

# Lionel Blue Quotes

*Christian, Jew, Jesus, Said, Inspirational, Problem, Ghetto, People, Heaven,  
Giving, Religious, Thinking, Home, Birthday, Mother, Enemy, Reefs, Miracle,  
Sympathy, Use*

My mother enjoyed old age, and because of her I've begun to enjoy parts of it too. So far I've had it good and am crumbling nicely.

~Lionel Blue

In speaking of Jesus, I must speak about Christianity because I do not think it possible or profitable to divide the two.

~Lionel Blue

On the way to work good-hearted young girls sometimes offer me their seats, which I accept and bless them in return, a transaction satisfying to all concerned.

~Lionel Blue

If a dish doesn't turn out right, change the name and don't bat an eyelid. A fallen souffle is only a risen omelette. It depends on the self-confidence with which you present it.

~Lionel Blue

I once asked God what I could give him. "Your problems," he said. "I've got everything else.

~Lionel Blue

The secular world is more spiritual than it thinks, just as the ecclesiastical world is more materialist than it cares to acknowledge.

~Lionel Blue

I thought of such Christian inventions as the ghetto and the Jewish badge of shame. The Nazis didn't have to go very far to pick up their know-how.

~Lionel Blue

When you do a good turn you feel rich, even if you are broke.

~Lionel Blue

Jews are just like everyone else, only more so.

~Lionel Blue

I found that when I did something for the sake of heaven, heaven happened. These things changed my life. I owe them to my encounter with Christianity.

~Lionel Blue

I didn't want to be on the losing side. I was fed up with Jewish weakness, timidity and fear. I didn't want any more Jewish sentimentality and Jewish suffering. I was sickened by our sad songs.

~Lionel Blue

To my surprise, my 70s are nicer than my 60s and my 60s than my 50s, and I wouldn't wish my teens and 20s on my enemies.

~Lionel Blue

I literally fell among Quakers when I went up to Oxford.

~Lionel Blue

For a Christian, Jesus is the unique and only way that God has fully revealed himself. For a Jew this cannot be.

~Lionel Blue

For some years I deserted religion in favour of Marxism. The republic of goodness seemed more attainable than the Kingdom of God.

~Lionel Blue

To change, to convert? Why bother?

~Lionel Blue

I began to see that my problems, seen spiritually, were really my soul's plusses.

~Lionel Blue

I have ended as a Reform Rabbi, grateful to Christianity for so many good things.

~Lionel Blue

I learnt pity, sympathy, and what it was like to be at the other end of the stick. Such lessons can't be learnt in lecture halls.

~Lionel Blue

I was not comfortable worshipping another Jew.

~Lionel Blue

Early on I saw the repression and idolatry of Stalinism, and when it cracked, I was open to religion again.

~Lionel Blue

Old friends die on you, and they're irreplaceable. You become dependent.

~Lionel Blue

My mother was a modern woman with a limited interest in religion. When the sun set and the fast of the Day of Atonement ended, she shot from the synagogue like a rocket to dance the Charleston.

~Lionel Blue

I was certainly open for something being on the edge of a nervous breakdown, perplexed by my own sexuality. I was gay.

~Lionel Blue

For a devotee or lover, the being, worshipped or loved, will always be the only one for her or him.

~Lionel Blue

The real evidence for Jesus and Christianity is in how Jesus and the Christianity based on him manifest themselves in the lives of practicing

Christians.

~Lionel Blue

Pious XII was too neutral to mention the gas chambers; decent people like my own family were turned into devils by crude Christianity.

~Lionel Blue

Because of my Marxism, I was not into myths or miracles, whether it was the virgin birth, the physical resurrection or casting out demons from an epileptic.

~Lionel Blue

It was admitted by the early rabbis that the sectarians could be as full of good works as eggs were full of meat.

~Lionel Blue

Discrimination against Jews can be read in Thomas Aquinas, and insults against Jews in Martin Luther.

~Lionel Blue

An aged rabbi, crazed with liberalism, once said to me, We Jews are just ordinary human beings. Only a bit more so!

~Lionel Blue

The Christian use of religion as a personal love affair both shocked me, and attracted me.

~Lionel Blue

I was not allowed a physical lover. Falling in love with Love was the best I could get.

~Lionel Blue

I recovered my infant Judaism, but in a reformist version.

~Lionel Blue

It's more fun to watch without joining in.

~Lionel Blue

At religious instruction classes, I encountered *The Pilgrims Progress* by John Bunyan, and the sincerity of the traveller in that book was overwhelming.

~Lionel Blue

Praying privately in churches, I began to discover that heaven was my true home and also that it was here and now, woven into this life.

~Lionel Blue

During the Second World War, evacuated to non-Jewish households, I encountered Christianity at home and in school.

~Lionel Blue

This Christian poison hasn't stopped yet.

~Lionel Blue

I still go to a Christian priory for retreats.

~Lionel Blue

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