

Jacques Maritain

Quotes

Men, Art, Religious, Mean, Philosophy, Intellectual, Lying, Philosopher, Desire, World, Christian, Love Is, Doe, Believe, Atheist, Spiritual, Creativity, Thinking, Needs, America

Americans seem sometimes to believe that if you are a thinker you must be a frowning bore, because thinking is so dam serious.

~Jacques Maritain

Gratitude is the most exquisite form of courtesy.

~Jacques Maritain

God does not ask for 'religious' art or 'Catholic' art. The art he wants for himself is Art, with all its teeth

~Jacques Maritain

Let us not go faster than God. It is our emptiness and our thirst that He needs, not our plentitude.

~Jacques Maritain

We do not need a truth to serve us, we need a truth that we can serve

~Jacques Maritain

Some truths are seen better through tears.

~Jacques Maritain

Christianity taught men that love is worth more than intelligence.

~Jacques Maritain

Everywhere in the world the industrial regime tends to make the unorganized or unorganizable individual, the pauper, into the victim of a kind of human sacrifice offered to the gods of civilization.

~Jacques Maritain

The tragedy of the modern democracies is that they have not yet succeeded in realizing democracy.

~Jacques Maritain

The first step to be taken by everyone who wishes to act morally is to

decide not to act according to the general customs and doings of his fellow-men.

~Jacques Maritain

Not only does the democratic state of mind stem from the inspiration of the Gospel, but it cannot exist without it.

~Jacques Maritain

A single idea, if it is right, saves us the labor of an infinity of experiences.

~Jacques Maritain

There is room neither for the poet nor for the contemplator in an egalitarian world.

~Jacques Maritain

Western humanism has religious and transcendent sources without which it is incomprehensible to itself.

~Jacques Maritain

To redeem creation the saint wages war on the entire fabric of creation, with the bare weapons of truth and love.

~Jacques Maritain

God's love causes the beauty of what He loves, our love is caused by the beauty of what we love.

~Jacques Maritain

The only artist who does not deserve respect is the one who works to please the public, for commercial success or for official success.

~Jacques Maritain

A man of courage flees forward in the midst of new things.

~Jacques Maritain

There is nothing man desires more than a heroic life: there is nothing less common to men than heroism.

~Jacques Maritain

Absolute atheism starts in an act of faith in reverse gear and is a full-blown religious commitment.

~Jacques Maritain

The more the poet grows, the deeper the level of creative intuition descends into the density of his soul. Where formerly he could be moved to song, he can do nothing now, he must dig deeper.

~Jacques Maritain

The philosopher says that God's knowledge is the measure of things, and that things are the measure of man's knowledge.

~Jacques Maritain

A true Christian is a man who never for a moment forgets what God has done for him in Christ and whose whole comportment and whose activity have their root in the sentiment of gratitude.

~Jacques Maritain

To philosophize man must put his whole soul into play, in much the same manner that to run he must use his heart and lungs.

~Jacques Maritain

Nothing is more vain than to seek to unite men by a philosophic minimum.

~Jacques Maritain

The love of Americans for their country is not an indulgent, it is an exacting and chastising love; they cannot tolerate its defects.

~Jacques Maritain

What makes man most unhappy is to be deprived not of that which he had, but of that which he did not have, and did not really know.

~Jacques Maritain

The great and admirable strength of America consists in this, that America is truly the American people.

~Jacques Maritain

Whereas the intelligence of God is both the cause and the measure of the truth of things, things are both the cause and the measure of the truth of our intelligence.

~Jacques Maritain

There is no question that the language of "felt thought" must be quarried from our personal depths. Like the best gold, it does not lie on the surface.

~Jacques Maritain

The poet knows himself only on the condition that things resound in him, and that in him, at a single awakening, they and he come forth together out of sleep.

~Jacques Maritain

The equality of rights of all citizens is the basic tenet of modern democratic societies.

~Jacques Maritain

It is impossible for a Christian to be a relativist.

~Jacques Maritain

Poetry proceeds from the totality of man, sense, imagination, intellect, love, desire, instinct, blood and spirit together.

~Jacques Maritain

There is no place in the world but contains some trace of God.

~Jacques Maritain

With all his sincerity and devotion, the authentic, absolute atheist is after all only an abortive saint, and at the same time, a mistaken revolutionist.

~Jacques Maritain

The day when efficacy would prevail over truth will never come for the Church, for then the gates of hell would have prevailed against her.

~Jacques Maritain

The sole philosophy open to those who doubt the possibility of truth is absolute silence -- even mental.

~Jacques Maritain

Power without authority is tyranny.

~Jacques Maritain

At each epoch of history the world was in a hopeless state, and at each epoch of history the world muddled through; at each epoch the world was lost, and at each epoch it was saved.

~Jacques Maritain

There are absolute atheists ... Absolute atheism is in no way a mere absence of belief in God. It is rather a refusal of God, a fight against God, a challenge to God.

~Jacques Maritain

In each of us there dwells a mystery, and that mystery is the human personality.

~Jacques Maritain

Things are opaque to us, and we are opaque to ourselves.

~Jacques Maritain

To be free is of the essence of every intellectual being.

~Jacques Maritain

For to love is to give what one is, his very being, in the most absolute, the most brazenly metaphysical, the least phenomenizable sense of this word.

~Jacques Maritain

When one's function is to teach the loftiest wisdom, it is difficult to resist the temptation to believe that until you have spoken, nothing has been said.

~Jacques Maritain

The act of philosophizing involves the character of the philosopher.

~Jacques Maritain

A great philosopher in the wrong is like a beacon on the reefs which says to seamen: steer clear of me.

~Jacques Maritain

In loving things and the being in them man should rather draw things up to the human level than reduce humanity to their measure.

~Jacques Maritain

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