

1001
UNFORGETTABLE
QUOTES
ABOUT
GOD, FAITH,
& THE BIBLE

RON RHODES



HARVEST HOUSE PUBLISHERS

EUGENE, OREGON

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations marked (NIV) are taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

All emphasis in Scripture quotations is added by the author.

Cover by Dugan Design Group, Bloomington, Minnesota

Cover photo © Reddogs / Fotolia

1001 UNFORGETTABLE QUOTES ABOUT GOD, FAITH, AND THE BIBLE

Copyright © 2011 by Ron Rhodes

Published by Harvest House Publishers

Eugene, Oregon 97402

www.harvesthousepublishers.com

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Rhodes, Ron.

1001 unforgettable quotes about God, faith, and the Bible / Ron Rhodes.

p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-0-7369-2848-9 (pbk.)

1. Religion—Quotations, maxims, etc. 2. God—Quotations, maxims, etc. 3. Faith—Quotations, maxims, etc. 4. Bible—Quotations. I. Title. II. Title: One thousand and one unforgettable quotes about God, faith, and the Bible

PN6084.R3R46 2010

200—dc22

2010015982

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means—electronic, mechanical, digital, photocopy, recording, or any other—except for brief quotations in printed reviews, without the prior permission of the publisher.

Printed in the United States of America

11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 / VP-NI / 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1



Writing *1001 Unforgettable Quotes About God, Faith, and the Bible* has been an uplifting experience for me. I love to read! I am the bookworm in our family. When I read good Christian books, I always have a yellow marker handy to highlight sentences I want to remember. I've been doing this for decades, and should you ever have the opportunity to visit my personal library, you will find plenty of books that are so marked.

I occasionally go back to some of these books and flip through the pages, rereading the highlighted words. I do this to re-experience the blessing. I personally find this to be an inspirational boost to my spiritual life.

When it came time to write this book, I was overjoyed to go to virtually all of these books and siphon out the “best of the best” of these many highlighted words of wisdom. I also availed myself of other books compiled by thoughtful Christians that contain collections of memorable quotes uttered by notable Christians of the past. From these various sources, I have gleaned many pearls of Christ—words not only full of rich context but spoken with eloquence and wit.

You will notice that along with each quote is a brief section titled “Bible Truth Behind the Quote.” I felt it would be especially useful to you if I provided the biblical wisdom that lies behind each quotation. This makes the book especially useful for short devotionals or quiet times. You might contemplate one or two quotes a day along with the Bible truths that motivated them.

For your convenience, I've included a brief topical index at the end of the book. This will make for easier navigation.

As you peruse the pages of this book, my prayer is that the quotes would not only be a source of deeply insightful knowledge based on the writings of present and past Christians but also be an uplifting spiritual experience for you. We can all learn a lot from such quotes. May the Lord bless you as you read this book!



ABUNDANT LIVING

— 1 —

The whole secret of abundant living can be summed up in this sentence: “Not your responsibility but your response to God’s ability.”

—*Carl F.H. Henry (1913-2003), American evangelical theologian*

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

Paul, who knew he was weak in himself, said, “I can do all things through him who strengthens me” (Philippians 4:13). God’s power is “made perfect” in human weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9).

ACRONYM TO REMEMBER

— 2 —

Is there a...

S—Sin to avoid?

A—Action to do?

F—Faith to exercise?

E—Example to follow?

P—Promise to claim?

A—Attitude to change?

C—Challenge to meet?

K—Key to victory in my
life today?

—*Mark Littleton, author, former pastor*

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

Scripture is profitable for teaching, reproof, correction, and training in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:15-17). Asking applicable questions of the scriptural text yields powerful results.

AGING

— 3 —

Seek that your last days be your best days.

—*Ralph Venning (1622-1674), author, clergyman*

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

An aging Paul, near death, said: “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith” (2 Timothy 4:7). Paul served the Lord right up till the end.

— 4 —

We must both, I’m afraid, recognize that, as we grow older, we become like old cars—more and more repairs and replacements are necessary. We must just look forward to the fine new machines (latest Resurrection model) which are waiting for us, we hope, in the Divine garage.

—*C.S. Lewis (1898-1963), author, professor, Oxford University*

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

Our current bodies will wear out like tents, but our future resurrection bodies will be like sturdy buildings that won’t wear out (2 Corinthians 5:1-5).

ANGELS

— 5 —

The angels are the dispensers and administrators of the divine beneficence toward us; they regard our safety, undertake our defense, direct our ways, and exercise a constant solicitude that no evil befall us.

—*John Calvin (1509-1564), French reformer*

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

Angels are “ministering spirits” who render specific acts of service to God’s people (Hebrews 1:14).

— 6 —

The angels keep vigil for our safety, take upon themselves our defense, direct our ways, and take care that some harm may not befall us.

—*John Calvin (1509-1564), French reformer*

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

“He will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways” (Psalm 91:11; see also 2 Kings 6:17).

ANGER

— 7 —

Speak when you're angry and you'll make
the best speech you'll ever regret.

—Henry Ward Beecher (1813-1887),
Congregationalist clergyman

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

Short-tempered people do foolish things (Proverbs 14:17), including causing quarrels (Proverbs 30:33).

— 8 —

When anger enters the mind, wisdom departs.

—Thomas à Kempis (1380-1471), author, *The Imitation of Christ*

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

A quick-tempered person is a fool (Proverbs 12:16). Those who control their anger are wise (Proverbs 14:29).

— 9 —

Satan's most successful maneuver in churches and Christian organizations is to get people angry at one another, to attack and insult our brothers and sisters, thus splitting the body of Christ.

—James Dobson (born 1936), founder of *Focus on the Family*

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

Satan and demons promote anger, bitterness, jealousy, and division among believers (2 Corinthians 2:5-11; Ephesians 4:26-27; James 3:13-16). Christians should seek to “maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace” (Ephesians 4:3).

— 10 —

Oh, the hard, cruel thoughts which men have toward
one another when they are angry! They kill and slay
a thousand times over. These hasty sins are soon
forgotten by us, but they are not forgotten by God.

—Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892), pastor, *New Park Street Chapel, London*

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

“We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ” (2 Corinthians 5:10). Even our thoughts will be judged (1 Corinthians 4:5).

— 11 —

Anger is a weed; hate is the tree.

—Augustine (354-430), bishop of Hippo

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

Anger is lesser than hate, but Christians ought to be rid of both (Matthew 5:43-44; Ephesians 4:31; Colossians 3:8).

— 12 —

Don't get angry at the person who acts in ways that displease you. Give him the smile he lacks. Spread the sunshine of your Lord's limitless love.

—*Joni Eareckson Tada (born 1949), founder of Joni and Friends*

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

"This is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people" (1 Peter 2:15).

— 13 —

Irritation in the heart of the believer is always an invitation to the devil to stand by.

—*Anonymous*

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

"Do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil" (Ephesians 4:26-27).

— 14 —

If you hug to yourself any resentment against anybody else, you destroy the bridge by which God would come to you.

—*Peter Marshall (1902-1949), Scottish-American preacher*

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

Jesus warned: "If you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses" (Matthew 6:14-15). We should always seek reconciliation with others (5:24).

ANXIETY

— 15 —

The beginning of anxiety is the end of faith, and the beginning of faith is the end of anxiety.

—*George Müller (1805-1898), director of orphanages in Bristol, England*

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

Instead of anxiety, we ought to turn our burdens to the Lord in prayer with faith, and we will then enjoy the "peace of God" (Philippians 4:6-7). "You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you" (Isaiah 26:3).

APOLOGY

— 16 —

A stiff apology is a second insult.

—*Gilbert Keith Chesterton (1874-1936), English author, apologist*

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

We ought to let go of grudges (Leviticus 19:18) and forgive others without measure (Matthew 18:21-22). We should show love to all people, even our enemies (Matthew 5:44).

APOSTASY

— 17 —

Apostasy must be called what it is—spiritual adultery.

—*Francis Schaeffer (1912-1984), theologian, philosopher, pastor*

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

We ought always to be faithful (Proverbs 3:3; 2 Timothy 3:14), even in small matters (Luke 16:10), and stay true to the Lord in all things (Philippians 1:27). Spiritual adultery is the primary focus of the book of Hosea.

ATHEISTS

— 18 —

I never behold the heavens filled with stars that I do not feel I am looking in the face of God. I can see how it might be possible for a man to look down on the earth and be an atheist, but I cannot conceive how he could look up into the heavens and say there is no God.

—*Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865), sixteenth president of the United States*

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

“The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork” (Psalm 19:1).

— 19 —

Sometimes when I’m faced with an unbeliever, an atheist, I am tempted to invite him to the greatest gourmet dinner that one could ever serve, and when we finished eating that magnificent dinner, to ask him if he believes there’s a cook.

—*Ronald Reagan (1911-2004), fortieth president of the United States*

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

God's "invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made" (Romans 1:20).

ATTITUDE

— 20 —

I am convinced that life is 10 percent what happens to me and 90 percent how I react to it. And so it is with you... We are in charge of our attitudes.

—Charles Swindoll (born 1934), pastor, Stonebriar Community Church

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

One of the best ways to control your attitude is to walk in dependence on the Holy Spirit. The fruit of the Holy Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23)—all key components of a good attitude.

— 21 —

If you can't change circumstances,
change the way you respond to them.

—Tim Hansel (1941-2009), seminar leader

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

"For those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28). This recognition helps us to respond positively to our circumstances.

— 22 —

God often comforts us, not by changing the circumstances of our lives, but by changing our attitude toward them.

—S.H.B. Masterman, Christian leader

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

God wants us to understand that He is in control of our circumstances and that He has a purpose in allowing such circumstances (Romans 8:28). We can thus learn to say with Paul: "I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content" (Philippians 4:11).

— 23 —

Live as if Christ died yesterday, rose this morning,
and is coming back again tomorrow.

—Martin Luther (1483-1546), priest, theology professor, reformer

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

Our “blessed hope” is “the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ” (Titus 2:13). Just contemplating this fact brings encouragement to our daily lives (1 Thessalonians 4:18).

AUTHENTICITY

— 24 —

Be what thou seemest! Live the creed!

—*Horatius Bonar (1808-1889), Scottish churchman, poet*

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

Don’t be hypocritical—clean on the outside but filthy on the inside (Luke 11:39; 16:15).

AUTHORITY

— 25 —

Authority is God-ordained, but authoritarianism
and raw power, in almost all forms, is dangerous.

—*James Dobson (born 1936), founder of Focus on the Family*

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

God ordained authority in human government (Romans 13:1), the family unit (1 Corinthians 11:3), and the church (Acts 14:23; 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9). Authority, however, can be abused, as was the case with the wicked shepherds of Israel (Ezekiel 34:1-7).

AVAILABILITY TO GOD

— 26 —

God does not ask about our ability or our
inability, but our availability.

—*Anonymous*

Bible Truth Behind the Quote:

Jesus gave no written tests to the disciples but simply invited: “Follow me” (Matthew 4:19; 8:22). He invites all: “Come to me” (Matthew 11:28).