

Michael Joseph Oakeshott

Quotes

*Past, Believe, Men, Dream, Political, Impossible, May, People, Trying,
Responsibility, Law, Wheat, Diversity, Laughter, Government, Evidence,
Perfect, Support, Said, Inheritance*

Poetry is a sort of truancy, a dream within the dream of life, a wild flower planted among our wheat.

~Michael Joseph Oakeshott

The man of conservative temperament believes that a known good is not lightly to be surrendered for an unknown better.

~Michael Joseph Oakeshott

Every human being is born an heir to an inheritance to which he can succeed only in a process of learning.

~Michael Joseph Oakeshott

To try to do something which is inherently impossible is always a corrupting enterprise.

~Michael Joseph Oakeshott

Our predicament is not the difficulty of attaining happiness, but the difficult of avoiding the misery to which the pursuit of happiness exposes us.

~Michael Joseph Oakeshott

The conjunction of ruling and dreaming generates tyranny.

~Michael Joseph Oakeshott

Like Midas, the Rationalist is always in the unfortunate position of not being able to touch anything, without transforming it into an abstraction; he can never get a square meal of experience.

~Michael Joseph Oakeshott

It is difficult to think of any circumstances where learning may be said to be impossible.

~Michael Joseph Oakeshott

Economics is not an attempt to generalize human desires or human

behavior; but to generalize the phenomena of price.

~Michael Joseph Oakeshott

It is certain that most who concentrate upon achievement miss life.

~Michael Joseph Oakeshott

History is what the evidence compels us to believe.

~Michael Joseph Oakeshott

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