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Statements from Famous Personalities Concerning the Bible

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ARTICLE FIVE
STATEMENTS FROM FAMOUS PERSONALITIES
CONCERNING THE BIBLE

I. United States Presidents

- A. George Washington (First) – “It is impossible to rightly govern the world without the Bible.”
- B. John Adams (Second) – “The Bible is the best book in the world. It contains more ...than all the libraries I have seen.”
- C. Thomas Jefferson (Third) – “The Bible makes the best people in the world.”
- D. John Quincy Adams (Sixth) – “It is an invaluable and inexhaustible mine of knowledge and virtue.”
- E. Andrew Jackson (Seventh) – “That book, sir, is the rock on which our Republic rests.”
- F. Zachary Taylor (Twelfth) – “It was for the love of the truths of this great book that our fathers abandoned their native shore for the wilderness.”
- G. Abraham Lincoln (Sixteenth) – “But for this Book we could not know right from wrong. I believe the Bible is the best gift God has ever given to man.”
- H. Ulysses S. Grant (Eighteenth) – “The Bible is the Anchor of our liberties.”
- I. Rutherford B. Hayes (Nineteenth) – “The best religion the world has ever known is the religion of the Bible. It builds up all that is good.”
- J. Benjamin Harrison (Twenty-third) – “It is out of the Word of God that a system has come to make life sweet.”
- K. William McKinley (Twenty-fifth) – “The more profoundly we study this wonderful Book... the better citizens we will become.”
- L. Theodore Roosevelt (Twenty-sixth) – “No educated man can afford to be ignorant of the Bible.”
- M. Woodrow Wilson (Twenty-eighth) – “The Bible is the one supreme source of revelation of the meaning of life.”
- N. Herbert Hoover (Thirty-first) – “The whole of the inspirations of our civilization springs from the teachings of Christ... to read the Bible... is a necessity of American life.”
- O. Franklin D. Roosevelt (Thirty-second) – “It is a fountain of strength. I feel that a comprehensive study of the Bible is a liberal education for anyone.”
- P. Dwight D. Eisenhower (Thirty-fourth) – “In the highest sense the Bible is to us the unique repository of eternal spiritual truths.”

II. World Leaders

- A. William Gladstone – “I have known 95 great men of the world in my time, and of these, 87 were followers of the Bible.”
- B. Winston Churchill – “We rest with assurance upon the impregnable rock of Holy Scripture.”

- C. Chiang Kai-Shek – “The Bible is the voice of the Holy Spirit.”
- D. Haile Selassie – “The Bible is not only a great book of historical reference, but it also is a guide for daily life, and for this reason I respect it and I love it.”
- E. Syngman Rhee – “Fellow prisoners held the Bible and turned the pages for me because my fingers were so crushed that I could not use them. I read the Bible, and I have read it the rest of my life.”

III. Military Men

- A. Douglas MacArthur – “Believe me, sir, never a night goes by, be I ever so tired, but I read the Word of God before I go to bed.”
- B. William K. Harrison – “The Bible is the Word of God, given by His inspiration for our use and benefit.”
- C. Robert E. Lee – “The Bible is a book in comparison with which all others in my eyes are of minor importance, and in which in all my perplexities and distresses has never failed to give me light and strength.”
- D. Stonewall Jackson – “God’s promises change not... let us endeavor to adorn the doctrine of Christ in all things.”
- E. Oliver Cromwell (upon hearing Phil. 4:11-13 read as he lay dying) – “He that was Paul’s Christ is my Christ too.”

IV. Scientists

- A. Sir Isaac Newton – “We account the Scriptures of God to be the most sublime philosophy. I find more sure marks of authenticity in the Bible than in any profane history whatsoever.”
- B. Sir Francis Bacon – “The volume of Scriptures... reveal the will of God.”
- C. Sir John Herschel – “All human discoveries seem to be made only for the purpose of confirming more and more strongly the truths come from on high and contained in the sacred writings.”
- D. Michael Faraday – “Why will people go astray when they have this blessed Book to guide them?”
- E. James Dwight Dana – “Young men, as you go forth, remember that I, an old man, who has known only science all his life, say unto you that there is no truer facts than the facts found within the Holy Scriptures.”

V. Historians

- A. Arnold J. Toynbee – “It pierces through the Intellect and plays directly upon the heart.”
- B. H. G. Wells – “The Bible has been the Book that held together the fabric of Western civilization.... The civilization we possess could not come into existence and could not have been sustained without it.”
- C. Thomas Carlyle – “A Noble book! All men’s book!... grand in its sincerity, in its simplicity, and in its epic melody.”

VI. Physicians

- A. Mark Hopkins – “Thus we have every conceivable species of historical proof, both external and internal. Thus do the very stones cry out.”
- B. Charles W. Mayo – “In sickness or in health, one can find comfort and constructive advice in the Bible.”

VII. Lawyers

- A. Daniel Webster – “I believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the will and the Word of God.”
- B. Benjamin Franklin – “Young men, my advice to you is that you cultivate an acquaintance with, and a firm belief in, the Holy Scriptures.”
- C. Patrick Henry – “This is a Book worth more than all the others that were ever printed.”

VIII. Educators

- A. Timothy Dwight – “The Bible is a window in this prison world through which we may look into eternity.”
- B. William Lyon Phelps – “Everyone who has a thorough knowledge of the Bible may truly be called educated.... I believe knowledge of the Bible without a college course is more valuable than a college course without the Bible.”
- C. Henry Van Dyke – “No other book in the world has had such a strange vitality, such an outgoing power of influence and inspiration.... No man is poor or desolate who has this treasure for his own.”

IX. Philosophers and Writers

- A. Charles Dana – “Of all the books, the most indispensable and the most useful, the one whose knowledge is the most effective, is the Bible.”
- B. Horace Greeley – “It is impossible to mentally or socially enslave a Bible-reading people.”
- C. Immanuel Kant – “The existence of the Bible as a book for the people is the greatest benefit which the human race has ever experienced.”
- D. John Locke – “It has God for its Author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter: it is all pure, sincere, nothing too much, nothing wanting.”
- E. Count Leo Tolstoy – “Without the Bible the education of a child in the present state of society is impossible.”
- F. John Ruskin – “All I have taught in art, everything I have written, whatever greatness there has been in any thought of mine, whatever I have done in my life, has simply been due to the fact that, when I was a child, my mother daily read with me a part of the Bible, and daily made me learn a part of it by heart.”
- G. John Milton – “There are no songs like the songs of the Scriptures, no orations like the orations of the prophets.”
- H. William Cowper – “A Glory gilds the sacred page, Majestic like the sun: It gives a light to every age – It gives, but borrows none.”
- I. John Dryden – “It speaks no less than God in every line; Commanding words whose force is still the same.”
- J. Sir Walter Scott – “Within this awful volume lies the Mystery of mysteries.”

K. Charles Dickens – “It is the best Book that ever was or ever will be in the world.”

X. Various Fields

A. J. Edgar Hoover – “The Bible is the unfailing guide which points the way for men to the perfect life.”

B. Bernard Baruch – “I have always placed the Bible as number one among the four books I think everyone should read and study. Therein one will find all the problems that beset mankind.”

C. Helen Keller – “In the Bible I find a confidence mightier than the utmost evil.”

D. Lowell Thomas – “The Bible is of vital importance in teaching freedom.”

E. King George V – “The English Bible is... the most valuable thing that this world affords.”

XI. From the Church Fathers

A. Augustine – “Let us give in and yield our assent to the authority of Holy Scripture, which knows not how either to be deceived or to deceive.”

B. John Chrysostom – “It is a great thing, this reading of the Scriptures! For it is not everything he does” (James 1:23-25, TLB).