

# John Brown Quotes

*Thinking, Men, Heart, Honor, Purpose, Powerful, Country, Action, War, Doe,  
Heaven, Intelligent, Memories, Cheerful, Tongue, Dog, Balls, Ideas, Mother,  
Cowardice*

Here, before God, in the presence of these witnesses, from this time, I consecrate my life to the destruction of slavery!

~John Brown

I am quite certain that the crimes of this guilty land will never be purged away but with blood. I had, as I now think vainly, flattered myself that without very much bloodshed it might be done.

~John Brown

Be mild with the mild, shrewd with the crafty, confiding to the honest, rough to the ruffian, and a thunderbolt to the liar. But in all this, never be unmindful of your own dignity.

~John Brown

These men are all talk; What is needed is action - action!

~John Brown

I don't think the people of the slave states will ever consider the subject of slavery in its true light till some other argument is resorted to other than moral persuasion.

~John Brown

Caution, Sir! I am eternally tired of hearing that word caution. It is nothing but the word of cowardice!

~John Brown

The United States is a place where the men govern, but the women rule.

~John Brown

I cannot remember a night so dark as to have hindered the coming day.

~John Brown

The intent and not the deed is in our power; and, therefore, who dares greatly Does greatly.

~John Brown

Holiness does not consist in mystic speculations, enthusiastic fervours, or uncommanded austerities; it consists in thinking as God thinks, and willing as God wills.

~John Brown

The same eye cannot both look up to heaven and down to earth.

~John Brown

Symptoms are the body's mother tongue; signs are in a foreign language.

~John Brown

I think every family should have a dog; it is like having a perpetual baby; it is the plaything and crony of the whole house. It keeps them all young.

~John Brown

I never wanted to fight against the Union, but could not turn my back on Virginia.

~John Brown

It is not a case we are treating; it is a living, palpitating, alas, too often suffering fellow creature.

~John Brown

There is a shrine in the temple of age, where lie forever embalmed the memories of such as have deserved well of their country and their race.

~John Brown

I will answer anything I can with honor, but not about others.

~John Brown

...what we need is action - action!

~John Brown

Tis mean for empty praise of wit to write, As fopplings grin to show their teeth are white.

~John Brown

Now let us thank th' eternal power, convinced That Heaven but tries our virtue by affliction: That oft the cloud that wraps the present hour Serves but to brighten all our future days.

~John Brown

The angels are ministering spirits; they are not governing spirits.

~John Brown

I was shot down by a fifth ball, which struck me squarely in the face, and passed out.

~John Brown

I am worth inconceivably more to hang than for any other purpose.

~John Brown

I am gaining in health slowly, and am quite cheerful in view of my approaching end, - being fully persuaded that I am worth inconceivably more to hang than any other purpose.

~John Brown

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