

# Tertullian Quotes

*Christian, Men, Son, Blood, Father, Eye, Religious, Soul, Nature, Prayer,  
Violence, Birth, Believe, Discipline, Certain, Inspirational, Seeds, Patience, Sex,  
Evil*

You can't undo anything you've already done, but you can face up to it. You can tell the truth. You can seek forgiveness. And then let God do the rest.

~Tertullian

The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church.

~Tertullian

Hope is patience with the lamp lit.

~Tertullian

Men remain in ignorance as long as they hate, and they hate unjustly as long as they remain in ignorance.

~Tertullian

Arguments about Scripture achieve nothing but a stomachache and a headache.

~Tertullian

If the Tiber rises too high, or the Nile too low, the remedy is always feeding Christians to the lions.

~Tertullian

Custom without truth is error grown old.

~Tertullian

Where our work is, there let our joy be.

~Tertullian

A man becomes a Christian, he is not born one.

~Tertullian

You can judge the quality of their faith from the way they behave. Discipline is an index to doctrine.

~Tertullian

The pleasure of those who injure you lies in your pain. Therefore they will suffer if you take away their pleasure by not feeling pain

~Tertullian

You cannot parcel out freedom in pieces because freedom is all or nothing.

~Tertullian

I believe because it is absurd.

~Tertullian

Now we allow that life begins with conception, because we contend that the soul also begins from conception; life taking its commencement at the same moment and place that the soul does.

~Tertullian

The Son of God died; it is by all means to be believed because it is absurd. And he was buried and rose again; the fact is certain, because it is impossible.

~Tertullian

God the Father's a deep root; the Son's the shoot that breaks into the world; the Spirit spreads the beauty & fragrance

~Tertullian

There are still preserved among Christians traces of that Holy Spirit that appeared in the form of a dove. They expel evil spirits, perform many cures, and foresee certain events.

~Tertullian

He who lives only to benefit himself confers on the world a benefit when he dies.

~Tertullian

Prevention of birth is premature murder, and it makes no difference whether it is a life already born that one snatches away or a life that is coming to birth.

~Tertullian

See how these Christians love one another.

~Tertullian

Indeed it is better to postpone, lest either we complete too little by hurrying, or wander too long in completing it.

~Tertullian

Truth engenders hatred of truth. As soon as it appears, it is the enemy.

~Tertullian

Truth persuades by teaching, but does not teach by persuading.

~Tertullian

What has Athens to do with Jerusalem.

~Tertullian

The state of faith allows no mention of impossibility.

~Tertullian

The whole fruit is already present in the seed.

~Tertullian

Nothing that is God's is obtainable by money

~Tertullian

The first reaction to truth is hatred.

~Tertullian

It is our care for the helpless, our practice of loving kindness, that brands us in the eyes of those who oppose us.

~Tertullian

The flesh feeds on the Body and Blood of Christ that the soul may be fattened on God

~Tertullian

Indeed heresies are themselves instigated by philosophy

~Tertullian

The usual complaint is, 'I have no other way of earning a living.' The harsh reply can be, 'Do you have to live?'

~Tertullian

It is absolutely forbidden to repay evil with evil.

~Tertullian

Out of the frying pan, into the fire.

~Tertullian

I believe BECAUSE it's impossible.

~Tertullian

The more you mow us down, the more numerous we grow; the blood of Christians is seed.

~Tertullian

Patience is God's nature.

~Tertullian

For it is really better for us not to know a thing, because [God] has not revealed it to us, than to know it according to man's wisdom, because he has been bold enough to assume it.

~Tertullian

He is a man, who is to be a man; the fruit is always present in the seed.

~Tertullian

Christians are made, not born.

~Tertullian

A holy woman may be beautiful by the gift of nature, but she must not give occasion to lust. If beauty be hers, so far from setting it off she ought rather to obscure it.

~Tertullian

Prevention of birth is a precipitation of murder.

~Tertullian

Two kinds of blindness are easily combined so that those who do not see really appear to see what is not.

~Tertullian

Woman is a temple built over a sewer.

~Tertullian

To forbid birth is only quicker murder.

~Tertullian

Discipline is an index to doctrine.

~Tertullian

Fear is the foundation of safety.

~Tertullian

Patience ornaments the woman and proves the man.

~Tertullian

Let women paint their eyes with tints of chastity.

~Tertullian

The soul whose bosom lust did never touch Is God's fair bride; and maiden's souls are such.

~Tertullian

The blood of Christians is seed.

~Tertullian

Daily, every moment, prayer is necessary to men.

~Tertullian

It is certain because it is impossible. -Certum est quia impossibile

~Tertullian

It is a fundamental human right, a privilege of nature, that every man should worship according to his own convictions.

~Tertullian

It is to be believed because it is absurd.

~Tertullian

The nature of rumor is well known to all. It was your own poet who said: 'Rumor, an evil surpassing all evils in speed.'

~Tertullian

Where our joy is, there should our work be.

~Tertullian

Divorce these days is a religious vow, as if the proper offspring of marriage.

~Tertullian

The blood of the Christians is seed

~Tertullian

Learn about the incorruptible King, and know his heroes who never inflict slaughter on the peoples.

~Tertullian

The Christian does not hurt even his enemy.

~Tertullian

If the sky stands still, if the earth quakes, if there is famine, if there is pestilence, at once the cry is raised: Throw the Christians to the lions! So many to one?

~Tertullian

The fact is certain because it is impossible.

~Tertullian

Can we not live without pleasure, who cannot but with pleasure die?

~Tertullian

I revere the fullness of His Scripture, in which He manifests to me both the Creator and creation. In the gospel moreover, I discover a Minister and Witness of the Creator, even His Word.

~Tertullian

Those who fled will fight another time.

~Tertullian

And when will there be an end of marrying? I suppose, when there is an end of living.

~Tertullian



He who flees will fight again.

~Tertullian

Shall we carry a flag? It is a rival to Christ.

~Tertullian

Nature soaks every evil with either fear or shame.

~Tertullian

Prayer is the one thing that can conquer God

~Tertullian

Christ, in disarming Peter, disarmed every soldier.

~Tertullian

It is certainly no part of religion to compel religion.

~Tertullian

It is certain because it is possible.

~Tertullian

Now then, you dogs, whom the apostle puts outside and who yelp at the God of truth, let us come to your various questions.

~Tertullian

How many men of rank (to say nothing of common people) have been delivered from devils, and healed of diseases!

~Tertullian

There is strife between God's ways and human ways; damned by you, we are absolved by God.

~Tertullian

Nature is schoolmistress, the soul the pupil; and whatever one has

taught or the other has learned has come from God - the Teacher of the teacher.

~Tertullian

All the Scriptures give clear proof of the Trinity, and it is from these that our principle is deduced...the distinction of the Trinity is quite clearly displayed.

~Tertullian

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