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In addition to my other numerous acquaintances, I have one more intimate confidant. My depression is the most faithful mistress I have known -- no wonder, then, that I return the love.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

How absurd men are! They never use the liberties they have, they demand those they do not have. They have freedom of thought, they demand freedom of speech.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

Life is not a problem to be solved, but a reality to be experienced.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

Life can only be understood backwards, but it must be lived forward.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

Life has its own hidden forces which you can only discover by living.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

Anxiety is the dizziness of freedom.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

The more a man can forget, the greater the number of metamorphoses which his life can undergo, the more he can remember the more divine his life becomes.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

The difference between a man who faces death for the sake of an idea and an imitator who goes in search of martyrdom is that whilst the former expresses his idea most fully in death it is the strange feeling of bitterness which comes from failure that the latter really enjoys; the former rejoices in his victory, the latter in his suffering.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

Truth always rests with the minority, and the minority is always stronger than the majority, because the minority is generally formed by those who really have an opinion, while the strength of a majority is illusory, formed by the gangs who have no opinion -- and who, therefore, in the next instant (when it is evident that the minority is the stronger) assume its opinion... while truth again reverts to a new minority.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

Once you label me you negate me.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

What our age lacks is not reflection, but passion.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

Personality is only ripe when a man has made the truth his own.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

Philosophy always requires something more, requires the eternal, the true, in contrast to which even the fullest existence as such is but a happy moment.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

Most men pursue pleasure with such breathless haste that they hurry past it.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

The function of prayer is not to influence God, but rather to change the nature of the one who prays.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

Father in Heaven! When the thought of thee wakes in our hearts let it not awaken like a frightened bird that flies about in dismay, but like a child waking from its sleep with a heavenly smile.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

Purity of heart is to will one thing.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

Repetition is the reality and the seriousness of life.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

During the first period of a man's life, the danger is not to take the risk.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

God creates out of nothing. Wonderful you say. Yes, to be sure, but he does what is still more wonderful: he makes saints out of sinners.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

Be that self which one truly is.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

Face the facts of being what you are, for that is what changes what you are.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

I divide my time as follows: half the time I sleep, the other half I dream. I never dream when I sleep, for that would be a pity, for sleeping is the highest accomplishment of genius.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

Since my earliest childhood a barb of sorrow has lodged in my heart. As long as it stays I am ironic -- if it is pulled out I shall die.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

Boredom is the root of all evil--the despairing refusal to be oneself.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

Since boredom advances and boredom is the root of all evil, no wonder, then, that the world goes backwards, that evil spreads. This can be traced back to the very beginning of the world. The gods were bored; therefore they created human beings.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

How ironical that it is by means of speech that man can degrade himself below the level of dumb creation -- for a chatterbox is truly of a lower category than a dumb creature.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

The tyrant dies and his rule is over, the martyr dies and his rule begins.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

It is the duty of the human understanding to understand that there are things which it cannot understand, and what those things are. Human understanding has vulgarly occupied itself with nothing but understanding, but if it would only take the trouble to understand itself at the same time it would simply have to posit the paradox.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

It seems essential, in relationships and all tasks, that we concentrate only on what is most significant and important

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

What doesn't kill us makes us stronger.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

How people keep correcting us when we are young! There is always some bad habit or other they tell us we ought to get over. Yet most bad habits are tools to help us through life.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

Whatever is done for love always occurs beyond good and evil.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

One must learn to love oneself with a wholesome and healthy love, so that one can bear to be with oneself and need not roam.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

One ought to hold on to one's heart; for if one lets it go, one soon loses control of the head too.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

He who lives by fighting with an enemy has an interest in the preservation of the enemy's life.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

Believe me! The secret of reaping the greatest fruitfulness and the greatest enjoyment from life is to live dangerously!

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

To do great things is difficult, but to command great things is more difficult.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

Experience, as a desire for experience, does not come off. We must not study ourselves while having an experience.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

There are no eternal facts, as there are no absolute truths.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

Fanatics are picturesque, mankind would rather see gestures than listen to reasons.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

Fear is the mother of morality.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

And if your friend does evil to you, say to him, I forgive you for what you did to me, but how can I forgive you for what you did to yourself?

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

We are franker towards others than towards ourselves.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

The lonely one offers his hand too quickly to whomever he encounters.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

Man is no longer an artist, he has become a work of art.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

I teach you the Superman. Man is something that should be overcome.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

Is man one of God's blunders or is God one of man's blunders?

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

In Heaven all the interesting people are missing.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

You have your way. I have my way. As for the right way, the correct way, and the only way, it does not exist.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

Insanity in individuals is something rare -- but in groups, parties, nations, and epochs it is the rule.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

The word Christianity is already a misunderstanding -- in reality there has been only one Christian, and he died on the Cross.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

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