

# J. I. Packer

## Quotes

*Christian, Men, Heart, Prayer, Biblical, Thinking, Mean, Mind, Giving, Church,  
Father, Jesus, Knowing, Self, Son, Sin, Would Be, Spiritual, Scripture,  
Character*

There's a difference between knowing God and knowing about God. When you truly know God, you have energy to serve Him, boldness to share Him, and contentment in Him.

~J. I. Packer

Once you become aware that the main business that you are here for is to know God, most of life's problems fall into place of their own accord.

~J. I. Packer

Our high and privileged calling is to do the will of God in the power of God for the glory of God.

~J. I. Packer

The weaker we feel, the harder we lean. And the harder we lean, the stronger we grow spiritually, even while our bodies waste away.

~J. I. Packer

To know that nothing happens in God's world apart from God's will may frighten the godless, but it stabilizes the saints.

~J. I. Packer

Doctrinal preaching certainly bores the hypocrites; but it is only doctrinal preaching that will save Christ's sheep.

~J. I. Packer

The stars may fall, but God's promises will stand and be fulfilled.

~J. I. Packer

The measure of all love is its giving. The measure of the love of God is the cross of Christ.

~J. I. Packer

The fruit of wisdom is Christlikeness, peace, humility and love. And, the root of it is faith in Christ as the manifested wisdom of God

~J. I. Packer

What matters supremely, therefore, is not, in the last analysis, the fact that I know God, but the larger fact which underlies it - the fact that He knows me.

~J. I. Packer

Our business is to present the Christian faith clothed in modern terms, not to propagate modern thought clothed in Christian terms... Confusion here is fatal.

~J. I. Packer

There is tremendous relief in knowing that His love to me is based at every point on prior knowledge of the worst about me.

~J. I. Packer

What God does in time, He planned from eternity. And all that He planned in eternity He carries out in time.

~J. I. Packer

The gospel tells that our Judge has become our Savior.

~J. I. Packer

We dishonor God if we proclaim a Savior who satisfies and then go around discontent

~J. I. Packer

Your faith will not fail while God sustains it; you are not strong enough to fall away while God is resolved to hold you.

~J. I. Packer

Repentance is more than just sorrow for the past; repentance is a change of mind and heart, a new life of denying self and serving the Savior as king in self's place.

~J. I. Packer

A half-truth masquerading as the whole truth becomes a complete untruth.

~J. I. Packer

The Holy Spirit's main ministry is not to give thrills but to create in us Christlike character.

~J. I. Packer

God answers the prayer we ought to have made rather than the prayer we did make.

~J. I. Packer

The Son of God came to seek us where we are in order that he might bring us to be with him where he is.

~J. I. Packer

The simple statement, 'God is for us', is in truth one of the richest and weightiest utterances that the Bible contains.

~J. I. Packer

He that has learned to feel his sins, and to trust Christ as a Saviour, has learned the two hardest and greatest lessons in Christianity.

~J. I. Packer

If I were the devil, one of my first aims would be to stop folk from digging into the Bible.

~J. I. Packer

God made life, and God alone can tell us its meaning.

~J. I. Packer

What we do every time we pray is to confess our impotence and God's

sovereignty.

~J. I. Packer

There are no small sins against a great God

~J. I. Packer

This one word 'grace' contains within itself the whole of New Testament theology.

~J. I. Packer

Arminianism is 'natural' in one sense, in that it represents a characteristic perversion of Biblical teaching by the fallen mind of man.

~J. I. Packer

God's wisdom is not, and never was, pledged to keep a fallen world happy, or to make ungodliness comfortable.

~J. I. Packer

What is a Christian? The richest answer I know is that a Christian is one who has God as Father.

~J. I. Packer

Were it not for the work of the Holy Spirit there would be no gospel, no faith, no church, no Christianity in the world at all.

~J. I. Packer

Living becomes an awesome business when you realize that you spend every moment of your life in the sight and company of an omniscient, omnipresent Creator.

~J. I. Packer

The Trinity is the basis of the gospel, and the gospel is a declaration of the Trinity in action.

~J. I. Packer

Meditation is the activity of calling to mind, and thinking over, and dwelling on, and applying to oneself, the various things that one knows about the works and ways and purposes and promises of God.

~J. I. Packer

Grace means God sending his only Son to the cross to descend into hell so that we guilty ones might be reconciled to God and received into heaven.

~J. I. Packer

The idea that all are children of God is not found in the Bible anywhere.

~J. I. Packer

Nothing in fiction is so fantastic as is this truth of the Incarnation.

~J. I. Packer

Even when we cannot see the why and wherefore of God's dealings, we know that there is love in and behind them, and so we can rejoice always.

~J. I. Packer

If one preaches the Bible biblically, one cannot help preaching the gospel all the time.

~J. I. Packer

God's wrath is his righteousness reacting against unrighteousness.

~J. I. Packer

We must seek, in studying God, to be led to God.

~J. I. Packer

Revelation does not mean man finding God, but God finding man, God sharing His secrets with us, God showing us Himself. In revelation, God is the agent as well as the object.

~J. I. Packer

God has not abandoned us any more than he abandoned Job. He never abandons anyone on whom he has set his love; nor does Christ, the good shepherd, ever lose track of his sheep.

~J. I. Packer

Joy is a condition that is experienced, but it is more than a feeling; it is, primarily, a state of mind.

~J. I. Packer

Maturity is a compound of wisdom, goodwill, resilience, and creativity.

~J. I. Packer

We never move on FROM the Gospel, we move on IN the Gospel

~J. I. Packer

Today, on our own turf, we face pagan ignorance about God every bit as deep as that which the early church faced in the Roman Empire.

~J. I. Packer

The Spirit is not given to make Bible study needless, but to make it effective.

~J. I. Packer

There are ministers who never speak of repentance or self-denial. Naturally they are popular, but they are false prophets.

~J. I. Packer

The incarnation is in itself an unfathomable mystery, but it makes sense of everything else that the New Testament contains.

~J. I. Packer

When we reach the outer limit of what Scripture says, it is time to stop

arguing and start worshipping.

~J. I. Packer

Calvary not merely made possible the salvation of those for whom Christ died; it ensured that they would be brought to faith and their salvation made actual.

~J. I. Packer

Sinners cannot obey the gospel, any more than the law, without renewal of heart.

~J. I. Packer

To know God's love is indeed heaven on earth.

~J. I. Packer

Justification is the truly dramatic transition from the status of a condemned criminal awaiting a terrible sentence to that of an heir awaiting a fabulous inheritance.

~J. I. Packer

God the Father is the giver of Holy Scripture; God the Son is the theme of Holy Scripture; and God the Spirit is the author, authenticator, and interpreter of Holy Scripture.

~J. I. Packer

Repentance, as we know, is basically not moaning and remorse, but turning and change.

~J. I. Packer

The preachers commission is to declare the whole counsel of God; but the cross is the center of that counsel.

~J. I. Packer

If our theology does not quicken the conscience and soften the heart, it



actually hardens both.

~J. I. Packer

Our best works are shot through with sin and contain something for which we need to be forgiven.

~J. I. Packer

Disregard the study of God, and you sentence yourself to stumble and blunder through life blindfolded.

~J. I. Packer

There is nothing more irreligious than self-absorbed religion.

~J. I. Packer

Scripture is the most up-to-date and relevant reading that ever comes my way.

~J. I. Packer

The grace of God is love freely shown toward guilty sinners, contrary to their merit and indeed in defiance of their demerit.

~J. I. Packer

Adoption is the highest privilege the gospel offers.

~J. I. Packer

Men treat God's sovereignty as a theme for controversy, but in Scripture it is matter for worship.

~J. I. Packer

The Life of true holiness is rooted in the soil of awed adoration

~J. I. Packer

God uses chronic pain and weakness, along with other afflictions, as his chisel for sculpting our lives.

~J. I. Packer

Whatever else in the Bible catches your eye, do not let it distract you from Him.

~J. I. Packer

The truth is that, though we were justified by faith alone, the faith that justifies is never alone (it always produces fruit, 'good works,'...a transformed life).

~J. I. Packer

A little knowledge OF God is worth more than a great deal of knowledge ABOUT him.

~J. I. Packer

The way to be truly happy is to be truly human, and the way to be truly human is to be truly godly.

~J. I. Packer

The battle against pride in the heart is lifelong, so humility should become an ever more deeply seated attitude of living

~J. I. Packer

Calvinism is the consistent endeavor to acknowledge the Creator as the Lord, working all things after the counsel of His will.

~J. I. Packer

The gift of sonship to God becomes ours not through being born, but through being born again.

~J. I. Packer

We meet God through entering into a relationship both of dependance on Jesus as our Saviour and Friend and of discipleship to Him as our Lord and Master.

~J. I. Packer

Any theology that does not lead to song is, at a fundamental level, a flawed theology.

~J. I. Packer

For what higher, more exalted, and more compelling goal can there be than to know God?

~J. I. Packer

The Holy Spirit is God the evangelist.

~J. I. Packer

The Christian's instinct of trust and worship are stimulated very powerfully by knowledge of the greatness of God.

~J. I. Packer

The task of the church is to make the invisible Kingdom visible through faithful Christian living and witness-bearing .

~J. I. Packer

Suffering is getting what you do not want while wanting what you do not get.

~J. I. Packer

The most excellent study of expanding the soul, is the science of Christ, and Him crucified, and the knowledge of the Godhead in the glorious Trinity.

~J. I. Packer

We are only living truly human lives just so far as we are labouring to keep God's commandments; no further.

~J. I. Packer

We are to order our lives by the light of His Law, not by our guesses about His plan.

~J. I. Packer

There are few things stressed more strongly in the Bible than the reality of God's work as Judge.

~J. I. Packer

Always and everywhere the servants of Christ are under orders to evangelize

~J. I. Packer

God's love is an exercise of his goodness toward sinners who merit only condemnation.

~J. I. Packer

Sanctification has a double aspect. Its positive side is vivification, the growing and maturing of the new man; its negative side is mortification, the weakening and killing of the old man.

~J. I. Packer

The peace of God is first and foremost peace with God.

~J. I. Packer

The character of God is today, and always will be, exactly what it was in Bible times.

~J. I. Packer

If we pursue theological knowledge for its own sake, it's bound to go bad on us. It will make us proud and conceited.

~J. I. Packer

Real spiritual growth is always growth downward, so to speak, into profounder humility, which in healthy souls will become more and more

apparent as they age.

~J. I. Packer

It is often the case, as all the saints know, that fellowship with the Father and the Son is most vivid and sweet, and Christian joy is greatest, when the cross is heaviest.

~J. I. Packer

Pelagianism is the natural heresy of zealous Christians who are not interested in theology.

~J. I. Packer

Read two old books for every new one.

~J. I. Packer

His purpose is simply to draw us closer to Himself in conscious communion with Him.

~J. I. Packer

Think against your feelings; argue yourself out of the gloom they have spread; look up from your problems to the God of the gospel.

~J. I. Packer

Only when you know how to die can you know how to live.

~J. I. Packer

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