

Important quotes for american lit before 1860



" I must say, 'I believe it is because I am a poor Indian.' I can't help that God has made me so; I did not make my self so." Samson Occom

A Short Narrative of My Life

He is telling the audience that they are racists. He explained how he's been a good minister and teacher. He thinks the only reason they are not giving him any money is because he is Indian." rather [I] say... it appears to me, or I should think it so and so for such and such Reasons, or I imagine it to be so, or it is so if I am not mistake. This Habit I believe has been of great Advantage to me, when I have had occasion to inculcate my opinions and persuade Men into measures that I have been from time to time engag'd in promoting" Benjamin Franklin

The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin

He is telling what kind of words or phrases he uses when he tries to convince someone of something." We hold these truths to be self evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness." Thomas Jefferson

The Autobiography of Thomas Jefferson

This is part of the Declaration of Independence, stating that all men are created equal, and that they all have equal rights." It is a solemn sight to see so many Christian's lying in their blood, some here, and some there, like a company of sheep torn by wolves, all of the stripped naked by a company of hell-hounds, roaring, singing, ranting, and insulting, as if they would have torn our very hearts out." Mary Rowlandson

Narrative of the Captivity of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson

She and many people around her were either killed or taken captive. Here

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she is describing the scene and what she sees and feels as she looks around at all the Christians lying dead on the ground." Among all my experiences of God's gracious dealings with me, I have constantly observed this, that He hath never suffered me long and to sit loose from Him, but by one affliction or another hath made me look home, and search what was amiss." Anne Bradstreet

To my Dear Children

Even when life is not going well, God will always be there for you. You may not think He is there, but you will always look home for him." But when he grew weak, they had compassion on him and helped him; then he confessed he did not deserve it at their hands, he had abused them in word and deed.

'Oh!' (saith he) 'you, I now see, show your love like Christians indeed one to another, but we let one another lie and die like dogs.'" William Bradford

On Plymouth Plantation

He is describing a time where he was weak and the people he did wrong helped him, because they were Christians, yet him and his people would not help anyone." Mrs. Hutchinson and some of her adherents happened to be at prayer when the earthquake was at Aquiday, etc., and the house being shaken thereby, they were persuaded (and boasted of it) that the Holy Ghost did shake it in coming down upon them, as He did upon the apostles." (John Winthrop

The Journal of John Winthrop

Mrs. Hutchinson and her friends were praying when an earthquake happened. They felt it was a sign from God." One of these women took up resolution to imitate the action of Jael upon Sisera [Judges 4], and, being where she had not her own life secured by any law unto her, she thought she

was not forbidden by any law to take away the life of a murderers by whom her child had been butchered." Dustan

Puritans Among the Indians

She is on a voyage with the Indians who captured her. At this time the Indians are asleep. She is thinking about wanting to murder since they are asleep, like Jael did." Tell me, Madam," cried he wildly, " tell me, I beseech the, does she live? shall I see my darling once again? Perhaps she is in this house. Lead, lead me to her, that I may bless her, and then lie down and die." The ardent manner in which he uttered these words occasioned him to raise his voice. It caught the ear of Charlotte: she knew the beloved sound: and uttering a loud shriek, she sprang forward as Mr. Temple entered the room. " My adored father." " My long lost child." Nature could support no more, and they both sunk lifeless into the arms of the attendants." Rowson

Charlotte Temple: A Tale of Truth

Here is at the end when Charlotte's father has traveled to America to get his daughter. This shows how unconditional his love is to his daughter which is a characterization was made about him in the beginning of the story. It is like showing the relationship of a parent and their child. In the novel it shows the young woman that no matter which man comes to court them that their parent is the one that will always be there to love them and welcome them back no matter what has happened." And when I could no longer look, I blest His name that gave and took, That laid my goods now in the dust, Yea, so it was, and so 'twas just." Anne Bradstreet

Here are Some Verses Upon the Burning of our House

A fire is overtaking her house, and she is thinking that even though God let this happen, she is still praying to his name for safety." But before [the horse

liver] was half ready they got half of it away from me, so that I was fain to take the rest and eat it as it was, the blood about my mouth, and yet a savory bit is was to me: 'For to the hungry soul every bitter thing is sweet.'"

Mary Rowlandson

The Narrative of the Captivity of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson

She is describing when she was taken captive, and the Indians were feeding her meat. She is saying that even though the food taste so good, it is still bitter because she doesn't want to be held captive." It was about this time that I conceiv'd the bold and arduous Project of arriving at moral Perfection. I wish'd to live without committing and fault at any time." Benjamin Franklin

The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin

Franklin is talking about wanting to live a life of perfection, and that he is about to embark on his journey of changing himself to be perfect" Oh my dear girls--for to such only am I writing--listen not to the voice of love, unless sanctioned by paternal approbation... kneel down each morning, and request kind heaven to keep you free from temptation" Rowson

Charlotte Temple: A Tale of Truth

The writer is telling girls to not fall in love with a man who will do you wrong. Stay free from temptation of the heart if it is not in your best interest, and to resist temptation that goes against your religion and virtue." We are told that your religion has give to your forefathers, and has been handed down from father to son. We also have a religion, which was given to our forefathers, and has been handed down to us their children. We worship in that way."

Red Jacket

Reply to the Missionary Jacob Cram

Red Jacket is trying to explain how that they have their own religion like the

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English but they also understand the way in which the English have their religion. Red Jacket does not see the reason to be saved in the way that the English are because they are saved in their own religion. The English also see the Indians as godless people but in fact they are not godless they just believe in a different religion which I think the English don't see.

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