

Golda Meir Quotes

*Israel, Funny, Children, War, Humorous, Men, People, Country, Women, Hate,
Believe, Thinking, Inspirational, World, Struggle, Night, Compromise,
Memorable, Giving Up, Forgiving*

We do not rejoice in victories. We rejoice when a new kind of cotton is grown and when strawberries bloom in Israel.

~Golda Meir

One cannot and must not try to erase the past merely because it does not fit the present.

~Golda Meir

Trust yourself. Create the kind of self that you will be happy to live with all your life. Make the most of yourself by fanning the tiny, inner sparks of possibility into flames of achievement.

~Golda Meir

Trust yourself. Create the kind of self that you will be happy to live with all your life.

~Golda Meir

Don't be humble... you're not that great.

~Golda Meir

You'll never find a better sparring partner than adversity.

~Golda Meir

The Egyptians could run to Egypt, the Syrians into Syria. The only place we could run was into the sea, and before we did that we might as well fight.

~Golda Meir

There is no such thing as a Palestinian people... It is not as if we came and threw them out and took their country. They didn't exist.

~Golda Meir

I must govern the clock, not be governed by it.

~Golda Meir

Let me tell you something that we Israelis have against Moses. He took us 40 years through the desert in order to bring us to the one spot in the Middle East that has no oil!

~Golda Meir

By the way, did you ever realize that if Moses would have turned right instead of left, we'd have had the oil, the Arabs would have had the sand?

~Golda Meir

Ability hits the mark where presumption overshoots and diffidence falls short.

~Golda Meir

If we have to have a choice between being dead and pitied, and being alive with a bad image, we'd rather be alive and have the bad image.

~Golda Meir

Pessimism is a luxury that a Jew can never allow himself.

~Golda Meir

The world hates a Jew who hits back. The world loves us only when we are to be pitied.

~Golda Meir

The only way to eliminate war is to love our children more than we hate our enemies.

~Golda Meir

We Jews have a secret weapon in our struggle with the Arabs; we have no place to go.

~Golda Meir

This country exists as the fulfillment of a promise made by God Himself.

It would be ridiculous to ask it to account for its legitimacy.

~Golda Meir

Don't become cynical. Don't give up hope. Don't believe that everything is judged only by expediency. There is idealism in this world. There is human brotherhood.

~Golda Meir

It isn't enough to believe in something; you have to have the stamina to meet obstacles and overcome them, to struggle.

~Golda Meir

A leader who doesn't hesitate before he sends his nation into battle is not fit to be a leader.

~Golda Meir

Above all, this country is our own. Nobody has to get up in the morning and worry what his neighbors think of him. Being a Jew is no problem here.

~Golda Meir

Every civilization finds it necessary to negotiate compromises with its own values.

~Golda Meir

Those that perished in Hitler's gas chambers were the last Jews to die without standing up to defend themselves.

~Golda Meir

Those who don't know how to weep with their whole heart, don't know how to laugh either.

~Golda Meir

There can be no doubt that the average man blames much more than

he praises. His instinct is to blame. If he is satisfied he says nothing; if he is not, he most illogically kicks up a row.

~Golda Meir

There will be peace in the Middle East only when the Arabs love their children more than they hate Israel.

~Golda Meir

To be or not to be is not a question of compromise. Either you be or you don't be.

~Golda Meir

Arab sovereignty in Jerusalem just cannot be. This city will not be divided - not half and half, not 60-40, not 75-25, nothing.

~Golda Meir

Israel itself is the strongest guarantee against another Holocaust.

~Golda Meir

I don't know why you use a fancy French word like detente when there's a good English phrase for it - cold war.

~Golda Meir

You can't improve on saying nothing.

~Golda Meir

Glorious bouquets and storms of applause are the trimmings which every artist naturally enjoys.

~Golda Meir

Men are committing the rapes. Let them be put under curfew.

~Golda Meir

We don't thrive on military acts. We do them because we have to, and

thank God we are efficient.

~Golda Meir

Not being beautiful was the true blessing. Not being beautiful forced me to develop my inner resources. The pretty girl has a handicap to overcome.

~Golda Meir

Old age is like a plane flying through a storm. Once you're aboard, there's nothing you can do.

~Golda Meir

At work, you think of the children you have left at home. At home, you think of the work you've left unfinished. Such a struggle is unleashed within yourself. Your heart is rent.

~Golda Meir

The only alternative to war is peace and the only road to peace is negotiations.

~Golda Meir

Anybody who believes in something without reservation believes that this thing is right and should be, has the stamina to meet obstacles and overcome them.

~Golda Meir

How can we return the occupied territories? There is nobody to return them to.

~Golda Meir

It is always much easier, I have discovered, to make people cry or gasp than to make them think.

~Golda Meir

To be successful, a woman has to be much better at her job than a man.

~Golda Meir

I'm sure that someday children in schools will study the history of the men who made war as you study an absurdity. They'll be shocked, just as today we're shocked with cannibalism.

~Golda Meir

Whether women are better than men I cannot say - but I can say they are certainly no worse.

~Golda Meir

We only want that which is given naturally to all peoples of the world, to be masters of our own fate, not of others, and in cooperation and friendship with others.

~Golda Meir

You can get used to anything if you have to, even feeling perpetually guilty.

~Golda Meir

There's no difference between one's killing and making decisions that will send others to kill. It's exactly the same thing, or even worse.

~Golda Meir

We can forgive you for killing our children, but we can never forgive you for making us kill your children.

~Golda Meir

Zionism and pessimism are not compatible.

~Golda Meir

The dog that trots about finds a bone.

~Golda Meir

Fashion is an imposition, a reign on freedom.

~Golda Meir

I can honestly say that I was never affected by the question of the success of an undertaking. If I felt it was the right thing to do, I was for it regardless of the possible outcome.

~Golda Meir

Women's liberation is just a lot of foolishness. It's men who are discriminated against. They can't bear children. And no one is likely to do anything about that.

~Golda Meir

It is not a sin to be seventy but it is also no joke.

~Golda Meir

If only political leaders would allow themselves to feel, as well as to think, the world might be a happier place.

~Golda Meir

Men who have reached and passed forty-five, have a look as if waiting for the secret of the other world, and as if they were perfectly sure of having found out the secret of this.

~Golda Meir

The Soviet government is the most realistic regime in the world - no ideals.

~Golda Meir

There was no such thing as Palestinians, they never existed.

~Golda Meir

I don't want to have a bad influence on anybody, but there's no point in my giving up cigarettes now. I won't die young.

~Golda Meir

I never did anything alone. Whatever was accomplished in this country was accomplished collectively.

~Golda Meir

There is no such thing as a Palestinian.

~Golda Meir

From Russia I didn't bring out a single happy memory, only sad, tragic ones. The nightmare of pogroms, the brutality of Cossacks charging young Socialists, fear, shrieks of terror.

~Golda Meir

Being seventy is not a sin. It's not a joy, either.

~Golda Meir

We say peace and the echo comes back from the other side, war. We don't want wars even when we win.

~Golda Meir

There is only one thing I hope to see before I die, and that is that my people should not need expressions of sympathy anymore.

~Golda Meir

Show me a sensible person who likes himself or herself! I know myself too well to like what I see. I know but too well that I'm not what I'd like to be.

~Golda Meir

We don't want wars even when we win.

~Golda Meir

The public history of modern art is the story of conventional people not knowing what they are dealing with.

~Golda Meir

Can we today measure devotion to husband and children by our indifference to everything else?

~Golda Meir

I'm a slave to this leaf in a diary that lists what I must do, what I must say, every half hour.

~Golda Meir

the modern woman asks herself: Is there something wrong with me if my children don't fill up my life?

~Golda Meir

I have always felt sorry for people afraid of feeling, of sentimentality, who are unable to weep with their whole heart. Because those who do not know how to weep do not know how to laugh either.

~Golda Meir

The deserts of the Middle East are in need of water, not bombers.

~Golda Meir

How does it feel to be a woman minister? I don't know; I've never been a man minister.

~Golda Meir

It is true we have won all our wars, but we have paid for them. We don't want victories anymore.

~Golda Meir

We will not forgive you for making us kill your sons.

~Golda Meir

As President Nixon says, presidents can do almost anything, and President Nixon has done many things that nobody would have thought of doing.

~Golda Meir

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