

1: Religion: A Dialogue and Other Essays Quotes - MagicalQuote

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He was one of the most prolific writers in England during the early twentieth century. He was known as a writer, orator, poet, satirist, man of letters and political activist. He is most notable for his Catholic faith, which had a strong impact on most of his works and his writing collaboration with G. He was a noted disputant, with a number of long-running feuds, but also widely regarded as a humane and sympathetic man. His most lasting legacy is probably his verse, which encompasses cautionary tales and religious poetry. Among his best-remembered poems are *Jim, who ran away from his nurse*, and *was eaten by a lion* and *Matilda, who told lies and was burnt to death*. Recent biographies of Belloc have been written by A. Wilson and Joseph Pearce. Much of his boyhood was spent in Slindon, West Sussex, for which he often felt homesick in later life. His mother Elizabeth Rayner Parkes " was also a writer, and a great-granddaughter of the English chemist Joseph Priestley. In , five years after they wed, Louis died, but not before being wiped out financially in a stock market crash. The young widow then brought her son Hilaire, along with his sister, Marie, back to England where he remained, except for his voluntary enlistment as a young man in the French artillery. He was powerfully built, with great stamina, and walked extensively in Britain and Europe. While courting his future wife Elodie, whom he first met in , the impecunious Belloc walked a good part of the way from the midwest of the United States to her home in northern California, paying for lodging at remote farm houses and ranches by sketching the owners and reciting poetry. He was the brother of the novelist Marie Adelaide Belloc Lowndes. In , he married Elodie Hogan, an American. Elodie and Belloc had five children before her death from influenza. After her death, Belloc wore mourning for the remainder of his life, keeping her room exactly as she had left it. Belloc placed a memorial tablet in the Cathedral at nearby Cambrai. It is in the same side chapel as the noted icon, *Our Lady of Cambrai*. Belloc suffered a stroke in and never recovered from its effects. At his funeral Mass, homilist Monsignor Ronald Knox observed, "No man of his time fought so hard for the good things. He went into politics after he became a naturalised British subject. A great disappointment in his life was his failure to gain a fellowship at All Souls College in Oxford in This failure may have been caused in part by his producing a small statue of the Virgin and placing it before him on the table during the interview for the fellowship. From to he was a Liberal Party Member of Parliament for Salford South, but swiftly became disillusioned with party politics. During one campaign speech he was asked by a heckler if he was a "papist. If that offends you, then I pray God may spare me the indignity of representing you in Parliament. His only period of steady employment was from to as editor of *Land and Water*, a journal devoted to the progress of the war. Otherwise he lived by his pen, and often fell short of money. In controversy and debate Belloc first came to public attention shortly after arriving at Balliol College, Oxford as a recent French army veteran. Attending his first debate of the Oxford Union Debating Society, he saw that the affirmative position was wretchedly and half-heartedly defended. As the debate drew to its conclusion and the division of the house was called, he rose from his seat in the audience, and delivered a vigorous, impromptu defense of the proposition. Belloc won that debate from the audience, as the division of the house then showed, and his reputation as a debater was established. He was later elected president of the Union. He held his own in debates there with F. Smith and John Buchan, the latter a friend. He was at his most effective in the s, on the attack against H. Wells remarked that "Debating Mr. Belloc is like arguing with a hailstorm". Not to be outdone, Belloc followed with, "Mr. Coulton, a keen and persistent academic opponent, wrote on Mr. Belloc on *Medieval History* in a article. After a long simmering feud, Belloc replied with a booklet, *The Case of Dr. His style during later life fulfilled the nickname he received in childhood, Old Thunder. One of the four improvises a playful song at Christmastime, which includes the verse: May all my*

enemies go to hell! Hobbies During his later years, he would sail when he could afford to do so. He became a well known yachtsman. He won many races and was in the French sailing team. In the early s, he was given an old Jersey pilot cutter called Jersey. He sailed this for some years around the coasts of England, with the help of younger men. Writing Belloc wrote on myriad subjects, from warfare to poetry to the many current topics of his day. Wells, George Bernard Shaw, and G. Chesterton, all of whom debated with each other into the s. Belloc was closely associated with Chesterton, and Shaw coined the term Chesterbelloc for their partnership. Asked once why he wrote so much, he responded, "Because my children are howling for pearls and caviar. For his own prose style, he claimed to aspire to be as clear and concise as "Mary had a little lamb. The Path to Rome , an account of a walking pilgrimage he made from central France across the Alps and down to Rome, has remained continuously in print. More than a mere travelogue, "The Path to Rome" contains descriptions of the people and places he encountered, his drawings in pencil and in ink of the route, humor, poesy, and the reflections of a large mind turned to the events of his time as he marches along his solitary way. At every turn, Belloc shows himself to be profoundly in love with Europe and with the Faith that he claims has produced it. As an essayist he was one of a small, admired and dominant group with Chesterton, E. Lucas and Robert Lynd of popular writers. There is a passage in The Cruise of the Nona where Belloc, sitting alone at the helm of his boat under the stars, shows profoundly his mind in the matter of Catholicism and mankind; he writes of "That golden Light cast over the earth by the beating of the Wings of the Faith. Henry King, Who chewed bits of string and was early cut off in dreadful agonies. A similar poem tells the story of Rebecca, who slammed doors for fun and perished miserably. The tale of Matilda who told lies and was burnt to death was adapted into the play Matilda Liar! Quentin Blake, the illustrator, described Belloc as at one and the same time the overbearing adult and mischievous child. Roald Dahl is a follower. But Belloc has broader if sourer scope: It happened to Lord Lundy then as happens to so many men about the age of 26 they shoved him into politics From an early age Belloc knew Cardinal Henry Edward Manning, who was responsible for the conversion of his mother to Roman Catholicism. Belloc described this retrospectively in The Cruise of the Nona ; he became a trenchant critic both of capitalism and of many aspects of socialism. Chesterton, Cecil Chesterton, Arthur Penty Belloc had envisioned the socioeconomic system of distributism. In The Servile State, written after his party-political career had come to end, and other works, he criticized the modern economic order and parliamentary system, advocating distributism in opposition to both capitalism and socialism. Belloc made the historical argument that distributism was not a fresh perspective or program of economics but rather a proposed return to the economics that prevailed in Europe for the thousand years when it was Catholic. He called for the dissolution of Parliament and its replacement with committees of representatives for the various sectors of society, an idea that was also popular among Fascists, under the name of corporatism. But original corporatism, sometimes called "paleo-corporatism", was a system that predates capitalism and fascism. Paleo-corporatism was based around the guilds of the Middle Ages and served to appoint legislators. Neo-corporatism is a fascist system that merges the state with the capitalistic corporations and the corporations then are directed by the state, under nominal private ownership. With these linked themes in the background, he wrote a long series of contentious biographies of historical figures, including Oliver Cromwell, James II, and Napoleon. They show him as an ardent proponent of orthodox Catholicism and a critic of many elements of the modern world. Outside academe, Belloc was impatient with what he considered to be axe-grinding histories, especially what he called "official history. He wrote also substantial amounts of military history. Those views were expressed at length in many of his works from the period " These are still cited as exemplary of Catholic apologetics. They have also been criticised, for instance by comparison with the work of Christopher Dawson during the same period. As a young man, Belloc lost his faith. Then came a spiritual event which he never discussed publicly, and which returned him to and confirmed him in his Catholicism for the remainder of his life. Belloc alludes to this return to the faith in a passage in The Cruise of the Nona. According to his biographer A. The momentous event is fully described by Belloc in The Path to Rome. It took place in the French village of Undervelier at the time of Vespers. Belloc said of it, "not without

tears", "I considered the nature of Belief" and "it is a good thing not to have to return to the faith". He believed that the Catholic Church provided hearth and home for the human spirit. Western warriors, two thousand miles and more from home, have struck root and might feel they have permanently grasped the vital belt of the Orient. All seaboard Syria was theirs and nearly the whole of that "bridge", a narrow band pressed in between the desert and the sea, the all-important central link joining the Moslem East to the Moslem West. Should the link be broken for good by Christian mastery of Syria, all Islam was cut in two and would bleed to death of the wound. Since the Crusaders missed that chance, Islam survived and eventually overwhelmed the Crusader bridgehead in the Middle East.

A CONVERSATION WITH AN ANGEL AND OTHER ESSAYS [MICROFORM]

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Belloc, Hilaire British, 1832–1905. Hilaire Belloc was a writer of great vigor and variety, whose work included poetry, history, biographies, and travel accounts, as well as essays. He is regarded by some as the best prose stylist of his generation. He chose early to write in English rather than French, using simple, unadorned language, only occasionally employing metaphor or other rhetorical embellishment. His French and English ancestry insured him an unusual combination of insular and continental interests and sympathies as well as an acute way of analyzing everything he encountered. They are vulgar and they are chaotic, they are murderous, they are dirty, they are atheist, they are intolerably wearisome, they have every vice, but they are a magnificent aid to the understanding of history. He was a close associate of G. Chesterton, with whom he published a weekly political newspaper the Witness. Belloc served as a Liberal Member of Parliament from 1885 to 1890, and many of his attitudes are Edwardian: The titles of volumes of essays suggest the quality of his mind: Whatever the subject of an essay, Belloc brings to it energy, thoughtful analysis, and deep feeling. He relishes opposing current fashion and expectation, but is never facile. Such conceptualizing from the particular is typical of how Belloc thinks. Truth took to its bed in the spring of 1891 and died unregretted, with few attendants, about a year later. Everything since then has been propaganda. The so-called progress of the 20th century that rejected Catholic experience was anathema to Belloc. He was a Liberal, but not of the classical European variety that denied life rooted in the past. His analysis of history is grounded in one tradition, and he becomes a part of its continuity. Belloc warns against blond supermen. Such anticipations validate many of his essays. Born 27 July in La Celle, St. Family moved to England, Pollen, Paternoster Review, 1857–58. Served in the 8th Artillery Regiment of the French Army, Married Elodie Agnes Hogan, died, 1905. Became a British citizen, Freelance journalist, tutor, and prolific lecturer. Liberal Member of Parliament for South Salford, 1885–90. Gregory the Great, 1905. Died in Guildford, Surrey, 16 July

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