

Harry S. Truman

Quotes

*Men, War, People, Country, President, Political, Thinking, Government, World,
Presidential, Leadership, Believe, Peace, Politics, Years, Hands, Religious,
Jobs, Inspirational, Two*

An honest public servant can't become rich in politics. He can only attain greatness and satisfaction by service.

~Harry S. Truman

I sincerely regret the unfortunate choice of language which I used in my letter of August 29 to Congressman McDonough concerning the Marine Corps.

~Harry S. Truman

It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit.

~Harry S. Truman

Work Hard. Do your best. Keep your word. Never get too big for your britches. Trust in God. Have no fear; and Never forget a friend.

~Harry S. Truman

My choice early in life was either to be a piano player in a whorehouse or a politician. To tell the truth, there's hardly a difference.

~Harry S. Truman

America was not built on fear. America was built on courage, on imagination and an unbeatable determination to do the job at hand.

~Harry S. Truman

Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude. America will never forget their sacrifices.

~Harry S. Truman

A President needs political understanding to run the government, but he may be elected without it.

~Harry S. Truman

Democrats work to help people who need help. That other party, they work for people who don't need help. That's all there is to it.

~Harry S. Truman

Everybody has the right to express what he thinks. That, of course, lets the crackpots in. But if you cannot tell a crackpot when you see one, then you ought to be taken in.

~Harry S. Truman

Term limits would cure both senility and seniority- both terrible legislative diseases.

~Harry S. Truman

He "wasn't used to being criticized, and he never did get it through his head that's what politics is all about. He was used to getting his ass kissed."

~Harry S. Truman

When the Liberals said they were going to create a million new jobs, I didn't think they were all going to be tax collectors. If you can't convince them, confuse them.

~Harry S. Truman

Given the choice between a Republican and someone who acts like a Republican, people will vote for the real Republican all the time

~Harry S. Truman

When even one American - who has done nothing wrong - is forced by fear to shut his mind and close his mouth - then all Americans are in peril.

~Harry S. Truman

Three things ruin a man: power, money, and women. I never wanted power. I never had any money, and the only woman in my life is up at

the house right now.

~Harry S. Truman

There's nothing better than cake but more cake.

~Harry S. Truman

Without a strong educational system â€” free of government control â€” democracy is crippled. Knowledge is not only the key to power. It is the citadel of human freedom.

~Harry S. Truman

A pessimist is one who makes difficulties of his opportunities and an optimist is one who makes opportunities of his difficulties.

~Harry S. Truman

I never did give anybody hell. I just told the truth and they thought it was hell.

~Harry S. Truman

The only things worth learning are the things you learn after you know it all.

~Harry S. Truman

I never would have agreed to the formulation of the Central Intelligence Agency back in forty-seven, if I had known it would become the American Gestapo.

~Harry S. Truman

There are always a lot of people so afraid of rocking the boat that they stop rowing. We can never get ahead that way.

~Harry S. Truman

It's a recession when your neighbor loses his job; it's a depression when you lose yours.

~Harry S. Truman

Never kick a fresh turd on a hot day.

~Harry S. Truman

Religious and racial persecution is moronic at all times, perhaps the most idiotic of human stupidities.

~Harry S. Truman

There is some risk involved in action, there always is. But there is far more risk in failure to act.

~Harry S. Truman

Of course, there are dangers in religious freedom and freedom of opinion. But to deny these rights is worse than dangerous, it is absolutely fatal to liberty.

~Harry S. Truman

In periods where there is no leadership, society stands still.

~Harry S. Truman

Selfishness and greed, individual or national, cause most of our troubles.

~Harry S. Truman

My favorite animal is the mule. He has more horse sense than a horse. He knows when to stop eating - and he knows when to stop working.

~Harry S. Truman

Experience has shown how deeply the seeds of war are planted by economic rivalry and social injustice.

~Harry S. Truman

The only thing new in the world is the history you don't know.

~Harry S. Truman

Intense feeling too often obscures the truth.

~Harry S. Truman

A bureaucrat is a Democrat who holds some office that a Republican wants.

~Harry S. Truman

When the decision is up before you-and on my desk I have a motto which says "The buck stops here"-the decision has to be made.

~Harry S. Truman

The Marshall Plan will go down in history as one of America's greatest contributions to the peace of the world.

~Harry S. Truman

If you want a friend in Washington, buy a dog.

~Harry S. Truman

Imperfect action is better than perfect inaction.

~Harry S. Truman

The best way to give advice to your children is to find out what they want and then advise them to do it.

~Harry S. Truman

It doesn't matter how big a ranch you own or how many cows you brand, the size of your funeral is still gonna depend on the weather.

~Harry S. Truman

Ignorance and its hand-maidens, prejudice, intolerance, suspicion of our fellowman, breed dictators and breed wars.

~Harry S. Truman

The difficulty with businessmen entering politics, after they've had a successful business career, is that they want to start at the top.

~Harry S. Truman

It's not the hand that signs the laws that holds the destiny of America. It's the hand that casts the ballot.

~Harry S. Truman

I do not believe there is a problem in this country or the world today which could not be settled if approached through the teaching of the Sermon on the Mount.

~Harry S. Truman

We must remember that the test of our religious principles lies not just in what we say, not only in our prayers, not even in living blameless lives - but in what we do for others

~Harry S. Truman

Those who want the Government to regulate matters of the mind and spirit are like men who are so afraid of being murdered that they commit suicide to avoid assassination.

~Harry S. Truman

Why, this fellow doesn't know any more about politics than a pig knows about Sunday.

~Harry S. Truman

Human life is something that comes to us from beyond this world, and the purpose of our society is to cherish it and to enable the individual to attain the highest achievement of which he is capable

~Harry S. Truman

All the president is, is a glorified public relations man who spends his time flattering, kissing, and kicking people to get them to do what they

are supposed to do anyway.

~Harry S. Truman

If you can't convince them, confuse them.

~Harry S. Truman

To be able to lead others, a man must be willing to go forward alone.

~Harry S. Truman

Every segment of our population, and every individual, has a right to expect from his government a fair deal.

~Harry S. Truman

If we do not abolish war on this earth, then surely one day war will abolish us from the earth.

~Harry S. Truman

I had faith in Israel before it was established, I have faith in it now.

~Harry S. Truman

All will concede that in order to have good neighbors, we must also be good neighbors. That applies in every field of human endeavor.

~Harry S. Truman

Carry the battle to them. Don't let them bring it to you. Put them on the defensive and don't ever apologize for anything.

~Harry S. Truman

The Republicans believe in the minimum wage -- the more the minimum, the better.

~Harry S. Truman

You cannot get all the facts from just one newspaper, and unless you have the facts, you cannot make proper judgments about what is going

on.

~Harry S. Truman

Not all readers are leaders, but all leaders are readers.

~Harry S. Truman

We must have strong minds, ready to accept facts as they are.

~Harry S. Truman

I found that the men and women who got to the top were those who did the jobs they had in hand, with everything they had of energy and enthusiasm and hard work.

~Harry S. Truman

The most peaceful thing in the world is plowing a field. Chances are you'll do your best thinking that way.

~Harry S. Truman

When you have an efficient government, you have a dictatorship.

~Harry S. Truman

Nothing is more important in our national life than the welfare of our children.

~Harry S. Truman

The President is always abused. If he isn't, he isn't doing anything.

~Harry S. Truman

No man should be allowed to be President who does not understand hogs.

~Harry S. Truman

For some time I have been disturbed by the way the CIA has been diverted from its original assignment. It has become an operational and

at times a policy making arm of the government.

~Harry S. Truman

Not every reader is a leader, but every leader must be a reader.

~Harry S. Truman

Any man who has had the job I've had and didn't have a sense of humor wouldn't still be here.

~Harry S. Truman

It is understanding that gives us an ability to have peace. When we understand the other fellow's viewpoint, and he understands ours, then we can sit down and work out our differences.

~Harry S. Truman

A president either is constantly on top of events or, if he hesitates, events will soon be on top of him. I never felt that I could let up for a moment.

~Harry S. Truman

I can remember when a good politician had to be 75 percent ability and 25 percent actor, but I can well see the day when the reverse could be true.

~Harry S. Truman

All my life, whenever it comes time to make a decision, I make it and forget about it.

~Harry S. Truman

It is understanding that gives us an ability to have peace.

~Harry S. Truman

I sit here all day trying to persuade people to do the things they ought to have the sense to do without my persuading them. That's all the

powers of the President amount to.

~Harry S. Truman

I come to the office each morning and stay for long hours doing what has to be done to the best of my ability. And when you've done the best you can, you can't do any better.

~Harry S. Truman

You know that being an American is more than a matter of where your parents came from. It is a belief that all men are created free and equal and that everyone deserves an even break.

~Harry S. Truman

Washington is a very easy city for you to forget where you came from and why you got there in the first place.

~Harry S. Truman

When you get to be President, there are all those things, the honors, the twenty-one gun salutes, all those things. You have to remember it isn't for you. It's for the Presidency.

~Harry S. Truman

Herbert Hoover once ran on the slogan, 'Two cars in every garage'. Apparently, the Republican candidate this year is running on the slogan, 'Two families in every garage'.

~Harry S. Truman

Whenever the press quits abusing me I know I'm in the wrong pew. I don't mind it because when they throw bricks at me I'm a pretty good shot myself and I usually throw 'em back at 'em.

~Harry S. Truman

No one in the world can take the place of your mother. Right or wrong, from her viewpoint you are always right. She may scold you for little

things, but never for the big ones.

~Harry S. Truman

A politician is a man who understands government, and it takes a politician to run a government. A statesman is a politician who's been dead 10 or 15 years.

~Harry S. Truman

A person who is fundamentally honest doesn't need a code of ethics. The Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount are all the ethical code anybody needs.

~Harry S. Truman

I think there is an immense shortage of Christian charity among so-called Christians.

~Harry S. Truman

If you don't have your own goals, you'll be doomed to work toward someone else's.

~Harry S. Truman

A man who is influenced by the polls or is afraid to make decisions which make him unpopular is not a man to represent the welfare of the country.

~Harry S. Truman

A leader is the man who has the ability to get other people to do what they don't want to do, and like it.

~Harry S. Truman

Tact is the ability to step on a man's toes without messing up the shine on his shoes.

~Harry S. Truman

About the meanest thing you can say about a man is that he means well.

~Harry S. Truman

If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen.

~Harry S. Truman

We shall never be able to remove suspicion and fear as potential causes of war until communication is permitted to flow, free and open, across international boundaries.

~Harry S. Truman

There is enough in the world for everyone to have plenty, to live happily, and to be at peace with his neighbors.

~Harry S. Truman

If I'd known how much packing I'd have to do, I'd have run again.

~Harry S. Truman

The greatest honor that has come to me, and that can ever come to me in my life, is to be Grand Master of Masons in Missouri.

~Harry S. Truman

He wanted to know what assurance we could give the American people that we aren't getting the tar licked out of us by the North Korean army. It has never happened to us. It won't happen this time.

~Harry S. Truman

When a leader is in the Democratic Party he's a boss. When he's in the Republican Party he's nothing but a leader.

~Harry S. Truman

When you have to deal with a beast, you have to treat him as a beast. It is most regrettable but nevertheless true.

~Harry S. Truman

The Republican Party either corrupts its liberals or it expels them.

~Harry S. Truman

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