

# Max Planck Quotes

*Science, Matter, Knowledge, Nature, Men, Law, Intelligent, Mean, Ideas, Art,  
Real, Truth, Struggle, Opponents, Hard Work, Success, Imagination, Views,  
Light, Atoms*

Science cannot solve the ultimate mystery of nature. And that is because, in the last analysis, we ourselves are a part of the mystery that we are trying to solve.

~Max Planck

Anybody who has been seriously engaged in scientific work of any kind realizes that over the entrance to the gates of the temple of science are written the words: 'Ye must have faith.'

~Max Planck

A scientific truth does not triumph by convincing its opponents and making them see the light, but rather because its opponents eventually die and a new generation grows up that is familiar with it.

~Max Planck

All matter originates and exists only by virtue of a force... We must assume behind this force the existence of a conscious and intelligent Mind. This Mind is the matrix of all matter.

~Max Planck

There can never be any real opposition between religion and science; for the one is the complement of the other.

~Max Planck

I regard consciousness as fundamental. I regard matter as a derivative of consciousness.

~Max Planck

Every advance in knowledge brings us face to face with the mystery of our own being.

~Max Planck

In all my research I have never come across matter. To me the term matter implies a bundle of energy which is given form by an intelligent

spirit.

~Max Planck

Thus, the photons which constitute a ray of light behave like intelligent human beings: out of all possible curves they always select the one which will take them most quickly to their goal.

~Max Planck

The scientist needs an artistically creative imagination.

~Max Planck

It was not by accident that the greatest thinkers of all ages were deeply religious souls.

~Max Planck

There is no matter as suchâ€”mind is the matrix of all matter.

~Max Planck

An experiment is a question which science poses to Nature and a measurement is the recording of Nature's answer.

~Max Planck

No burden is so heavy for a man to bear as a succession of happy days.

~Max Planck

Truth never triumphs-its opponents just die out.

~Max Planck

The pioneer scientist must have "a vivid intuitive imagination, for new ideas are not generated by deduction, but by artistically creative imagination."

~Max Planck

The entire world we apprehend through our senses is no more than a tiny fragment in the vastness of Nature.

~Max Planck

Science advances one funeral at a time.

~Max Planck

Whence come I and whither go I? That is the great unfathomable question, the same for every one of us. Science has no answer to it.

~Max Planck

The assumption of an absolute determinism is the essential foundation of every scientific enquiry.

~Max Planck

The man who cannot occasionally imagine events and conditions of existence that are contrary to the causal principle as he knows it will never enrich his science by the addition of a new idea.

~Max Planck

We have no right to assume that any physical laws exist, or if they have existed up until now, that they will continue to exist in a similar manner in the future.

~Max Planck

There is a real world independent of our senses; the laws of nature were not invented by man, but forced on him by the natural world. They are the expression of a natural world order.

~Max Planck

Those [scientists] who dislike entertaining contradictory thoughts are unlikely to enrich their science with new ideas.

~Max Planck

Insight must precede application.

~Max Planck

Ego is the immediate dictate of human consciousness.

~Max Planck

A new truth always has to contend with many difficulties. If it were not so, it would have been discovered much sooner.

~Max Planck

What seems today inconceivable will appear one day, from a higher stand point, quite simple and harmonious.

~Max Planck

A scientist is happy, not in resting on his attainments but in the steady acquisition of fresh knowledge.

~Max Planck

It is impossible to make a clear cut between science, religion, and art. The whole is never equal simply to the sum of its various parts.

~Max Planck

The quantum hypothesis will eventually find its exact expression in certain equations which will be a more exact formulation of the law of causality.

~Max Planck

Scientific discovery and scientific knowledge have been achieved only by those who have gone in pursuit of it without any practical purpose whatsoever in view.

~Max Planck

Religion belongs to the realm that is inviolable before the law of causation and therefore closed to science.

~Max Planck

It is never possible to predict a physical occurrence with unlimited precision.

~Max Planck

An important scientific innovation rarely makes its way by gradually winning over and converting its opponents: What does happen is that the opponents gradually die out.

~Max Planck

Physical changes take place continuously, while chemical changes take place discontinuously. Physics deals chiefly with continuous varying quantities, while chemistry deals chiefly with whole numbers.

~Max Planck

Experiment is the only means of knowledge at our disposal. Everything else is poetry, imagination.

~Max Planck

All matter originates and exists only by virtue of a force.

~Max Planck

Experimenters are the shock troops of science.

~Max Planck

I had always looked upon the search for the absolute as the noblest and most worth while task of science.

~Max Planck

Farsighted theologians are now working to mine the eternal metal from the teachings of Jesus and to forge it for all time.

~Max Planck

Science advances funeral by funeral

~Max Planck

It is not the possession of truth, but the success which attends the seeking after it, that enriches the seeker and brings happiness to him.

~Max Planck

Science progresses not by convincing the adherents of old theories that they are wrong, but by allowing enough time to pass so that a new generation can arise unencumbered by the old errors.

~Max Planck

An indispensable hypothesis, even though still far from being a guarantee of success, is however the pursuit of a specific aim, whose lighted beacon, even by initial failures, is not betrayed.

~Max Planck

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