabelais

Such is the nature and make-up of the French that they are only good at the start. Then they are worse than devils, but, given time, they're less than women.

~Francois Rabelais

Nature made the day for exercise, work and seeing to one's business; and ... it provides us with a candle, which is to say the bright and joyous light of the sun.

~Francois Rabelais

One should never pursue the hazards of fortune to their very ends and it behooves all adventurers to treat their good luck with reverence, neither bothering nor upsetting it.

~Francois Rabelais

Not everyone is a debtor who wishes to be; not everyone who wishes makes creditors.

~Francois Rabelais

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