

# John Jay Chapman Quotes

*Men, Character, People, Thinking, Political, Long, Teaching, Happiness, Home,  
Prejudice, Growing Up, Mind, Age, Teacher, Enemy, Hate, Years, Society, Past,  
Lying*

People get so in the habit of worry that if you save them from drowning and put them on a bank to dry in the sun with hot chocolate and muffins they wonder whether they are catching cold.

~John Jay Chapman

All progress is experimental.

~John Jay Chapman

The reason for the slow progress of the world seems to lie in a single fact. Every man is born under the yoke, and grows up beneath the oppressions of his age.

~John Jay Chapman

Learning is not easy, but hard; culture is severe. The steps to Parnassus are steep and terribly arduous.

~John Jay Chapman

Attack another's rights and you destroy your own.

~John Jay Chapman

Nothing is more injurious to the character and to the intellect than the suppression of a generous emotion.

~John Jay Chapman

Politics is organized hatred, that is unity.

~John Jay Chapman

Too much agreement kills the chat.

~John Jay Chapman

Our goodness comes solely from thinking on goodness; our wickedness from thinking on wickedness. We too are the victims of our own contemplation.

~John Jay Chapman

Benevolence alone will not make a teacher, nor will learning alone do it. The gift of teaching is a peculiar talent, and implies a need and a craving in the teacher himself.

~John Jay Chapman

There are plenty of people to whom the crucial problem of their lives never get presented in terms that they can understand.

~John Jay Chapman

The power of quotation is as dreadful a weapon as any which the human intellect can forge.

~John Jay Chapman

Good government is the outcome of private virtue.

~John Jay Chapman

Everybody in America is soft, and hates conflict. The cure for this, both in politics and social life, is the same - hardihood. Give them raw truth.

~John Jay Chapman

You cannot criticize the New Testament. It criticizes you.

~John Jay Chapman

It is just as impossible to help reform by conciliating prejudice as it is by buying votes. Prejudice is the enemy. Whoever is not for you is against you.

~John Jay Chapman

A magazine or a newspaper is a shop. Each is an experiment and represents a new focus, a new ratio between commerce and intellect.

~John Jay Chapman

The world of politics is always twenty years behind the world of thought.

~John Jay Chapman

Wherever you see a man who gives someone else's corruption, someone else's prejudice as a reason for not taking action himself, you see a cog in The Machine that governs us.

~John Jay Chapman

Every generation is a secret society and has incommunicable enthusiasms, tastes, and interests which are a mystery both to its predecessors and to posterity.

~John Jay Chapman

When a man talks with absolute sincerity and freedom he goes on a voyage of discovery. The whole company has shares in the enterprise.

~John Jay Chapman

People who love soft methods and hate iniquity forget this; that reform consists in taking a bone from a dog. Philosophy will not do it.

~John Jay Chapman

If any of you ... have a mind to make himself heard a mile off, you must make a bonfire of your reputations, and a close enemy of most men who would wish you well.

~John Jay Chapman

The present in New York is so powerful that the past is lost.

~John Jay Chapman

A vision of truth which does not call upon us to get out of our armchair - why, this is the desideratum of mankind.

~John Jay Chapman

The fact that a man is to vote forces him to think.

~John Jay Chapman

There are lots of people who cannot think seriously without injuring their minds.

~John Jay Chapman

I want to find someone on the earth so intelligent that he welcomes opinions which he condemns.

~John Jay Chapman

The worst enemy of good government is not our ignorant foreign voter, but our educated domestic railroad president, our prominent business man, our leading lawyer.

~John Jay Chapman

As for boredom ... I notice that it leaves me as soon as I am doing something that has got to be done.

~John Jay Chapman

It is three and a half hours long, four characters wide and a cesspool deep.

~John Jay Chapman

So long as there is any subject which men may not freely discuss, they are timid upon all subjects.

~John Jay Chapman

We cannot hand our faith to one another.... Even in the Middle Ages, when faith was theoretically uniform, it was always practically individual.

~John Jay Chapman

A true university can never rest upon the will of one man. A true university always rests upon the wills of many divergent-minded old men, who refuse to be disturbed, but who growl in their kennels.

~John Jay Chapman

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