

# John Tillotson Quotes

*Men, World, Christian, Thinking, Wicked, Passion, May, Heart, Way, Religion,  
Lying, Wise, Two, Mind, Christ, Happiness, Real, Needs, Reality, Integrity*

Ignorance and inconsideration are the two great causes of the ruin of mankind.

~John Tillotson

A good word is an easy obligation; but not to speak ill requires only our silence, which costs us nothing.

~John Tillotson

Of all parts of wisdom the practice is the best.

~John Tillotson

Was ever any wicked man free from the stings of a guilty conscience?

~John Tillotson

The art of using deceit and cunning grow continually weaker and less effective to the user.

~John Tillotson

Sincerity is to speak as we think, to do as we pretend and profess, to perform and make good what we promise, and really to be what we would seem and appear to be.

~John Tillotson

Malice and hatred are very fretting and vexatious, and apt to make our minds sore and uneasy; but he that can moderate these affections will find ease in his mind.

~John Tillotson

Our belief or disbelief of a thing does not alter the nature of the thing.

~John Tillotson

Integrity gains strength by use.

~John Tillotson

Convulsive anger storms at large; or pale And silent, settles into full revenge.

~John Tillotson

Though all afflictions are evils in themselves, yet they are good for us, because they discover to us our disease and tend to our cure.

~John Tillotson

Zeal is fit for wise men, but flourishes chiefly among fools.

~John Tillotson

Wisdom and understanding are synonymous words; they consist of two propositions, which are not distinct in sense, but one and the same thing variously expressed.

~John Tillotson

If people would but provide for eternity with the same solicitude and real care as they do for this life, they could not fail of heaven.

~John Tillotson

The angriest person in a controversy is the one most liable to be in the wrong.

~John Tillotson

Abstinence is many times very helpful to the end of religion.

~John Tillotson

Truth is the shortest and nearest way to our end, carrying us thither in a straight line.

~John Tillotson

When a man has once forfeited the reputation of his integrity, he is set fast, and nothing will then serve his turn, neither truth nor falsehood.

~John Tillotson

The gospel chargeth us with piety towards God, and justice and charity to men, and temperance and chastity in reference to ourselves.

~John Tillotson

Surely modesty never hurt any cause; and the confidence of man seems to me to be much like the wrath of man.

~John Tillotson

No man's body is as strong as his appetites, but Heaven has corrected the boundlessness of his voluptuous desires by stinting his strength and contracting his capacities.

~John Tillotson

Take away God and religion, and men live to no purpose, without proposing any worthy end of life to themselves.

~John Tillotson

Piety and virtue are not only delightful for the present, but they leave peace and contentment behind them.

~John Tillotson

There are two restraints which God has laid upon human nature, shame and fear; shame is the weaker, and has place only in those in whom there are some reminders of virtue.

~John Tillotson

Is not he imprudent, who, seeing the tide making haste towards him apace, will sleep till the sea overwhelms him?

~John Tillotson

A little wit and a great deal of ill-nature will furnish a man for satire; but the greatest instance of wit is to commend well.

~John Tillotson

Sincerity is like traveling on a plain, beaten road, which commonly brings a man sooner to his journey's end than by-ways, in which men often lose themselves.

~John Tillotson

To be able to bear provocation is an argument of great reason, and to forgive it of a great mind.

~John Tillotson

Fear is that passion which hath the greatest power over us, and by which God and His laws take the surest hold of us.

~John Tillotson

There is one way whereby we may secure our riches, and make sure friends to ourselves of them,--by laying them out in charity.

~John Tillotson

Religion in a magistrate strengthens his authority, because it procures veneration, and gains a reputation to it. In all the affairs of this world, so much reputation is in reality so much power.

~John Tillotson

Some things will not bear much zeal; and the more earnest we are about them, the less we recommend ourselves to the approbation of sober and considerate men.

~John Tillotson

Whether religion be true or false, it must be necessarily granted to be the only wise principle and safe hypothesis for a man to live and die by.

~John Tillotson

If our souls be immortal, this makes amends for the frailties of life and the sufferings of this state.

~John Tillotson

Of all parts of wisdom, the practice is the best. Socrates was esteemed the wisest man of his time because he turned his acquired knowledge into morality, and aimed at goodness more than greatness.

~John Tillotson

It is hard to personate and act a part long; for where Truth is not the bottom, Nature will always be endeavoring to return, and will peep and betray herself one time or other.

~John Tillotson

Virtue and vice are not arbitrary things; but there is a natural and eternal reason for goodness and virtue, and against vice and wickedness.

~John Tillotson

Every Christian is endued with a power whereby he is enabled to resist temptations.

~John Tillotson

Of some calamity we can have no relief but from God alone; and what would men do, in such a case if it were not for God?

~John Tillotson

In all the affairs of this world, so much reputation is in reality so much power.

~John Tillotson

None so nearly disposed to scoffing at religion as those who have accustomed themselves to swear on trifling occasions.

~John Tillotson

There is no man that is knowingly wicked but is guilty to himself; and

there is no man that carries guilt about him but he receives a sting in his soul.

~John Tillotson

Wickedness is a kind of voluntary frenzy, and a chosen distraction.

~John Tillotson

When men live as if there were no God, it becomes expedient for them that there should be none.

~John Tillotson

The crafty person is always in danger; and when they think they walk in the dark, all their pretenses are transparent.

~John Tillotson

Every man hath greater assurance that God is good and just than he can have of any subtle speculations about predestination and the decrees of God.

~John Tillotson

They who are in the highest places, and have the most power, have the least liberty, because they are the most observed.

~John Tillotson

We have no cause to be ashamed of the Gospel of Christ; but the Gospel of Christ may justly be ashamed of us.

~John Tillotson

The true ground of most men's prejudice against the Christian doctrine is because they have no mind to obey it.

~John Tillotson

Great is the advantage of patience.

~John Tillotson

Next to the wicked lives of men, nothing is so great a disparagement and weakening to religion as the divisions of Christians.

~John Tillotson

If God were not a necessary Being of Himself, He might almost seem to be made for the use and benefit of men.

~John Tillotson

And as for Pleasure, there is little in this World that is true and sincere, besides the Pleasure of doing our Duty, and of doing good.

~John Tillotson

We anticipate our own happiness, and eat out the heart and sweetness of worldly pleasures by delightful forethought of them.

~John Tillotson

With the history of Moses no book in the world, in point of antiquity, can contend.

~John Tillotson

If they be principles evident of themselves, they need nothing to evidence them.

~John Tillotson

Men sunk in the greatest darkness imaginable retain some sense and awe of the Deity.

~John Tillotson

Are we proud and passionate, malicious and revengeful? Is this to be like-minded with Christ, who was meek and lowly?

~John Tillotson

Fill each day with light and heart.

~John Tillotson



There is no readier way for a man to bring his own worth into question than by endeavoring to detract from the worth of other men.

~John Tillotson

The little and short sayings of nice And excellent men are of great value, like the dust of gold, or the least sparks of diamonds.

~John Tillotson

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