

# Horatio Nelson

## Quotes

*War, Men, Enemy, Done, Sea, Country, Fighting, Horatio, Believe, Kings,  
Hands, Frenchmen, Gentleman, Affair, Ships, Battle, Eye, Sometimes, Thank  
God, Love*

Gentlemen, when the enemy is committed to a mistake we must not interrupt him too soon.

~Horatio Nelson

Recollect that you must be a seaman to be an officer and also that you cannot be a good officer without being a gentleman.

~Horatio Nelson

I owe all my success in life to having been always a quarter of an hour before my time.

~Horatio Nelson

Time is everything; five minutes make the difference between victory and defeat.

~Horatio Nelson

England expects that every man will do his duty.

~Horatio Nelson

Desperate affairs require desperate measures.

~Horatio Nelson

Duty is the great business of a sea officer; all private considerations must give way to it, however painful it may be.

~Horatio Nelson

A fleet of British ships at war are the best negotiators.

~Horatio Nelson

I could not tread these perilous paths in safety, if I did not keep a saving sense of humor.

~Horatio Nelson

In Sea affairs, nothing is impossible, and nothing is improbable.

~Horatio Nelson

The bravest man feels an anxiety 'circa praecordia' as he enters the battle; but he dreads disgrace yet more.

~Horatio Nelson

I am of the opinion that the boldest measures are the safest.

~Horatio Nelson

I will dine nowhere without your consent although with my present feelings I might be trusted with fifty virgins naked in a dark room.

~Horatio Nelson

Close with a Frenchman, but out-maneuver a Russian.

~Horatio Nelson

Hardy, I do believe they have done it at last... my backbone is shot through.

~Horatio Nelson

Let me alone: I have yet my legs and one arm. Tell the surgeon to make haste and his instruments. I know I must lose my right arm, so the sooner it's off the better.

~Horatio Nelson

In honour I gained them, and in honour I will die with them.

~Horatio Nelson

I cannot, if I am in the field of glory, be kept out of sight: wherever there is anything to be done, there Providence is sure to direct my steps.

~Horatio Nelson

You must consider every man your enemy who speaks ill of your King, and you must treat every Frenchman as if he were the Devil himself.

~Horatio Nelson

Frigates are the eyes of a fleet.

~Horatio Nelson

If I had been censured every time I have run my ship, or fleets under my command, into great danger, I should have long ago been out of the Service and never in the House of Peers.

~Horatio Nelson

What the country needs is the annihilation of the enemy.

~Horatio Nelson

My character and good name are in my own keeping. Life with disgrace is dreadful. A glorious death is to be envied.

~Horatio Nelson

The politics of courts are so mean that private people would be ashamed to act in the same way; all is trick and finesse, to which the common cause is sacrificed.

~Horatio Nelson

Thank God I have done my duty.

~Horatio Nelson

If a man consults whether he is to fight, when he has the power in his own hands, it is certain that his opinion is against fighting.

~Horatio Nelson

First gain the victory and then make the best use of it you can.

~Horatio Nelson

My greatest happiness is to serve my gracious King and Country and I am envious only of glory; for if it be a sin to covet glory I am the most

offending soul alive.

~Horatio Nelson

Now I can do no more. We must trust to the Great Disposer of all events and the justice of our cause. I thank God for this opportunity of doing my duty.

~Horatio Nelson

I am a Norfolk man and Glory in being so.

~Horatio Nelson

No captain can do very wrong if he places his ship alongside that of the enemy.

~Horatio Nelson

Had we taken ten sails, and let the eleventh to escape, being able to get at her, I could never have called it well done.

~Horatio Nelson

I cannot command winds and weather.

~Horatio Nelson

To do nothing was disgraceful; therefore I made use of my understanding.

~Horatio Nelson

I have only one eye, I have a right to be blind sometimes... I really do not see the signal!

~Horatio Nelson

Something must be left to chance; nothing is certain in a sea fight

~Horatio Nelson

Treat every Frenchman as if he was the devil himself.

~Horatio Nelson

I have a right to be blind sometimes.

~Horatio Nelson

Never break the neutrality of a port or place, but never consider as neutral any place from whence an attack is allowed to be made.

~Horatio Nelson

Whoever gains the palm by merit, let him hold it.

~Horatio Nelson

There can be no place for self entirely

~Horatio Nelson

Our Country will, I believe, sooner forgive an Officer for attacking his Enemy than for letting it alone.

~Horatio Nelson

I am ill every time it blows hard, and nothing but my enthusiastic love for the profession keeps me one hour at sea.

~Horatio Nelson

A ship's a fool to fight a fort.

~Horatio Nelson

Thank God I have done my duty. Drink, drink. Fan, fan. Rub, rub. Kiss me, Hardy.

~Horatio Nelson

I believe my arrival was most welcome, not only to the Commander of the Fleet but almost to every individual in it.

~Horatio Nelson

It is my turn now; and if I come back, it is yours.

~Horatio Nelson

My love is founded on esteem, the only foundation that can make the passion last.

~Horatio Nelson

When I came to explain to them the 'Nelson Touch', it was like an electric shock. Some shed tears, all approved - 'It was new - it was singular - it was simple!'

~Horatio Nelson

England expects every man to do his duty

~Horatio Nelson

Laurels grow in the Bay of Biscay, I hope a bed of them may be found in the Mediterranean.

~Horatio Nelson

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