

# Patriotism Quotes

"I am not an Athenian or a Greek, I am a citizen of the world."

**Socrates**

"Patriotism is your conviction that this country is superior to all other countries because you were born in it."

**George Bernard Shaw**

"Patriotism is the willingness to kill and be killed for trivial reasons."

**Bertrand Russell**

"I regret that I have but one life to give for my country."

**Nathan Hale**

"Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country."

**John Fitzgerald Kennedy**

"It is not for him to pride himself who loveth his own country, but rather for him who loveth the whole world. The earth is but one country and mankind its citizens."

**Baha'u'llah**

"Enjoyed the peace your valor won. Let independence be our boast, Ever mindful what it cost; Ever grateful for the prize, Let its altar reach the skies!"

**Joseph Hopkinson. 1770-1842**

"A man's feet must be planted in his country, but his eyes should survey the world."

**George Santayana**

"I love America more than any other country in this world, and, exactly for this reason, I insist on the right to criticize her perpetually."

**James Baldwin**

"I realize that patriotism is not enough. I must have no hatred or bitterness towards anyone."

**Edith Cavell Last words, October 12, 1915**

"Heroism on command, senseless violence, and all the loathsome nonsense that goes by the name of patriotism - how passionately I hate them!"

**Albert Einstein**

"Each man must for himself alone decide what is right and what is wrong, which course is patriotic and which isn't. You cannot shirk this and be a man. To decide against your conviction is to be an unqualified and excusable traitor, both to yourself and to your country, let me label you as they may."

**Mark Twain**

"Patriotism is not short, frenzied outbursts of emotion, but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime."

**Adlai Stevenson**

"It is not easy to see how the more extreme forms of nationalism can long survive when men have seen the Earth in its true perspective as a single small globe against the stars."

**Arthur C. Clarke**

"Patriotism is easy to understand in America - it means looking out for yourself by looking out for your country."

**Calvin Coolidge**

"A man's country is not a certain area of land, of mountains, rivers, and woods, but it is a principle and patriotism is loyalty to that principle."

**George William Curtis**

"If you are ashamed to stand by your colors, you had better seek another flag."

**Author Unknown**

"If I knew something that would serve my country but would harm mankind, I would never reveal it; for I am a citizen of humanity first and by necessity, and a citizen of France second, and only by accident."

**Montesquieu**

"The most tragic paradox of our time is to be found in the failure of nation-states to recognize the imperatives of internationalism."

**Earl Warren**

"Our country is the world, our countrymen are all mankind. We love the land of our nativity, only as we love all other lands. The interests, rights, and liberties of American citizens are no more dear to us than are those of the whole human race. Hence we can allow no appeal to patriotism, to revenge any national insult or injury."

**William Lloyd Garrison, Declaration of Sentiments, Boston Peace Conference, 1838**

"Can anything be stupider than that a man has the right to kill me because he lives on the other side of a river and his ruler has a quarrel with mine, though I have not quarrelled with him?" **Blaise Pascal, quoted by Tolstoy in Bethink Yourself**

A man can be a Christian or a patriot, but he can't legally be a Christian and a patriot--except in the usual way: one of the two with the mouth, the other with the heart. The spirit of Christianity proclaims the brotherhood of the race and the meaning of that strong word has not been left to guesswork, but made tremendously definite- the Christian must forgive his brother man all crimes he can imagine and commit, and all insults he can conceive and utter- forgive these injuries how many times?--seventy times seven--another way of saying there shall be no limit to this forgiveness. That is the spirit and the law of Christianity. Well--Patriotism has its laws. And it also is a perfectly definite one, there are not vaguenesses about it. It commands that the brother over the border shall be sharply watched and brought to book every time he does us a hurt or offends us with an insult. Word it as softly as you please, the spirit of patriotism is the spirit of the dog and wolf. The moment there is a misunderstanding about a boundary line or a hamper of fish or some other squalid matter, see patriotism rise, and hear him split the universe with his war-whoop. The spirit of patriotism being in its nature jealous and selfish, is just in man's line, it comes natural to him- he can live up to all its requirements to the letter; but the spirit of Christianity is not in its entirety possible to him. The prayers concealed in what I have been saying is, not that patriotism should cease and not that the talk about universal brotherhood should cease, but that the incongruous firm be dissolved and each limb of it be required to transact business by itself, for the future.

**-Mark Twain's Notebook**

