

# Philip James Bailey

## Quotes

*Heart, Men, Stars, Love, Life, Soul, Night, Heaven, Light, Thinking, God, Art,  
Eye, Death, Evil, Joy, Sorrow, Beautiful, War, Self*

The death-bed of a day, how beautiful!

~Philip James Bailey

What are ye orbs? The words of God? the Scriptures of the skies?

~Philip James Bailey

There is no surer mark of the absence of the highest moral and intellectual qualities than a cold reception of excellence.

~Philip James Bailey

For ivy climbs the crumbling hall To decorate decay.

~Philip James Bailey

Respect is what we owe; love, what we give.

~Philip James Bailey

Surely the stars are images of love.

~Philip James Bailey

Art is a man's nature; nature is God's art.

~Philip James Bailey

Man is a military animal, glories in gunpowder, and loves parade.

~Philip James Bailey

Death, thou art infinite; it is life is little.

~Philip James Bailey

Write to the mind and heart, and let the ear Glean after what it can.

~Philip James Bailey

Let each man think himself an act of God, His mind a thought, his life a breath of God; And let each try, by great thoughts and good deeds, To show the most of Heaven he hath in him.

~Philip James Bailey

Evil then results from imperfection.

~Philip James Bailey

When I forget that the stars shine in air-- When I forget that beauty is in stars-- When I forget that love with beauty is-- Will I forget thee: till then all things else.

~Philip James Bailey

I am tired of looking on what is, One might as well see beauty never more, As look upon it with an empty eye. I would this world were over. I am tired.

~Philip James Bailey

Kindness is wisdom. There is none in life But needs it and may learn.

~Philip James Bailey

Mind and night will meet, though in silence, like forbidden lovers.

~Philip James Bailey

The worst men often give the best advice. Our deeds are sometimes better than our thoughts.

~Philip James Bailey

It is no great misfortune to oblige ungrateful people, but an unsupportable one to be forced to be under an obligation to a scoundrel.

~Philip James Bailey

Joys Are bubble-like--what makes them bursts them too.

~Philip James Bailey

The first and worst of all frauds is to cheat one's self.

~Philip James Bailey

Envy's a coal comes hissing hot from Hell.

~Philip James Bailey

Simplicity is nature's first step, and the last of art.

~Philip James Bailey

The temples perish, but the God still lives.

~Philip James Bailey

Hell is more bearable than nothingness.

~Philip James Bailey

The sun, centre and sire of light, The keystone of the world-built arch of heaven.

~Philip James Bailey

Where imperfection ceaseth, heaven begins.

~Philip James Bailey

Doubt is the shadow of truth.

~Philip James Bailey

Prayer is the spirit speaking truth to Truth.

~Philip James Bailey

My favoured temple is an humble heart.

~Philip James Bailey

The truth of truths is love.

~Philip James Bailey

Lips like rosebuds peeping out of snow.

~Philip James Bailey

Hell is the wrath of God--His hate of sin.

~Philip James Bailey

Poets are all who love, who feel great truths, And tell them; and the truth of truths is love.

~Philip James Bailey

Thou art a woman, And that is saying the best and worst of thee.

~Philip James Bailey

Error is worse than ignorance.

~Philip James Bailey

Sorrow is a stone that crushes a single bearer to the ground, while two are able to carry it with ease.

~Philip James Bailey

Imagination is the air of mind.

~Philip James Bailey

When pride thaws, look for floods.

~Philip James Bailey

We live in deeds, not years; in thoughts, not figures on a dial. We should count time by heart throbs. He most lives who thinks most, feels the noblest, acts the best.

~Philip James Bailey

It is much less what we do than what we think, which fits us for the future.

~Philip James Bailey

Remember that thy heart will shed its pleasures as thine eye its tears,  
and both leave loathsome furrows.

~Philip James Bailey

Grief hallows hearts, even while it ages heads.

~Philip James Bailey

Corruption springs from light: 'tis one same power Creates, preserves,  
destroys; matter whereon It works, on e'er self-transmutative form,  
Common to now the living, now the dead.

~Philip James Bailey

It matters not how long we live but how.

~Philip James Bailey

Lowliness is the base of every virtue, And he who goes the lowest  
builds the safest.

~Philip James Bailey

Where doubt there truth is - 'tis her shadow.

~Philip James Bailey

Walk boldly and wisely.... There is a hand above that will help you on.

~Philip James Bailey

The world is a great poem, and the world's The words it is writ in, and  
we souls the thoughts.

~Philip James Bailey

The beautiful are never desolate; But some one alway loves them--God  
or man. If man abandons, God himself takes them.

~Philip James Bailey

He hath no power that hath not power to use.

~Philip James Bailey

The dew, 'Tis of the tears which stars weep, sweet with joy.

~Philip James Bailey

England! my country, great and free! Heart of the world, I leap to thee!

~Philip James Bailey

Evil and good are God's right hand and left.

~Philip James Bailey

All are of the race of God, and have in themselves good.

~Philip James Bailey

Evil is limited. One cannot form A scheme for universal evil.

~Philip James Bailey

Death is another life.

~Philip James Bailey

Ah, nothing comes to us too soon but sorrow.

~Philip James Bailey

Poetry is itself a thing of God; He made his prophets poets; and the more We feel of poesie do we become Like God in love and power,-under-makers.

~Philip James Bailey

Love spends his all, and still hath store.

~Philip James Bailey

I cannot love as I have loved, And yet I know not why; It is the one great woe of life To feel all feeling die.

~Philip James Bailey

The long days are no happier than the short ones.

~Philip James Bailey

The sole equality on earth is death.

~Philip James Bailey

America, thou half-brother of the world; with something good and bad of every land.

~Philip James Bailey

Could I love less, I should be happier now.

~Philip James Bailey

How slight a chance may raise or sink a soul!

~Philip James Bailey

True faith nor biddeth nor abideth form, The bended knee, the eye uplift; is all Which men need render; all which God can bear. What to the faith are forms? A passing speck, A crow upon the sky.

~Philip James Bailey

Music tells no truths.

~Philip James Bailey

For as nightingales do upon glow-worms feed, So poets live upon the living light.

~Philip James Bailey

Wan night, the shadow goer, came stepping in.

~Philip James Bailey

And these are joys, like beauty, but skin deep.

~Philip James Bailey



The course of Nature seems a course of Death, And nothingness the whole substantial thing.

~Philip James Bailey

When night hath set her silver lamp high, Then is the time for study.

~Philip James Bailey

See the gold sunshine patching, And streaming and streaking across  
The gray-green oaks; and catching, By its soft brown beard, the moss.

~Philip James Bailey

Nature means Necessity.

~Philip James Bailey

I run the gauntlet of a file of doubts, Each one of which down hurls me  
to the ground.

~Philip James Bailey

The truth is perilous never to the true, Nor knowledge to the wise; and  
to the fool, And to the false, error and truth alike, Error is worse than  
ignorance.

~Philip James Bailey

I cannot be content with less than heaven.

~Philip James Bailey

Blest is he whose heart is the home of the great dead and their great  
thoughts.

~Philip James Bailey

See the sun! God's crest upon His azure shield, the Heavens.

~Philip James Bailey

Stars which stand as thick as dewdrops on the field of heaven.

~Philip James Bailey

Death is the universal salt of states; Blood is the base of all things--law and war.

~Philip James Bailey

He is a fool who is not for love and beauty. I speak unto the young, for I am of them and always shall be.

~Philip James Bailey

Night brings out stars as sorrow shows us truths.

~Philip James Bailey

We live in deeds, not years; in thoughts, not breaths; In feelings, not in figures on a dial.

~Philip James Bailey

Obey thy genius, for a minister it is unto the throne of fate. Draw to thy soul, and centralize the rays which are around of the Divinity.

~Philip James Bailey

The heart is its own Fate.

~Philip James Bailey

I have a heart with room for every joy .

~Philip James Bailey

There is no disappointment we endure one-half so great as what we are to ourselves.

~Philip James Bailey

Every believer is God's miracle.

~Philip James Bailey

Could we but think with the intensity we love with, we might do great things.

~Philip James Bailey

Dewdrops, Nature's tears, which she Sheds in her own breast for the fair which die. The sun insists on gladness; but at night, When he is gone, poor Nature loves to weep.

~Philip James Bailey

Leave the poor Some time for self-improvement. Let them not Be forced to grind the bones out of their arms For bread, but have some space to think and feel Like moral and immortal creatures.

~Philip James Bailey

All things that speak of heaven speak of peace.

~Philip James Bailey

Music lives within thy lips Like a nightingale in roses.

~Philip James Bailey

The wind breathes not, and the wave Walks softly as above a grave.

~Philip James Bailey

The worst way to improve the world is to condemn it.

~Philip James Bailey

Let us think less of men and more of God.

~Philip James Bailey

The hero is the world-man, in whose heart One passion stands for all, the most indulged.

~Philip James Bailey

O, there is naught on earth worth being known but God and our own

souls!

~Philip James Bailey

Dear Lord, our God and Saviour! for Thy gifts The world were poor in  
thanks, though every soul Were to do nought but breathe them, every  
blade Of grass, and every atomie of earth To utter it like dew.

~Philip James Bailey

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