

Life is a comedy to those who think,
a tragedy to those who feel.
Jean Racine

Science is the attempt to make the chaotic diversity of our sense-experience correspond to a logically uniform system of thought....The sense-experiences are the given subject matter. But the theory that shall interpret them is manmade...hypothetical, never completely final, subject to question and doubt.

Albert Einstein

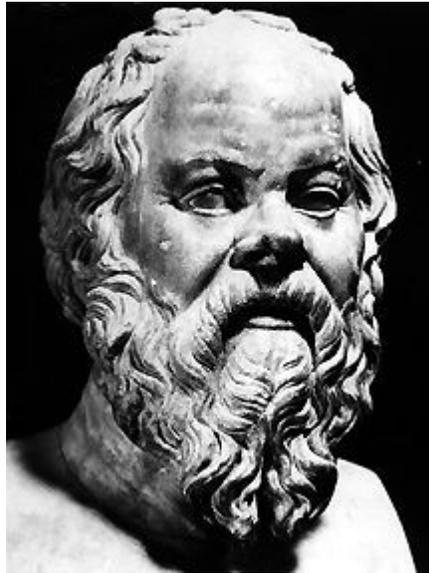
"There's no use trying," said Alice: "one can't believe impossible things."
"I dare say you haven't had much practice," said the Queen. "When I was your age I always did it for half an hour a day. Why sometimes I've believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast."
Lewis Carroll

The important point for us to see is that it is the unconscious that determines what the conscious impulse and the conscious action shall be.
John Hospers

Almost all the spiritual traditions recognize that there is a stage in man's development when belief---in contrast to faith---and its securities have to be left behind.
Alan Watts

I do not feel obliged to believe that the same God who has endowed us with sense, reason, and intellect has intended us to forgo their use.
Galileo

Pythagoras was the first person who invented the term "Philosophy," and who called himself a philosopher.
Diogenes Laertius



Socrates (469-399 B.C)

For man, the unexamined life is not worth living.

Wherefore, O judges, be of good cheer about death...The hour of departure has arrived, and we go our ways---I to die, and you to live. Which is better God only knows.

Three passions, simple but overwhelmingly strong, have governed my life: the longing for love, the search for knowledge, and the unbearable pity for the suffering of mankind.
Bertrand Russell

One thing only I know, and that is that I know nothing.

If I told you, you would not know; you simply would have been told. Study it thoroughly and...I will ask you. You will answer and then you will know.

"Dr. Hartley Baldwin"
In Robert Heinlein's *Friday*

Here we are in this wholly fantastic Universe with scarcely a clue as to whether our existence has any real significance. No wonder then that many people feel the need for some belief that gives them a sense of security, and no wonder that they become very angry with people like me who say that this security is illusory. But I do not like the situation any better than they do. The difference is that I cannot see how the smallest advantage is to be gained from deceiving myself.
Fred Hoyle

The wise man "will not go against the Divinity which is planted in his breast; but rather he will preserve his deepest inner self in tranquility. He will, above all, preserve his own autonomy and integrity, and not let anything alienate him from himself."

"This then remains," Marcus reminds himself: "Remember to retire into this little territory of the inner self---your own world (which is all there is)---and there be free, and, as a human being, observe the world passing by..."

"Then you believe in an afterlife?"

"Slow up! I don't 'believe' anything. I know certain things---little things, not the Nine Billion Names of God---from experience. But I have no beliefs. Belief gets in the way of learning."

Robert Heinlein
Time Enough for Love