

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe Quotes

*Men, Art, Life, Thinking, World, People, Inspirational, Love, Heart, Literature,
Giving, Nature, Science, Doe, Character, Children, Lying, Errors, Mind,
Happiness*

You can easily judge the character of a man by how he treats those who can do nothing for him.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

We do not have to visit a madhouse to find disordered minds; our planet is the mental institution of the universe.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Every day we should hear at least one little song, read one good poem, see one exquisite picture, and, if possible, speak a few sensible words.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

The moment one definitely commits oneself, then Providence moves too. Whatever you think you can do, or believe you can do, begin it. Action has magic, power and grace.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Magic is believing in yourself, if you can do that, you can make anything happen.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

At the moment of commitment the entire universe conspires to assist you.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Courage is the commitment to begin without any guarantee of success.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

If I accept you as you are, I will make you worse; however, if I treat you as though you are what you are capable of becoming, I help you become that.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

There is nothing worse than aggressive stupidity.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

A man sees in the world what he carries in his heart.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

One must ask children and birds how cherries and strawberries taste.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Hell begins the day that God grants you the vision to see all that you could have done, should have done, and would have done, but did not do.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Knowing is not enough; we must apply. Willing is not enough; we must do.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Correction does much, but encouragement does more.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Enjoy when you can, and endure when you must.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Everything is hard before it is easy.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Our friends show us what we can do; our enemies teach us what we must do.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Nothing is worth more than this day. You cannot relive yesterday. Tomorrow is still beyond your reach.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

He is happiest, be he king or peasant, who finds peace in his home.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Why look for conspiracy when stupidity can explain so much

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

None are more hopelessly enslaved than those who falsely believe they are free.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Someday perhaps the inner light will shine forth from us, and then we'll need no other light.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

The person born with a talent they are meant to use will find their greatest happiness in using it.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

If you want someone to develop a specific trait, treat them as though they already had it.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

A useless life is an early death.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Too many parents make life hard for their children by trying, too zealously, to make it easy for them.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Behavior is the mirror in which everyone shows their image.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

There is nothing more frightful than ignorance in action.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

In nature we never see anything isolated, but everything in connection with something else which is before it, beside it, under it and over it.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

A person hears only what they understand.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

People who think honestly and deeply have a hostile attitude towards the public.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

I never knew a more presumptuous person than myself. The fact that I say that shows that what I say is true.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Each indecision brings its own delays and days are lost lamenting over lost days... What you can do or think you can do, begin it. For boldness has magic, power, and genius in it.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Nothing is worse than active ignorance.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Yet through delivery orators succeed, I feel that I am far behind indeed.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

With little art, clear wit and sense Suggest their own delivery.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

What is not started today is never finished tomorrow.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Treat people as if they were what they ought to be and you help them to become what they are capable of being.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

To think is easy. To act is hard. But the hardest thing in the world is to act in accordance with your thinking.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

The way you see people is the way you treat them, and the way you treat them is what they become.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Ingratitude is always a kind of weakness. I have never known men of ability to be ungrateful.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

As soon as you trust yourself, you will know how to live.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

If you wish to know the mind of a man, listen to his words.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

I am not omniscient, but I know a lot.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Look at a man the way he is and he only becomes worse, but look at him as if he were what he could be, then he becomes what he should be.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

This is the true measure of love, When we believe that we alone can love, That no one could ever have loved so before us, And that no one will ever love in the same way after us.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

We must always change, renew, rejuvenate ourselves; otherwise, we

harden.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Being brilliant is no great feat if you respect nothing.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

The best slave is the one who thinks he is free.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

The greatest thing in this world is not so much where we stand as in what direction we are moving.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

One is never deceived; one deceives oneself.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Sometimes our fate resembles a fruit tree in winter. Who would think that those branches would turn green again and blossom, but we hope it, we know it.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Plunge boldly into the thick of life, and seize it where you will, it is always interesting.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

The soul that sees beauty may sometimes walk alone.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Lord Byron is only great as a poet; as soon as he reflects he is a child.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

The ideal of beauty is simplicity and tranquility.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

We are shaped and fashioned by what we love

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Wisdom is found only in truth.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

To think is easy. To act is difficult. To act as one thinks is the most difficult.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

To witness two lovers is a spectacle for the gods.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Progress has not followed a straight ascending line, but a spiral with rhythms of progress and retrogression, of evolution and dissolution.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Beauty is a manifestation of secret natural laws, which otherwise would have been hidden from us forever.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Our passions are the true phoenixes; when the old one is burnt out, a new one rises from its ashes.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

One can be instructed in society, one is inspired only in solitude.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

The man of understanding finds everything laughable.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

People of uncommon abilities generally fall into eccentricities when their sphere of life is not adequate to their abilities.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

As long as you are not aware of the continual law of Die and Be Again, you are merely a vague guest on a dark Earth.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Master and Doctor are my titles; for ten years now, without repose, I held my erudite recitals and led my pupils by the nose.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Great endowments often announce themselves in youth in the form of singularity and awkwardness.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Yet through delivery orators succeed, I feel that I am far behind indeed. [Ger., Allein der Vortrag macht des Redners Gluck, Ich fuhl es wohl noch bin ich weit zuruck.]

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Once you have missed the first buttonhole, you'll never manage to button up.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

What makes people happy is activity; changing evil itself into good by power, working in a God like manner.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Good children's literature appeals not only to the child in the adult, but to the adult in the child.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Oblivion is full of people who allow the opinions of others to overrule their belief in themselves.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Sin writes histories, goodness is silent.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Divide and rule, the politician cries; unite and lead, is watchword of the wise.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

All truly wise thoughts have been thought already thousands of times; but to make them truly ours, we must think them over again honestly, until they take root in our personal experience.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Very few people love others for what they are; rather, they love what they lend them, their own selves, their own idea of them.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Tell me with whom you associate, and I will tell you who you are.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

A great revolution is never the fault of the people, but of the government.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Science and art belong to the whole world, and before them vanish the barriers of nationality.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Man is made by his belief. As he believes, so he is.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Few people have the imagination for reality.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Love does not rule; but it trains, and that is more.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

This is the highest wisdom that I own; freedom and life are earned by those alone who conquer them each day anew.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

The more one knows, the more one comprehends, the more one realizes that everything turns in a circle.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Belief is not the beginning of knowledge - it is the end.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

What is hardest of all? That which seems most simple: to see with your eyes what is before your eyes.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

There are two things children should get from their parents: roots and wings.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Life is too short to drink bad wine.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

True love is love that stays constant for ever, whatever it's fortune; whether requited or scorned, filled or sent empty away.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Rest not. Life is sweeping by; go and dare before you die. Something mighty and sublime, leave behind to conquer time.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Mankind? That is an abstraction. There have always been and always will be only individuals.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Know thyself? If I knew myself I would run away.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

If I love you, what business is it of yours?

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

We must be young to do great things.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Where there is much light, the shadows are deepest. [Ger., Wo viel Licht ist, ist starker Schatten.]

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Many people take no care of their money till they come nearly to the end of it, and others do just the same with their time.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Investigate what is, and not what pleases.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

A man's foibles are what makes him lovable.

~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

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