

Thomas Paine

Quotes

*Men, Government, Religion, War, Believe, Motivation, Country, Political,
Christian, Rights, Liberty, Lying, Book, Mean, Religious, Pain, Character,
People, Heart, Ignorance*

To argue with a person who has renounced the use of reason is like administering medicine to the dead.

~Thomas Paine

The World is my country, all mankind are my brethren, and to do good is my religion.

~Thomas Paine

A body of men holding themselves accountable to nobody ought not to be trusted by anybody.

~Thomas Paine

He who dares not offend cannot be honest.

~Thomas Paine

[A]ll churches, whether Jewish, Christian or Muslim, are simply human inventions. They use fear to enslave us. They are a monopoly for power and profit.

~Thomas Paine

If there must be trouble, let it be in my day, that my child may have peace.

~Thomas Paine

The harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph.

~Thomas Paine

Government, even in its best state, is but a necessary evil; in its worst state, an intolerable one.

~Thomas Paine

Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it.

~Thomas Paine

Religion is a history of wickedness that has served to corrupt and brutalize humankind; and, for my part, I sincerely detest it as I detest everything that is cruel.

~Thomas Paine

He that would make his own liberty secure, must guard even his enemy from oppression; for if he violates this duty, he establishes a precedent that will reach to himself.

~Thomas Paine

The real man smiles in trouble, gathers strength from distress, and grows brave by reflection.

~Thomas Paine

Our greatest enemies, the ones we must fight most often, are within.

~Thomas Paine

Arms discourage and keep the invader and plunderer in awe, and preserve order in the world as well as property... Horrid mischief would ensue were the law-abiding deprived of the use of them.

~Thomas Paine

Reputation is what men and women think of us; character is what God and angels know of us.

~Thomas Paine

We have it in our power to begin the world over again.

~Thomas Paine

Character is much easier kept than recovered.

~Thomas Paine

These are the times that try men's souls.

~Thomas Paine

One good schoolmaster is of more use than a hundred priests.

~Thomas Paine

The strength and power of despotism consists wholly in the fear of resistance.

~Thomas Paine

The Deist needs none of those tricks and shows called miracles to confirm his faith, for what can be a greater miracle than the creation itself, and his own existence?

~Thomas Paine

There are two distinct classes of men - those who pay taxes and those who receive and live upon taxes.

~Thomas Paine

The mind once enlightened cannot again become dark.

~Thomas Paine

The Bible is a book that has been read more and examined less than any book that ever existed.

~Thomas Paine

When we are planning for posterity, we ought to remember that virtue is not hereditary.

~Thomas Paine

...It would be more consistent that we call [the Bible] the work of a demon than the word of God. It is a history of wickedness that has served to corrupt and brutalize mankind.

~Thomas Paine

Society is produced by our wants and government by our wickedness.

~Thomas Paine

The greatest tyrannies are always perpetuated in the name of the noblest causes.

~Thomas Paine

The slavery of fear had made men afraid to think.

~Thomas Paine

Men should not petition for rights, but take them

~Thomas Paine

A nation under a well regulated government, should permit none to remain uninstructed. It is monarchical and aristocratical government only that requires ignorance for its support.

~Thomas Paine

All national institutions of churches, whether Jewish, Christian or Turkish, appear to me no other than human inventions, set up to terrify and enslave mankind, and monopolize power and profit.

~Thomas Paine

When all other rights are taken away, the right of rebellion is made perfect.

~Thomas Paine

Reason obeys itself; and ignorance submits to whatever is dictated to it.

~Thomas Paine

The American constitutions were to liberty, what a grammar is to language: they define its parts of speech, and practically construct them into syntax

~Thomas Paine

Where knowledge is a duty, ignorance is a crime.

~Thomas Paine

In a chariot of light from the region of the day, the Goddess of Liberty came. She brought in her hand as a pledge of her love, the plant she named Liberty Tree.

~Thomas Paine

Everything that is right or reasonable pleads for separation. The blood of the slain, the weeping voice of nature cries, 'tis time to part.

~Thomas Paine

Not a place upon earth might be so happy as America. Her situation is remote from all the wrangling world, and she has nothing to do but to trade with them.

~Thomas Paine

It is the duty of every man, as far as his ability extends, to detect and expose delusion and error.

~Thomas Paine

A long habit of not thinking a thing wrong gives it a superficial appearance of being right.

~Thomas Paine

The Bible: a history of wickedness that has served to corrupt and brutalise mankind.

~Thomas Paine

You cannot undermine police authority and then complain about rising crime.

~Thomas Paine

The harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. I love the man that can smile in trouble, that can gather strength from distress and

grow.

~Thomas Paine

Moderation in temper is always a virtue; but moderation in principle is always a vice.

~Thomas Paine

It is error only, and not truth, that shrinks from inquiry.

~Thomas Paine

My country is the world, and my religion is to do good.

~Thomas Paine

When extraordinary power and extraordinary pay are allotted to any individual in a government, he becomes the center, round which every kind of corruption generates and forms.

~Thomas Paine

Independence is my happiness, and I view things as they are, without regard to place or person; my country is the world, and my religion is to do good.

~Thomas Paine

If I do not believe as you believe, it proves that you do not believe as I believe, and that is all that it proves.

~Thomas Paine

What is called a republic, is not any particular form of government ... it is naturally opposed to the word monarchy, which means arbitrary power.

~Thomas Paine

It is from the Bible that man has learned cruelty, rapine, and murder; for the belief of a cruel God makes a cruel man.

~Thomas Paine

If those to whom power is delegated do well, they will be respected; if not, they will be despised.

~Thomas Paine

A Constitution is not the act of a Government, but of a people constituting a government, and a government without a constitution is a power without right.

~Thomas Paine

I prefer peace. But if trouble must come, let it come in my time, so that my children can live in peace.

~Thomas Paine

It is not in numbers, but in unity, that our great strength lies.

~Thomas Paine

In Deism our reason and our belief are happily united.

~Thomas Paine

Belief in a cruel God makes a cruel man.

~Thomas Paine

Arms, like laws, discourage and keep the invader and plunderer in awe and preserve order.

~Thomas Paine

It is the duty of every true Deist to vindicate the moral justice of God against the evils of the Bible.

~Thomas Paine

Of all the tyrannies that affect mankind, tyranny in religion is the worst.

~Thomas Paine

Government is best which governs least

~Thomas Paine

An army of principles will penetrate where an army of soldiers cannot.

~Thomas Paine

Some people can be reasoned into sense, and others must be shocked into it.

~Thomas Paine

He that rebels against reason is a real rebel, but he that in defence of reason rebels against tyranny has a better title to Defender of the Faith, than George the Third.

~Thomas Paine

Time makes more converts than reason.

~Thomas Paine

What is it the Bible teaches us? -- rapine, cruelty, and murder.

~Thomas Paine

Prophesying is lying professionally.

~Thomas Paine

As to the book called the bible, it is blasphemy to call it the Word of God. It is a book of lies and contradictions and a history of bad times and bad men.

~Thomas Paine

What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly; it is dearness only that gives everything its value.

~Thomas Paine

The trade of governing has always been monopolized by the most

ignorant and the most rascally individuals of mankind.

~Thomas Paine

From such beginnings of governments, what could be expected, but a continual system of war and extortion?

~Thomas Paine

To establish any mode to abolish war, however advantageous it might be to Nations, would be to take from such Government the most lucrative of its branches.

~Thomas Paine

The balance of power is the scale of peace.

~Thomas Paine

When men yield up the privilege of thinking, the last shadow of liberty quits the horizon.

~Thomas Paine

To take away (voting) is to reduce a man to slavery.

~Thomas Paine

Christianity is the strangest religion ever set up, for it committed a murder upon Jesus in order to redeem mankind from the sin of eating an apple.

~Thomas Paine

He is not affected by the reality of distress touching his heart, but by the showy resemblance of it striking his imagination. He pities the plumage, but forgets the dying bird.

~Thomas Paine

From the east to the west blow the trumpet to arms! Through the land let the sound of it flee; Let the far and the near all unite, with a cheer, In

defense of our Liberty Tree.

~Thomas Paine

The whole religious complexion of the modern world is due to the absence from Jerusalem of a lunatic asylum.

~Thomas Paine

That which we obtain too easily, we esteem too lightly.

~Thomas Paine

The cunning of the fox is as murderous as the violence of the wolf.

~Thomas Paine

That God cannot lie, is no advantage to your argument, because it is no proof that priests can not, or that the Bible does not.

~Thomas Paine

Mutual fear is a principal link in the chain of mutual love.

~Thomas Paine

Europe, and not England, is the parent country of America. This new world hath been the asylum for the persecuted lovers of civil and religious liberty from every part of Europe.

~Thomas Paine

'Tis the business of little minds to shrink; but he whose heart is firm, and whose conscience approves his conduct, will pursue his principles unto death.

~Thomas Paine

I fear not, I see not reason for fear. In the end we will be the victors. For though at times the flame of liberty may cease to shine, the ember will never expire.

~Thomas Paine

My country is wherever liberty lives.

~Thomas Paine

Government without a constitution, is a power without a right.

~Thomas Paine

Government, like dress, is the badge of lost innocence.

~Thomas Paine

How necessary it is at all times to watch against the attempted encroachment of power, and to prevent its running to excess.

~Thomas Paine

Compassion, the fairest associate of the heart.

~Thomas Paine

A single legislature, on account of the superabundance of its power, and the uncontrolled ravidity of its execution, becomes as dangerous to the principles of liberty as that of a despotic monarch.

~Thomas Paine

Beware the greedy hand of government thrusting itself into every corner and crevice of industry.

~Thomas Paine

It is not a God, just and good, but a devil, under the name of God, that the Bible describes.

~Thomas Paine

The instant formal government is abolished, society begins to act. A general association takes place, and common interest produces common security.

~Thomas Paine

Every science has for its basis a system of principles as fixed and unalterable as those by which the universe is regulated and governed. Man cannot make principles; he can only discover them.

~Thomas Paine

The declaration which says that God visits the sins of the fathers upon the children is contrary to every principle of moral justice.

~Thomas Paine

Peace, which costs nothing, is attended with infinitely more advantage than any victory with all its expence.

~Thomas Paine

Persecution is not an original feature in any religion; but it is always the strongly marked feature of all religions established by law.

~Thomas Paine

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