

Herodotus Quotes

*Men, Country, Suffering, Rain, Envy, Night, Believe, Eye, Happiness, Action,
Two, Business, Thinking, Change, Inspirational, Military, Kings, Life, Time,
Egypt*

If a man insisted always on being serious, and never allowed himself a bit of fun and relaxation, he would go mad or become unstable without knowing it.

~Herodotus

Men trust their ears less than their eyes.

~Herodotus

The secret of success is that it is not the absence of failure, but the absence of envy.

~Herodotus

Adversity has the effect of drawing out strength and qualities of a man that would have laid dormant in its absence.

~Herodotus

In peace sons bury fathers, but war violates the order of nature, and fathers bury sons.

~Herodotus

Egypt is the gift of the Nile.

~Herodotus

Where wisdom is called for, force is of little use.

~Herodotus

Very few things happen at the right time, and the rest do not happen at all. The conscientious historian will correct these defects.

~Herodotus

It is better to be envied than pitied.

~Herodotus

All of life is action and passion, and not to be involved in the actions

and passions of your time is to risk having not really lived at all.

~Herodotus

The most hateful grief of all human griefs is to have knowledge of a truth, but no power over the event.

~Herodotus

Haste in every business brings failures.

~Herodotus

If you have two loaves of bread, keep one to nourish the body, but sell the other to buy hyacinths for the soul.

~Herodotus

Whatever comes from God is impossible for a man to turn back.

~Herodotus

Historia (Inquiry); so that the actions of of people will not fade with time.

~Herodotus

But this I know: if all mankind were to take their troubles to market with the idea of exchanging them, anyone seeing what his neighbor's troubles were like would be glad to go home with his own.

~Herodotus

Circumstances rule men; men do not rule circumstances.

~Herodotus

Envy is so natural to human kind, that it cannot but arise.

~Herodotus

All men's gains are the fruit of venturing.

~Herodotus

Of all possessions a friend is the most precious.

~Herodotus

Some give up their designs when they have almost reached the goal; while others, on the contrary, obtain a victory by exerting, at the last moment, more vigorous efforts than ever before.

~Herodotus

Those who are guided by reason are generally successful in their plans; those who are rash and precipitate seldom enjoy the favour of the gods.

~Herodotus

Let there be nothing untried; for nothing happens by itself, but men obtain all things by trying.

~Herodotus

Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds. [The Motto Of The U.S. Postal Service]

~Herodotus

The most hateful human misfortune is for a wise man to have no influence.

~Herodotus

Illness strikes men when they are exposed to change.

~Herodotus

The period of a [Persian] boy's education is between the ages of five and twenty, and he is taught three things only: to ride, to use the bow, and to speak the truth.

~Herodotus

It [Egypt] has more wonders in it than any other country in the world and provides more works that defy description than any otherplace.

~Herodotus

We are less convinced by what we hear than by what we see.

~Herodotus

In soft regions are born soft men.

~Herodotus

I know that human happiness never remains long in the same place.

~Herodotus

There is nothing more foolish, nothing more given to outrage than a useless mob.

~Herodotus

The Colchians, Ethiopians and Egyptians have thick lips, broad nose, woolly hair and they are burnt of skin.

~Herodotus

A multitude of rulers is not a good thing. Let there be one ruler, one king.

~Herodotus

God does not suffer presumption in anyone but himself.

~Herodotus

A man trusts his ears less than his eyes.

~Herodotus

Great deeds are usually wrought at great risks.

~Herodotus

Far better it is to have a stout heart always and suffer one's share of evils, than to be ever fearing what may happen.

~Herodotus

The worst part a man can suffer is to have insight into much and power over nothing.

~Herodotus

Great things are won by great dangers.

~Herodotus

It is the gods' custom to bring low all things of surpassing greatness.

~Herodotus

A man calumniated is doubly injured -- first by him who utters the calumny, and then by him who believes it.

~Herodotus

Remember that with her clothes a woman puts off her modesty.

~Herodotus

To think well and to consent to obey someone giving good advice are the same thing.

~Herodotus

The worst pain a man can have is to know much and be impotent to act.

~Herodotus

Unless a variety of opinions are laid before us, we have no opportunity of selection, but are bound of necessity to adopt the particular view which may have been brought forward.

~Herodotus

Good masters generally have bad slaves, and bad slaves have good masters.

~Herodotus

If someone were to put a proposition before men bidding them choose, after examination, the best customs in the world, each nation would certainly select its own

~Herodotus

If one is sufficiently lavish with time, everything possible happens.

~Herodotus

How much better a thing it is to be envied than to be pitied.

~Herodotus

History is marked by alternating movements across the imaginary line that separates East from West in Eurasia.

~Herodotus

The sun will not shine on any country that has borders with ours.

~Herodotus

When life is so burdensome death has become a sought after refuge.

~Herodotus

A woman takes off her claim to respect along with her garments.

~Herodotus

When a woman removes her garment, she also removes the respect that is hers.

~Herodotus

For as the body grows old, so the wits grow old and become blind towards all things alike.

~Herodotus

The trials of living and the pangs of disease make even the short span of life too long.

~Herodotus

One should always look to the end of everything, how it will finally come out. For the god has shown blessedness to many only to overturn them utterly in the end.

~Herodotus

Happiness is not fame or riches or heroic virtues, but a state that will inspire posterity to think in reflecting upon our life, that it was the life they would wish to live.

~Herodotus

Mens fortunes are on a wheel, which in its turning suffers not the same man to prosper for ever.

~Herodotus

I never yet feared those men who set a place apart in the middle of their cities where they gather to cheat one another and swear oaths which they break.

~Herodotus

The hastening of any undertaking begets error, from which great losses are wont to come.

~Herodotus

In peace children inter their parents, war violates the order of nature and causes parents to inter their children.

~Herodotus

The ears of men are lesser agents of belief than their eyes.

~Herodotus

The man who has planned badly, if fortune is on his side, may have had a stroke of luck; but his plan was a bad one nonetheless.

~Herodotus

It is clear that not in one thing alone, but in many ways equality and freedom of speech are a good thing.

~Herodotus

The wooden wall alone should remain unconquered.

~Herodotus

Before a man dies, hold back and call him not happy but lucky.

~Herodotus

I am bound to tell what I am told, but not in every case to believe it.

~Herodotus

Civil strife is as much a greater evil than a concerted war effort as war itself is worse than peace.

~Herodotus

He is the best man who, when making his plans, fears and reflects on everything that can happen to him, but in the moment of action is bold.

~Herodotus

It is sound planning that invariably earns us the outcome we want; without it, even the gods are unlikely to look with favour on our designs.

~Herodotus

A real friend ... exults in his friend's happiness, rejoices in all his joys, and is ready to afford him the best advice.

~Herodotus

Not snow, no, nor rain, nor heat, nor night keeps them from accomplishing their appointed courses with all speed.

~Herodotus

Chances rule men and not men chances.

~Herodotus

Love of honor is a very shady sort of possession.

~Herodotus

As the old saw says well: every end does not appear together with its beginning.

~Herodotus

Call no man happy before he dies.

~Herodotus

It is a law of nature that fainthearted men should be the fruit of luxurious countries, for we never find that the same soil produces delicacies and heroes.

~Herodotus

The gods loves to punish whatever is greater than the rest.

~Herodotus

But I like not these great successes of yours; for I know how jealous are the gods.

~Herodotus

Dreams in general take their rise from those incidents which have most occupied the thoughts during the day.

~Herodotus

We have two useless gods who never leave our island, but like to dwell in it constantly, Poverty and Helplessness.

~Herodotus

Force has no place where there is need of skill.

~Herodotus

Soft men tend to be born from soft countries.

~Herodotus

Tell Greece that her spring has been taken out of her year.

~Herodotus

For of those [cities] that were great in earlier times, most of them have now become small, while those which were great in my time were small formerly.

~Herodotus

These 'messengers' will not be hindered from accomplishing at their best speed the distance which they have to go, either by snow, or rain, or heat, or by the darkness of night.

~Herodotus

Many exceedingly rich men are unhappy, but many middling circumstances are fortunate.

~Herodotus

The king's might is greater than human, and his arm is very long.

~Herodotus

The Lacedaemonians fought a memorable battle; they made it quite clear that they were the experts, and that they were fighting against amateurs.

~Herodotus

My men have become women, but the women men.

~Herodotus

The ear is a less trustworthy witness than the eye.

~Herodotus

Where even a falsehood must be told, let it be told.

~Herodotus

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