

Jerry A. Coyne

Quotes

*Way, Theory, Believe, World, Facts, Two, Religion, Ignorance, Book,
Superstitions, Giving Up, Teacher, Heritage, Strong, War, Evil, Enemy, Should,
Development, Padlocks*

If the history of science shows us anything, it is that we get nowhere by labeling our ignorance "God".

~Jerry A. Coyne

Faith is a padlock of the mind, and few keys can open it.

~Jerry A. Coyne

If the history of science teaches us anything, it is that what conquers our ignorance is research, not giving up and attributing our ignorance to the miraculous work of a creator.

~Jerry A. Coyne

Religion is based on dogma and belief, whereas science is based on doubt and questioning.

~Jerry A. Coyne

We don't have faith in reason; we use reason because, unlike revelation, it produces results and understanding. Even discussing why we should use reason employs reason!

~Jerry A. Coyne

In religion, faith is a virtue. In science, faith is a vice.

~Jerry A. Coyne

Damn, but science is just a constant feed of cool new facts and theories. Theology doesn't come close.

~Jerry A. Coyne

Can a geology teacher blithely tell his students that the earth is flat, or a European history professor that the Holocaust didn't happen? That's not academic freedom, but dereliction of duty.

~Jerry A. Coyne

Evolution tells us where we came from, not where we can go.

~Jerry A. Coyne

We now have many of the answers that once eluded Darwin, thanks to two developments that he could not have imagined: continental drift and molecular taxonomy.

~Jerry A. Coyne

All scientific progress requires a climate of strong skepticism.

~Jerry A. Coyne

Theology is the post hoc rationalization of what you want to believe.

~Jerry A. Coyne

We humans have many vestigial features proving that we evolved. The most famous is the appendix.

~Jerry A. Coyne

Why, exactly, are scientists supposed to accord "respect" to a bunch of ancient fables that are not only ludicrous on their face, but motivate so much opposition to science?

~Jerry A. Coyne

These mysteries about how we evolved should not distract us from the indisputable fact that we did evolve.

~Jerry A. Coyne

There is no horror, no amount of evil in the world, that a true believer can't rationalize as consistent with a loving God. It's the ultimate way of fooling yourself.

~Jerry A. Coyne

The battle for evolution seems never-ending. And the battle is part of a wider war, a war between rationality and superstition.

~Jerry A. Coyne

If you can't think of an observation that could disprove a theory, that theory simply isn't scientific.

~Jerry A. Coyne

Come on, readers, give me one example of a question that religion has answered to everyone's satisfaction - one example of a "truth" found in religion's quest for truth.

~Jerry A. Coyne

Because of the hegemony of fundamentalist religion in the United States, this country has been among the most resistant to the fact of human evolution.

~Jerry A. Coyne

It takes a profound hypocrisy to try to reconcile for others things that you can't reconcile for yourself.

~Jerry A. Coyne

You can find religions without creationism, but you never find creationism without religion.

~Jerry A. Coyne

A well-understood and testable hypothesis like sexual selection surely trumps an untestable appeal to the inscrutable caprices of a creator.

~Jerry A. Coyne

Some believers are fundamentalists about everything, but every believer is a fundamentalist about something.

~Jerry A. Coyne

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