

Joseph de Maistre

Quotes

Men, Art, Philosophy, Love, Women, Thrones, Math, Doe, Mean, Song, Pain, Desire, Giving, Death, Freedom, Life, Needed, Miserable, Success, Civilization

I don't know what a scoundrel is like, but I know what a respectable man is like, and it's enough to make one's flesh creep.

~Joseph de Maistre

Every country has the government it deserves.

~Joseph de Maistre

To know how to wait. It is the great secret of success.

~Joseph de Maistre

In a democracy people get the leaders they deserve.

~Joseph de Maistre

It is one of man's curious idiosyncrasies to create difficulties for the pleasure of resolving them.

~Joseph de Maistre

The great fault in women is to desire to be like men.

~Joseph de Maistre

Man in general, if reduced to himself, is too wicked to be free.

~Joseph de Maistre

False opinions are like false money, struck first of all by guilty men and thereafter circulated by honest people who perpetuate the crime without knowing what they are doing.

~Joseph de Maistre

Man is so muddled, so dependent on the things immediately before his eyes, that every day even the most submissive believer can be seen to risk the torments of the afterlife for the smallest pleasure.

~Joseph de Maistre

What is needed is not a revolution in the opposite direction, but the

opposite of a revolution.

~Joseph de Maistre

It is not the mediocrity of women's education which makes their weakness; it is their weakness which necessarily causes their mediocrity.

~Joseph de Maistre

We are tainted by modern philosophy which has taught us that all is good, whereas evil has polluted everything and in a very real sense all is evil, since nothing is in its proper place.

~Joseph de Maistre

Every individual or national degeneration is immediately revealed by a directly proportional degradation in language.

~Joseph de Maistre

I do not know what the heart of a rascal may be, but I know what is in the heart of an honest man; it is horrible.

~Joseph de Maistre

A constitution that is made for all nations is made for none.

~Joseph de Maistre

Christianity was preached by ignorant men and believed by servants, and that is why it resembles nothing ever known.

~Joseph de Maistre

All pain is a punishment, and every punishment is inflicted for love as much as for justice.

~Joseph de Maistre

Reason speaks in words alone, but love has a song.

~Joseph de Maistre

In the works of man, everything is as poor as its author; vision is confined, means are limited, scope is restricted, movements are labored, and results are humdrum.

~Joseph de Maistre

Wherever an altar is found, there civilization exists.

~Joseph de Maistre

If there was no moral evil upon earth, there would be no physical evil.

~Joseph de Maistre

Prejudice does not mean false ideas, but only ... opinions adopted before examination.

~Joseph de Maistre

Women have a genius for love; men can only learn the art indifferently.

~Joseph de Maistre

A child is an angel dependent on man

~Joseph de Maistre

There is no easy method of learning difficult things. The method is to close the door, give out that you are not at home, and work.

~Joseph de Maistre

There is no philosophy without the art of ignoring objections.

~Joseph de Maistre

There is no man who desires as passionately as a Russian. If we could imprison a Russian desire beneath a fortress, that fortress would explode.

~Joseph de Maistre

What a miserable world!--trouble if we love, and trouble if we do not

love.

~Joseph de Maistre

Genius does not seem to derive any great support from syllogisms. Its carriage is free; its manner has a touch of inspiration. We see it come, but we never see it walk.

~Joseph de Maistre

The concept of number is the obvious distinction between the beast and man.

~Joseph de Maistre

Nothing is necessary except God, and nothing is less necessary than pain.

~Joseph de Maistre

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