

Harry Emerson Fosdick Quotes

*Men, Life, Inspirational, Spiritual, Faith, Science, Love, Character, War, Spring,
Change, Friendship, People, God, Hate, Peace, Stars, Prayer, 4th Of July,
Freedom*

Hating people is like burning down your own house to get rid of a rat.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

A person wrapped up in himself makes a small package.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Every human life involves an unfathomable mystery, for man is the riddle of the universe, and the riddle of man in his endowment with personal capacities.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

In the foothills of the Himalayas, one hears the prayer: "Oh Lord, we know not what is good for us. You know what it is. For it we pray."

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

I would rather live in a world where my life is surrounded by mystery than live in a world so small that my mind could comprehend it.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Life is like a library owned by the author. In it are a few books which he wrote himself, but most of them were written for him.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

No life ever grows great until it is focused, dedicated, disciplined.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

No virtue is more universally accepted as a test of good character than trustworthiness .

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Prayer opens our lives for God so his will can be done in and through us, because in true prayer we habitually put ourselves into the attitude of willingness to do whatever God wills.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

It is magnificent to grow old, if one keeps young.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Always take a job that is too big for you.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Picture yourself vividly as winning, and that alone will contribute immeasurably to success.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

It is not marriage that fails; it is people that fail. All that marriage does is to show people up.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Hold a picture of yourself long and steadily enough in your mind's eye and you will be drawn toward it. Picture yourself vividly as winning and that alone will contribute immeasurably to success.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

He is a poor patriot whose patriotism does not enable him to understand how all men everywhere feel about their altars and their hearthstones, their flag and their fatherland.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

One must have the adventurous daring to accept oneself as a bundle of possibilities and undertake the most interesting game in the world -- making the most of one's best.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Bitterness imprisons life; love releases it.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Liberty is always dangerous, but it is the safest thing we have.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

The steady discipline of intimate friendship with Jesus results in men becoming like Him.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Falsehood is never better than truth, theft better than honesty, treachery better than loyalty, cowardice better than courage.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

[L]ife ceases to be a fraction and becomes an integer.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Fear imprisons, faith liberates; fear paralyzes, faith empowers; fear disheartens, faith encourages; fear sickens, faith heals; fear makes useless, faith also makes serviceable as quotes.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

No man need stay the way he is.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

God is not a cosmic bellboy for whom we can press a button to get things.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

War's tragedy is that it uses man's best to do man's worst.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

To keep the Golden Rule we must put ourselves in other people's places, but to do that consists in and depends upon picturing ourselves in their places.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Don't simply retire from something; have something to retire to.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Democracy is based upon the conviction that there are extraordinary possibilities in ordinary people.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

I hate war... for the dictatorships it puts in the place of democracies, and for the starvation that stalks after it.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

I hate war for its consequences, for the lies it lives on and propagates, for the undying hatreds it arouses.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Real Christians do not carry their religion, their religion carries them. It is not weight, it is wings.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Life asks not merely what you can do; it asks how much can you endure and not be spoiled.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

He who cannot rest, cannot work; he who cannot let go, cannot hold on; he who cannot find footing, cannot go forward.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

It is cynicism and fear that freeze life; it is faith that thaws it out, releases it, sets it free.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Peace is an awareness of reserves from beyond ourselves, so that our power is not so much in us as through us. Peace is the gift, not of volitional struggle, but of spiritual hospitality.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

While each of us ... has depressed hours, none of us needs to be a

depressed person.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

He is a poor son whose sonship does not make him desire to serve all men's mothers.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

No character is ultimately tested until it has suffered.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

One could almost phrase the motto of our modern civilization thus: Science is my shepherd; I shall not want.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

No one can be wrong with man and right with God.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

God has put within our lives meanings and possibilities that quite outrun the limits of mortality.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Life consists not simply in what heredity and environment do to us, but in what we make out of what they do to us

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Christians are supposed not merely to endure change, nor even to profit by it, but to cause it.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

He who picks up one end of a stick picks up the other. He who chooses the beginning of a road chooses the place it leads to. It is the means that determine the end.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

No one can get inner peace by pouncing on it.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

We cannot all be great, but we can always attach ourselves to something that is great.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Whatever you laugh at in others, laughs at yourself

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

No man is the whole of himself; his friends are the rest of him.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

All altruism springs from putting yourself in the other person's place.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

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It is by acts (actions) and not by ideas (mere thoughts) that people [really] live.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Atheism is a theoretical formulation of the discouraged life.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Preaching is personal counseling on a group basis.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Nothing in human life, least of all in religion, is ever right until it is beautiful.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

One of the strange phenomena of the last century is the spectacle of religion dropping the appeal of fear while other human interests have picked it up.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Religion is something that only secondarily can be taught. It must primarily be taught.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

All intelligent faith in God has behind it a background of humble agnosticism.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Opinions may be mistaken; love never is.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

One never finds life worth living. One always has to make it work living.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Our power is not so much in us as through us.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Every failure can be considered as a tragedy or a chance to learn something. The latter is healthier

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

We cannot restore integrity and morality to our society until each of us-singly and individually-takes responsibility for our actions.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

The stars are not so strange as the mind that studies them, analyzes their light, and measures their distance.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Of all mad faiths maddest is the faith that we can get rid of faith.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Every year the inventions of science weave more inextricably the web that binds man to man, group to group, nation to nation.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

The all but unanimous judgment seems to be that we, the democracies, are just as responsible for the rise of the dictators as the dictatorships themselves, and perhaps more so.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Democracy is not simply a political system; it is a moral movement and it springs from adventurous faith in human possibilities.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

The finest quality of our characters do not come from trying but from the mysterious and yet most effective capacity to be inspired.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Self-pity gets you nowhere. But insight to see that something can be done with the second-bests and adventurous daring to try might be a handle to take hold of.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Great living starts with a picture, held in your imagination, of what you would like to do or be.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

What a testing of character adversity is.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Happiness is not mostly pleasure, it is mostly victory.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

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