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Jackson, Andrew (1767-1845)

1. “One man with courage makes a majority.”
 2. “It is to be regretted that the rich and powerful too often bend the acts of government to their selfish purposes.”
 3. “When the laws undertake to....grant titles, gratuities and exclusive privileges to make the rich richer and the potent more powerful, the humble members of society – the farmers, mechanics and laborers who have neither the time nor the means of securing like favors to themselves, have a right to complain of the injustice of their government.” **(Words extracted from Thomas Jefferson’s Declaration)**
 4. “There are no necessary evils in government. Its evils exist only in abuses. Many of our rich men have not been content with equal protection and equal benefits, but have besought us to make them wider by Act of Congress.”
 5. “We can at least take a stand against all new greats of monopolies and exclusive privileges, against any prostitution of governments to the advancement of the few at the expense of the many...”
 6. “The power of the presidency was like a pistol – a weapon to be used and not just displayed on a shelf. Just as Jackson brandished the power of patronage, he wielded the power of veto – and he would use that veto to shape a campaign and reshape a political party.”
 7. “Jackson judged a man more by his personality than his policies. He liked the rough-hewn and suspected the smooth-polished.”
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James, William

1. “The deepest principle of Human Nature is the craving to be appreciated.” (The reason flattery makes people feel good is because they know they deserve it.)
2. “The exclusive worship of the bitch-goddess *Success* [is] our national disease.”
3. “The hell to be endured hereafter, of which theology tells, is no worse than the hell we make for ourselves in this world by habitually fashioning our characters in the wrong way.”
4. “Yet the fact remains that war is a school of strenuous life and heroism; and, being in the line of aboriginal instinct, is the only school that yet is universally available....What we now need to discover in the social realm is the moral equivalent of war; something heroic that will speak to man as universally as war does, and yet will be as compatible with their spiritual selves as war has proved itself to be incompatible.”

5. "The praise of poverty need once to be boldly sung. We have grown literally afraid to be poor. We despise anyone who elects to be poor in order to simplify and save his inner life... We have lost the power even of imagining what the ancient idealization of poverty could have meant: the liberation from material attachments, the unbribed soul, the manlier indifference, the paying our way by what we are or do and not by what we have, the right to fling away our life at any moment irresponsibly, --the more athletic trim, in short, the moral fighting shape."
6. "There is no worse lie than a truth misunderstood by those who has it."
7. "The difference between a good man and a bad one is the choice of the cause."
8. "The moral flabbiness born of the exclusive worship of the bitch-goddess – SUCCESS. That – with the squalid cash interpretation put on the word "success" – is our national disease."
9. "A great many people think they are thinking when they are rearranging their prejudices."
10. "The greatest use of life is to spend it for something that will outlast it!"
11. "There is no more miserable human being than one in whom nothing is habitual but indecision, and for whom the lighting of every cigar, the drinking of every cup, the time of rising and going to bed every day, and the beginning of every bit of work, are subjects of express deliberation. Full half the time of such a man goes to the deciding, or regretting, of matters which ought to be so ingrained in him as practically not to exist for his consciousness at all."
12. "If there be such daily duties not yet ingrained in any one of my readers, let him begin this very hour to set the matter right."

Jaworski, - "Synchronicity"

1. "One of the interesting indicators of this paradoxical connection between our sense of helplessness and our ceaseless activity is how much difficulty we have actually saying, "You know, I can't do anything about it." We often find that people in organizations have to create a belief that they can make change happen in order to justify their meaningless activity. So they're caught in an enormous set of contradictions. At one level, they believe they can't influence anything. At another level, they create a story that says, "We can make it happen." And they busy themselves doing things that they know won't have any impact. It's like rats on a treadmill; they get tired after a while. Recently a very successful manager told me that she had suddenly realized that all her life she had just been treading water, knowing we're actually not going any place. But we're terrified that if we stop, we'll drown. Our lives will be meaningless."
2. "When this new type of commitment starts to operate, there is a flow around us. Things just seem to happen. We begin to see that with very small movements, at just the right time and place, all sorts of consequent actions are brought into being. We develop what artists refer to as an "economy of means," where, rather than getting things done through effort and brute force, we start to operate very subtly. A flow of meaning begins to operate around us, as if we're part of a larger conversation. This is the

ancient meaning of dialogue: (dia*Logos) “flow of meaning.” We start to notice that things suddenly are just attracted to us in ways that are very puzzling. A structure of underlying causes, a set of forces, begins to operate, as if we were surrounded by a magnetic field with magnets being aligned spontaneously in this field. But this alignment is not spontaneous at all –it’s just that the magnets are responding to a more subtle level of causality.”

Jefferson, Thomas

1. “No man will ever bring out of the Presidency the reputation which carries him into it.”
2. “I hold it, that a little rebellion, now and then, is a good thing, and as necessary in the political world as storms in the physical.”
3. “I sincerely believe that banking establishments are more dangerous than standing armies and that the principle of spending money to be paid by posterity, under the name of funding, is but swindling on a large scale.”
4. “That government is the strongest of which every man feels himself a part.”
5. “Later when I sat down and actually read *The Life and Morals of Jesus of Nazareth*, I encountered a savior who was born in the usual way and died in the usual way. By Jefferson’s reading, it was Jesus’ unusual life on earth made unusual by the simple eloquence of teachings – that truly mattered. Though I have developed a deeper appreciation for the Gospels in their received form than Jefferson had, this puts a bold new spin on the question of redemption, one that has stayed with me. I define religion as our human response to the dual reality of being alive and having to die. Resurrection or no resurrection, Jesus triumphed over death; he lives in such a way that his life proved worth dying for.”

Jeffrey, Francis (1773-1850)

“Opinions founded on prejudice are always sustained with the greatest violence.”

Jillette, Penn

1. “Believing there is no-god gives me more room for belief in family, people, love, truth, beauty, sex, Jell-O, and all the other things I can prove and that makes this life the best life I will ever have.”
2. But, all obscenity is less than, “How I was brought up and my imaginary friend means amore to me than anything you can ever say or do.” So, believing there is no god lets me be proven wrong and that’s always fun. It means I’m learning something --.
3. “Having taken that step, it informs every moment of my life. I’m no greedy. I have love, blue skies, rainbows, and Hallmark card, and that has to be enough. It has to be enough, but it’s everything in the world and everything in the world is plenty for me. It seems just rude to beg the invisible for more. Just

the love of my family that raised me and the family I'm raising now is enough that I don't need heaven. I won the huge genetic lottery, and I get joy every day."

4. "So, anyone with a love for truth outside of herself has to start with no belief in god and then look for evidence of god. She needs to search for some objective evidence of a supernatural power. All the people I write e-mails to often are still stuck at this searching stage. The Atheism part is easy."

Johnson, Fenton

1. "Faith: not at all the same as belief. Zen philosopher Alan Watts explains the difference: "Belief...is the insistence that the truth is what one would 'like' or wish it to be...Faith...is an unreserved opening of the mind to the truth, whatever it may turn out to be. Faith has no preconceptions; it is a plunge into the unknown. Belief clings, but faith lets go....faith is the essential virtue of science, and likewise of any religion that is not self-deception."

2. Sister Marciela Garcia was born in Mexico to a poor family and spent years in a teaching order before seeking out the Trappistines. Olive-skinned, darkeyed, a Garcia Lorca woman, she shines with a fierceness that brought her to be transferred from her Trappistine monastery in northern California to Gethsemani for three months that became three years, in which she lived as the only woman among an enclosed, cloistered community of seventy men. "What are we doing to awaken a questioning attitude in the people who come to us?" she asked me then. "We wear a dress from the twelfth century that stands up because it's so dirty, but we can't take it off because we'll be naked. That's us not wanting to change, fearing change and not understanding our own worth. Change is always uncomfortable. To me the obvious issue is: "We're dying out. We're no longer a living tradition. Younger people are thirsting for a spiritual life, and we're not doing our job in offering it to them."

3. "This is the great contradiction between our economics and our political and spiritual aspirations: capitalism excels in offering choice, but liberty fulfills itself not in choice but in discipline. Life is like water: it takes the shape of the vessel into which it's poured; remove the vessel and it's lost. What we are seeking are vessels into which to pour the chaos of life; what we are seeking are models of discipline."

4. "Monasticism is the archetypal manifestation of the impulse to mystery, an institutionalized response to the intuitive need to construct and dwell in sacred time. What's remarkable is that, although separated by vast gaps of geography and history and culture, both Western and traditional Eastern monastics lead lives committed to poverty, celibacy, and obedience, addressing the three great obstacles to faith, the cornerstones of secular culture – money, sex and power."

5. "At a panel on the explosion of Buddhist reference in pop culture, graphic designer Milton Glasner posed the question: "In a culture where every image or idea can and will be used for commerce, how anything remain sacred?" And if nothing sacred remains, why not lie and steal? When we're barraged with messages equating personal worth with material wealth, when the poorest poor can buy a gun, what's astonishing is not the America has so much violence but that it has so little –testimony both to some elemental longing for virtue and to our willingness to fund a police state as the price of prosperity."

Meanwhile, fundamentalist movements grow here and abroad, as people seek to find or restore value in lives that corporate capitalism perceives as another resource to be exploited, exhausted, and trashed.”

Johnson, Hugh S.

“The nearest thing to immortality in this world is a government bureau.” (A bureaucrat’s idea Of cleaning up his files is to make a copy of every paper before he destroys it.)

Johnson, Lyndon B.

“At the desk where I sit, I have learned one great truth. The answer for all our national problems- the answer for all the problems of the world comes to a single word. “That word is education.” (There is no substitute for education, unless it is the American public school system.)

Johnson, Samuel (1709-1784)

1. “There is nothing which has yet been contrived by man by which so much happiness is produced as by a good tavern.”
2. “What makes the difference between man and all the rest of the animal creation? Every beast that strays beside me has the same corporal necessities with myself; he is hungry and crops the grass, he is thirsty and drinks the stream, his thirst and hunger are appeased, he is satisfied and sleeps; he rises again and is hungry, he is again fed and is at rest. I am hungry or thirsty like him, but when thirst or hunger cease, I am not at rest; I am like him pained with want, but am not, like him satisfied with fullness.”
3. “Integrity without knowledge is weak and useless, and knowledge without integrity is dangerous and dreadful.”
4. “No man ever yet became great by imitation.”

Jones, Franklin

1. “You’re an old-timer if you can remember when setting the world on fire was a figure of speech.”
2. “An autobiography usually reveals nothing bad about its writer except his memory.”