

# Henry Clay Quotes

*Men, Government, Political, Passion, President, Politics, People, Inspirational,  
Common, Gentleman, Competition, Country, Humanity, Party, Rights,  
Character, Reflection, Affair, Mankind, Complicated*

Government is a trust, and the officers of the government are trustees. And both the trust and the trustees are created for the benefit of the people.

~Henry Clay

Of all the properties which belong to honorable men, not one is so highly prized as that of character.

~Henry Clay

Courtesies of a small and trivial character are the ones which strike deepest in the grateful and appreciating heart.

~Henry Clay

Let him who elevates himself above humanity . . . say, if he pleases, "I will never compromise"; but let no one who is not above the frailties of our common nature disdain compromise.

~Henry Clay

An oppressed people are authorized whenever they can to rise and break their fetters.

~Henry Clay

The Constitution of the United States was made not merely for the generation that then existed, but for posterity- unlimited, undefined, endless, perpetual posterity.

~Henry Clay

The time will come when winter will ask what you were doing all summer.

~Henry Clay

Peaceably if we can, forcibly if we must.

~Henry Clay

I cannot believe that the killing of 2,000 Englishmen at New Orleans qualifies a person for the various difficult and complicated duties of the Presidency.

~Henry Clay

All legislation is founded upon the principle of mutual concession.

~Henry Clay

Statistics are no substitute for judgment.

~Henry Clay

All religions united with government are more or less inimical to liberty. All, separated from government, are compatible with liberty.

~Henry Clay

I have heard something said about allegiance to the South. I know no South, no North, no East, no West, to which I owe any allegiance.

~Henry Clay

I always have had, and always shall have, a profound regard for Christianity, the religion of my fathers, and for its rights, its usages and observances.

~Henry Clay

How often are we forced to charge fortune with partiality towards the unjust!

~Henry Clay

I have no commiseration for princes. My sympathies are reserved for the great mass of mankind â€¦.

~Henry Clay

The gentleman cannot have forgotten his own sentiment, uttered even on the floor of this House, Peaceably if we can, forcibly if we must.

~Henry Clay

A nation's character is the sum of its splendid deeds; they constitute one common patrimony, the nation's inheritance. They awe foreign powers, they arouse and animate our own people.

~Henry Clay

I had rather be right than be President.

~Henry Clay

There is no power like oratory. Caesar controlled men by exciting their fears, Cicero by . . . swaying their passions. The influence of the one perished; that of the other continues to this day.

~Henry Clay

Of all human powers operating on the affairs of mankind, none is greater than that of competition.

~Henry Clay

Political parties serve to keep each other in check, one keenly watching the other.

~Henry Clay

A man must be a born fool who voluntarily engages in controversy with Mr. Adams on a question of fact. I doubt whether he was ever mistaken in his life.

~Henry Clay

If you wish to avoid foreign collision, you had better abandon the ocean.

~Henry Clay

Honor and good faith and justice are equally due from this country toward the weak as toward the strong.

~Henry Clay

**I'd rather be right than President.**

~Henry Clay

**Related Links:**

- Men Quotes
- Government Quotes
- Political Quotes
- Passion Quotes
- President Quotes
- Politics Quotes
- People Quotes
- Inspirational Quotes
- Common Quotes
- Gentleman Quotes
- Competition Quotes
- Country Quotes
- Humanity Quotes
- Party Quotes
- Rights Quotes
- Character Quotes
- Reflection Quotes
- Affair Quotes
- Mankind Quotes
- Complicated Quotes