

William Ellery Channing Quotes

*Men, Book, Inspirational, War, Giving, Character, Life, Love, Spiritual,
Happiness, May, Lying, Evil, Mind, Freedom, Blessing, Soul, Wise, Spring,
Heart*

Difficulties are meant to rouse, not discourage. The human spirit is to grow strong by conflict.

~William Ellery Channing

Fix your eyes on perfection and you make almost everything speed towards it.

~William Ellery Channing

We smile at the ignorance of the savage who cuts down the tree in order to reach its fruit; but the same blunder is made by every person who is over eager and impatient in the pursuit of pleasure.

~William Ellery Channing

Every human being is intended to have a character of his own; to be what no others are, and to do what no other can do.

~William Ellery Channing

May your life preach more loudly than your lips.

~William Ellery Channing

Every mind was made for growth, for knowledge, and its nature is sinned against when it is doomed to ignorance.

~William Ellery Channing

Nothing which has entered into our experience is ever lost.

~William Ellery Channing

All virtue lies in individual action, in inward energy, in self determination. There is no moral worth in being swept away by a crowd even toward the best objective.

~William Ellery Channing

It is not the quantity but the quality of knowledge which determines the mind's dignity.

~William Ellery Channing

One of the tremendous evils of the world, is the monstrous accumulation of power in a few hands.

~William Ellery Channing

I laugh, for hope hath a happy place with me; If my boat sinks, 'tis to another sea.

~William Ellery Channing

The home is the chief school of human virtues.

~William Ellery Channing

No power in society, no hardship in your condition can depress you, keep you down, in knowledge, power, virtue, influence, but by your own consent.

~William Ellery Channing

Faith is love taking the form of aspiration.

~William Ellery Channing

Every man is a volume if you know how to read him.

~William Ellery Channing

The best books for a man are not always those which the wise recommend, but often those which meet the peculiar wants, the natural thirst of his mind, and therefore awaken interest and rivet thought.

~William Ellery Channing

God be thanked for books; they are the voices of the distant and the dead, and make us heirs of the spiritual life of past ages.

~William Ellery Channing

Be true to your own highest convictions.

~William Ellery Channing

Mistakes and errors are the discipline through which we advance.

~William Ellery Channing

O God, animate us to cheerfulness! May we have a joyful sense of our blessings, learn to look on the bright circumstances of our lot, and maintain a perpetual contentedness

~William Ellery Channing

Influence is to be measured, not by the extent of surface it covers, but by its kind.

~William Ellery Channing

The cry has been that when war is declared, all opposition should be hushed. A sentiment more unworthy of a free country could hardly be propagated.

~William Ellery Channing

Precept is instruction written in the sand; the tide flows over it and the record is gone; example is graven on the rock, and the lesson is not soon lost.

~William Ellery Channing

The office of government is not to confer happiness, but to give men the opportunity to work out happiness for themselves.

~William Ellery Channing

Great effort from great motives is the best definition of a happy life

~William Ellery Channing

The world is to be carried forward by truth, which at first offends, which wins its way by degrees, which the many hate and would rejoice to crush.

~William Ellery Channing

Do anything rather than give yourself to reverie.

~William Ellery Channing

In the long run, truth is aided by nothing so much as by opposition.

~William Ellery Channing

A man might pass for insane who should see things as they are.

~William Ellery Channing

It is chiefly through books that we enjoy intercourse with superior minds. In the best books, great men talk to us, give us their most precious thoughts, and pour their souls into ours.

~William Ellery Channing

Knowledge is essential to freedom.

~William Ellery Channing

He who is false to the present duty breaks a thread in the loom, and you will see the effect when the weaving of a life-time is unraveled.

~William Ellery Channing

Every human being has a work to carry on within, duties to perform abroad, influence to exert, which are peculiarly his, and which no conscience but his own can teach.

~William Ellery Channing

Love is the life of the soul. It is the harmony of the universe.

~William Ellery Channing

Undoubtedly a man is to labor to better his condition, but first to better himself.

~William Ellery Channing

Every human being is a volume, worthy to be studied.

~William Ellery Channing

What a sublime doctrine it is, that goodness cherished now is eternal life already entered on!

~William Ellery Channing

How easy to be amiable in the midst of happiness and success.

~William Ellery Channing

It is far more important to me to preserve an unblemished conscience than to compass any object however great.

~William Ellery Channing

Most joyful let the Poet be, it is through him that all men see.

~William Ellery Channing

We never know a greater character unless there is in ourselves something congenial to it.

~William Ellery Channing

Life has a higher end, than to be amused

~William Ellery Channing

God is another name for human intelligence raised above all error and imperfection, and extended to all possible truth.

~William Ellery Channing

It is chiefly through books that we enjoy the intercourse with superior minds.

~William Ellery Channing

We honor revelation too highly to make it the antagonist of reason, or to believe that it calls us to renounce our highest powers.

~William Ellery Channing

One good anecdote is worth a volume of biography.

~William Ellery Channing

Let us aspire towards this living confidence, that it is the will of God to unfold and exalt without end the spirit that entrusts itself to Him in well-doing as to a faithful Creator.

~William Ellery Channing

Let every man, if possible, gather some good books under his roof.

~William Ellery Channing

A man in earnest finds means or, if he cannot find, creates them.

~William Ellery Channing

To give a generous hope to a man of his own nature, is to enrich him immeasurably.

~William Ellery Channing

The only freedom worth possessing is that which gives enlargement to a people's energy, intellect, and virtues.

~William Ellery Channing

No one should part with their individuality and become that of another.

~William Ellery Channing

Progress, the growth of power, is the end and boon of liberty; and, without this, a people may have the name, but want the substance and spirit of freedom.

~William Ellery Channing

Books are true levelers. They give to all, who will faithfully use them, the society, the spiritual presence, of the best and greatest of our race.

~William Ellery Channing

We must not waste life in devising means. It is better to plan less and do more.

~William Ellery Channing

The great hope of society is in individual character

~William Ellery Channing

Our affections are our life. We live by them; they supply our warmth.

~William Ellery Channing

All noble enthusiasms pass through a feverish stage, and grow wiser and more serene

~William Ellery Channing

My highway is unfeathered air, My consorts are the sleepless stars, And men my giant arms upbear My arms unstained and free from scars.

~William Ellery Channing

An earnest purpose finds time, or makes it. It seizes on spare moments, and turns fragments to golden account.

~William Ellery Channing

Natural amiableness is too often seen in company with sloth, with uselessness, with the vanity of fashionable life.

~William Ellery Channing

Men are never very wise and select in the exercise of a new power.

~William Ellery Channing

A man may quarrel with himself alone; that is, by controverting his better instincts and knowledge when brought face to face with temptation.

~William Ellery Channing

Life is a fragment, a moment between two eternities.

~William Ellery Channing

The miracles of Christ were studiously performed in the most unostentatious way. He seemed anxious to veil His majesty under the love with which they were wrought.

~William Ellery Channing

Grandeur of character lies wholly in force of soul, that is, in the force of thought, moral principle, and love, and this may be found in the humblest condition of life

~William Ellery Channing

True love is the parent of humility.

~William Ellery Channing

All that we do outwardly is but the expression and completion of our inward thought. To work effectively, we must think clearly; to act nobly, we must think nobly.

~William Ellery Channing

Other blessings may be taken away, but if we have acquired a good friend by goodness, we have a blessing which improves in value when others fail.

~William Ellery Channing

The reveries of youth, in which so much energy is wasted, are the yearnings of a Spirit made for what it has not found but must forever seek as an Ideal

~William Ellery Channing

The worst tyrants are those which establish themselves in our own

breasts.

~William Ellery Channing

The hills are reared, the seas are scooped in vain
If learning's altar vanish from the plain.

~William Ellery Channing

War will never yield but to the principles of universal justice and love,
and these have no sure root but in the religion of Jesus Christ.

~William Ellery Channing

There is but a very minute portion of the creation which we can turn into
food and clothes, or gratification for the body; but the whole creation
may be used to minister to the sense of beauty.

~William Ellery Channing

No punishment is so terrible as prosperous guilt.

~William Ellery Channing

Did any man at his death ever regret his conflicts with himself, his
victories over appetite, his scorn of impure pleasure, or his sufferings
for righteousness' sake?

~William Ellery Channing

It feeds and grows on the blood which it sheds. The passions, from
which it springs, gain strength and fury from indulgence.

~William Ellery Channing

In general, we do well to let an opponent's motives alone. We are
seldom just to them. Our own motives on such occasions are often
worse than those we assail.

~William Ellery Channing

To extinguish the free will is to strike the conscience with death, for

both have but one and the same life.

~William Ellery Channing

The fewer the voices on the side of truth, the more distinct and strong must be your own.

~William Ellery Channing

Labor is discovered to be the grand conqueror, enriching and building up nations more surely than the proudest battles.

~William Ellery Channing

Religion is faith in an infinite Creator, who delights in and enjoins that rectitude which conscience commands us to seek. This conviction gives a Divine sanction to duty.

~William Ellery Channing

God deliver us all from prejudice and unkindness, and fill us with the love of truth and virtue.

~William Ellery Channing

Home - the nursery of the Infinite.

~William Ellery Channing

I am a living member of the great family of all souls.

~William Ellery Channing

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