

James Madison Quotes

*Government, Men, Liberty, People, Rights, Law, Religious, War, Country,
Freedom, Party, Constitution, Religion, America, May, Passion, Exercise, Mean,
Education, Atheism*

The future and success of America is not in this Constitution, but in the laws of God upon which this Constitution is founded.

~James Madison

Oppressors can tyrannize only when they achieve a standing army, an enslaved press, and a disarmed populace.

~James Madison

Crisis is the rallying cry of the tyrant.

~James Madison

If our nation is ever taken over, it will be taken over from within.

~James Madison

The purpose of the Constitution is to restrict the majority's ability to harm a minority.

~James Madison

If Tyranny and Oppression come to this land, it will be in the guise of fighting a foreign enemy.

~James Madison

If man is not fit to govern himself, how can he be fit to govern someone else?

~James Madison

The operations of the federal government will be most extensive and important in times of war and danger; those of the State governments, in times of peace and security.

~James Madison

Enlightened statesmen will not always be at the helm.

~James Madison

Knowledge will forever govern ignorance; and a people who mean to be their own governors must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives.

~James Madison

A well regulated militia, composed of the body of the people, trained in arms, is the best most natural defense of a free country.

~James Madison

Disarm the people- that is the best and most effective way to enslave them.

~James Madison

The advancement and diffusion of knowledge is the only guardian of true liberty.

~James Madison

The executive has no right, in any case, to decide the question, whether there is or is not cause for declaring war.

~James Madison

No nation could preserve its freedom in the midst of continual warfare.

~James Madison

The people are the only legitimate fountain of power, and it is from them that the constitutional charter, under which the several branches of government hold their power, is derived.

~James Madison

The circulation of confidence is better than the circulation of money.

~James Madison

Religious bondage shackles and debilitates the mind and unfits it for every noble enterprise, every expanded prospect.

~James Madison

The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the federal government are few and defined. Those which are to remain in the State governments are numerous and indefinite.

~James Madison

Americans need not fear the federal government because they enjoy the advantage of being armed, which you possess over the people of almost every other nation.

~James Madison

It is a universal truth that the loss of liberty at home is to be charged to the provisions against danger, real or pretended, from abroad.

~James Madison

The protection of these faculties is the first object of government.

~James Madison

The very definition of tyranny is when all powers are gathered under one place.

~James Madison

Charity is no part of the legislative duty of the government.

~James Madison

The purpose of separation of church and state is to keep forever from these shores the ceaseless strife that has soaked the soil of Europe with blood for centuries.

~James Madison

The governments of Europe are afraid to trust the people with arms. If they did, the people would certainly shake off the yoke of tyranny, as America did.

~James Madison

A people armed and free, forms a barrier against the enterprises of ambition and is a bulwark for the nation against foreign invasion and domestic oppression.

~James Madison

Liberty and order will never be perfectly safe until a trespass on the Constitution provisions for either, shall be felt with the same keenness that resents an invasion of the dearest rights.

~James Madison

In Republics, the great danger is, that the majority may not sufficiently respect the rights of the minority.

~James Madison

It will be of little avail to the people that the laws are made by men of their own choice if the laws be so voluminous that they cannot be read, or so incoherent that they cannot be understood.

~James Madison

I believe there are more instances of the abridgement of freedom of the people by gradual and silent encroachments by those in power than by violent and sudden usurpations.

~James Madison

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.

~James Madison

The means of defense against foreign danger historically have become the instruments of tyranny at home.

~James Madison

History records that the money changers have used every form of abuse, intrigue, deceit, and violent means possible to maintain their control over governments by controlling money and it's issuance.

~James Madison

The problem to be solved is, not what form of government is perfect, but which of the forms is least imperfect.

~James Madison

To suppose that any form of government will secure liberty or happiness without any virtue in the people, is a chimerical idea.

~James Madison

Cursed be all that learning that is contrary to the cross of Christ.

~James Madison

Justice is the end of government. It is the end of civil society. It ever has been and ever will be pursued until it be obtained, or until liberty be lost in the pursuit.

~James Madison

Where an excess of power prevails, property of no sort is duly respected. No man is safe in his opinions, his person, his faculties, or his possessions.

~James Madison

The power to declare war, including the power of judging the causes of war, is fully and exclusively vested in the legislature.

~James Madison

Our Constitution represents the work of the finger of Almighty God.

~James Madison

A well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state,

the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.

~James Madison

A watchful eye must be kept on ourselves lest while we are building ideal monuments of Renown and Bliss here we neglect to have our names enrolled in the Annals of Heaven.

~James Madison

Each generation should be made to bear the burden of its own wars, instead of carrying them on, at the expense of other generations.

~James Madison

I cannot undertake to lay my finger on that article of the Constitution which granted a right to Congress of expending, on objects of benevolence, the money of their constituents.

~James Madison

The right of freely examining public characters and measures, and of free communication among the people thereon . . . has ever been justly deemed the only effectual guardian of every other right.

~James Madison

No error is more certain than the one proceeding from a hasty and superficial view of the subject.

~James Madison

If men were angels, no government would be necessary.

~James Madison

Democracies have been found incompatible with personal security or the rights of property; and in general been as short in their lives as they have been violent in their death.

~James Madison

A standing military force, with an overgrown Executive will not long be safe companions to liberty.

~James Madison

Our country, if it does justice to itself, will be the workshop of liberty to the civilized world.

~James Madison

In framing a government which is to be administered by men over men you must first enable the government to control the governed; and in the next place oblige it to control itself.

~James Madison

As a man is said to have a right to his property, he may be equally said to have a property in his rights.

~James Madison

No government, any more than an individual, will long be respected without being truly respectable; nor be truly respectable, without possessing a certain portion of order and stability.

~James Madison

Liberty may be endangered by the abuse of liberty, but also by the abuse of power.

~James Madison

The people shall not be deprived or abridged of their right to speak, or to publish their sentiments; and the freedom of the press, as one of the great bulwarks of liberty, shall be inviolable.

~James Madison

America was indebted to immigration for her settlement and prosperity. That part of America which had encouraged them most had advanced most rapidly in population, agriculture and the arts.

~James Madison

As long as the reason of man continues fallible, and he is at liberty to exercise it, different opinions will be formed.

~James Madison

The proposed Constitution is, in strictness, neither a national nor a federal constitution; but a composition of both.

~James Madison

Americans have the right and advantage of being armed - unlike the citizens of other countries whose governments are afraid to trust the people with arms.

~James Madison

Among the numerous advantages promised by a well-constructed Union, none deserves to be more accurately developed than its tendency to break and control the violence of faction.

~James Madison

Of all the enemies of public liberty, war is perhaps the most to be dreaded, because it comprises and develops the germ of every other.

~James Madison

Measures are too often decided, not according to the rules of justice and the rights of the minor party, but by the superior force of an interested and overbearing majority.

~James Madison

We are right to take alarm at the first experiment upon our liberties.

~James Madison

Whenever a youth is ascertained to possess talents meriting an education which his parents cannot afford, he should be carried forward

at the public expense.

~James Madison

In no instance have... the churches been guardians of the liberties of the people.

~James Madison

[I]t is more convenient to prevent the passage of a law, than to declare it void after it has passed.

~James Madison

The right of the citizens to bear arms in defense of themselves and the state shall not be questioned.

~James Madison

By rendering the labor of one, the property of the other, they cherish pride, luxury, and vanity on one side; on the other, vice and servility, or hatred and revolt.

~James Madison

And I have no doubt that every new example will succeed, as every past one has done, in showing that religion and Government will both exist in greater purity, the less they are mixed together.

~James Madison

A universal peace, it is to be feared, is in the catalogue of events, which will never exist but in the imaginations of visionary philosophers, or in the breasts of benevolent enthusiasts.

~James Madison

Let me recommend the best medicine in the world: a long journey, at a mild season, through a pleasant country, in easy stages.

~James Madison

The truth was that all men having power ought to be distrusted to a certain degree.

~James Madison

In suits at common law, trial by jury in civil cases is as essential to secure the liberty of the people as any one of the pre-existent rights of nature.

~James Madison

A President is impeachable if he attempts to subvert the Constitution.

~James Madison

Can it be of less consequence that the meaning of a Constitution should be fixed and known, than a meaning of a law should be so?

~James Madison

if the people are to be our governors, they must arm themselves with knowledge.

~James Madison

The safety and happiness of society are the objects at which all political institutions aim, and to which all such institutions must be sacrificed.

~James Madison

The essence of Government is power; and power, lodged as it must be in human hands, will ever be liable to abuse.

~James Madison

It is of great importance in a republic, not only to guard the society against the oppression of its rulers; but to guard one part of the society against the injustice of the other part.

~James Madison

Wherever there is interest and power to do wrong, wrong will generally

be done.

~James Madison

The number, the industry, and the morality of the priesthood, and the devotion of the people have been manifestly increased by the total separation of the church from the state.

~James Madison

[N]o religious Test shall ever be required as a Qualification to any Office or public Trust under the United States.

~James Madison

Good conscience is the most valuable asset of all!

~James Madison

Procrastination in the beginning and precipitation towards the conclusion is the characteristic of such bodies.

~James Madison

Despotism can only exist in darkness.

~James Madison

What is government itself but the greatest of all reflections on human nature?

~James Madison

What a perversion of the normal order of things! ... to make power the primary and central object of the social system, and Liberty but its satellite.

~James Madison

The legislative department is everywhere extending the sphere of its activity and drawing all power into its impetuous vortex.

~James Madison

Democracy was the right of the people to choose their own tyrant.

~James Madison

Religion flourishes in greater purity, without than with the aid of Government.

~James Madison

Conscience is the most sacred of all property.

~James Madison

A dependence on the people is, no doubt, the primary control on the government; but experience has taught mankind the necessity of auxiliary precautions.

~James Madison

The personal right to acquire property, which is a natural right, gives to property, when acquired, a right to protection, as a social right.

~James Madison

Conscience is the most sacred of all property; other property depending in part on positive law, the exercise of that, being a natural and unalienable right.

~James Madison

Resistance to tyranny is service to God.

~James Madison

If we are to take for the criterion of truth the majority of suffrages, they ought to be gotten from those philosophic and patriotic citizens who cultivate their reason.

~James Madison

The happy Union of these States is a wonder; their Constitution a miracle; their example the hope of Liberty throughout the world.

~James Madison

Liberty is to faction what air is to fire.

~James Madison

Wherever the real power in a Government lies, there is the danger of oppression.

~James Madison

Related Links:

- Government Quotes
- Men Quotes
- Liberty Quotes
- People Quotes
- Rights Quotes
- Law Quotes
- Religious Quotes
- War Quotes
- Country Quotes
- Freedom Quotes
- Party Quotes
- Constitution Quotes
- Religion Quotes
- America Quotes
- May Quotes
- Passion Quotes
- Exercise Quotes
- Mean Quotes
- Education Quotes
- Atheism Quotes