

# Scripture Quotes

1. "Prisoner, who was a book that had been lovingly written for the Interrogator by Fate."

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2. "he foiled by refusing to venture out of doors."

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3. "sometimes the pain is so great one cannot breathe."

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4. "You believe that Christ died for our sins?"

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5. "And yet Christ said the Father wants mercy, not sacrifice."

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6. "His death had to be dramatic and public and that's why I think he had to die on the cross: it was so we would know about the resurrection without which our faith would be nothing but incense and smoke."

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7. "Luke"

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8. "When Christ preached in Nazareth, the crowd got so angry over something that he said that they dragged him to a cliff intending to throw him down to his death, but he somehow 'passed through them'"

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9. "some movement in the back of his eyes, some inner struggle, I had the feeling he could kill us if he wished."

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10. "He is not one of us He is alien."

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11. "face was so utterly ordinary, the Interrogator reflected, a slate so blank that the mind might conceivably project its own images upon it from within."

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12. "this force he emitted"

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13. "it was pity"

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14. "so thick that you could squeeze it, almost physical. It wasn't the pity you resent, that you hate. It was the other kind: the pity that comforts, that heals."

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15. "brutal, terrifying energy. It burned."

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16. "I had to make him welcome. 'I live in the house,'"

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17. "but the house belongs to the guest and to God."

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18. "There is no God."

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19. "not in the city"

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20. "but right now we are up in the mountains and our general impression here is that he exists."

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21. "Does that help? Only facing reality helps."

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22. "God may have brought you here"

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23. "These are formulas of grace that we observe."

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24. "Thanks be to God we have food for the guest. Not to have it is the greatest shame of all."

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25. "he was now the only Christ in the city"

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26. "There is another."

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27. "terrified of guilt by association"

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28. "doing real fun stuff like getting beaten and tortured and thrown into jail: getting killed and even crucified upside down for preaching big-time winning ideas like 'you've got to love your enemy' and 'no more divorces,' plus incidentally 'our dead guy isn't dead anymore and you've got to eat his flesh and drink his blood' all winners, all popular notions, easy sells. But these frightened guys do it, they actually do it, and in less than twenty years they're recruiting in Rome and are practically taking it over."

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29. "You've got to wonder. Something happened to these guys. Something big. Like a resurrection, maybe, I dunno. But they sure must have thought they'd seen him walking around. Getting killed is an awful lot of trouble to go to just because you're feeling bored and the fish aren't biting."

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30. "Arab or Jew, it makes no difference. Have we still not discovered this, Uncle?"

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31. "They'll be coming to get us soon. That's alright, all of life is preparation for death."

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32. "I wanted no insufferable blasts about my whereabouts when he was laying the foundations of the world."

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33. "my revulsion at my own humanity"

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34. "when did I ask you to solve the Problem of Evil?"

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35. "That is my problem"

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36. "What I ask is that you be the best priest that you can be."

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37. "Pledge allegiance to the new Albania, the first official atheist state in all the world?"

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38. "for the arms of pain crush time as they will"

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39. " 'Then along came the living cell,' dared the priest with stubborn defiance, although prudently lowering his voice. 'But how? Ah, yes, there was a chemical soup, we are told, wherein by the usual and much loved 'chance' a virus finally happened to form. And then another and another. Need I go on? But never mind that this soup, we've since learned, did not exist, or that the odds against even one such virus appearing in as much as a billion years is more than the odds against flipping a coin and having 'eagles' turn up six million times in a row. The beloved reply is, 'A unique event.' It is rude to suggest that at such magnitudes the distinction between the unique and the supernatural would appear to have lost its utility, if not its insouciant je ne sais quoi?' "

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40. " 'Before the Big Bang,' he started preaching to the cell, 'the entire universe was a point of zero size and infinite weight. Then the point exploded, creating space and, with it, time and its twin, disorder. And yet for the cosmos to come into existence the force of that primal outward explosion needed to match the force of gravity with the accuracy you would need for a bullet to hit a one-inch target on the opposite side of the observable universe thirteen billion light-years away.' "

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41. "Methamphetamine was injected to create an irresistible driving urge to pour out speech, ideas, and memories"

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42. "Nothing in this world lasts forever,"

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43. "Was the Prisoner conditioned against pain by hypnosis? Had his 'gates of pain' been sealed so that the signals of torment could not be channeled to his brain?"

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44. "mission. What a man believes colors his purposes."

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45. "the besa: Someone murders your blood and you have to murder theirs."

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46. "There wasn't any passion"

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47. "It was all principle. Honor. Duty."

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48. "a dead man roaming the hills seeking momentary life in mistaken recollections."

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49. "Eneny agents"

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50. "known to use drugs and hypnosis defensively with nefarious 'Pentothal blocks' so that the subject, under torture or if questioned by this method, would repeat a hypnotically programmed recitation."

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51. "underneath the first story they might turn up a second, which, just as the first, had been scripted and implanted."

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52. "did you come by the road less traveled?"

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53. " 'All of creation waits with longing.' "

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54. "The star Sirius, you see, possesses an invisible companion that today we call 'Sirius B.' Unless you view it through a telescope you can't see it. It's totally invisible. No one even suspected that it existed until the middle of the nineteenth century. But the Dogon tribe of Mali has known of its existence for hundreds of years! They call it 'Digitaria.' A beautiful name, don't you think? The Dogon have known that its orbit is elliptical, that its orbital period is exactly fifty years, and that it rotates on its axis. They have also believed it is the smallest of all heavenly objects, and yet, paradoxically, also the heaviest. Well, it now turns out that this type of star is in fact the smallest that we know of and is made of a matter that is super dense, one whose kind exists nowhere on the face of the Earth. How could the Dogon have known these things? Sirius B is ten thousand times dimmer than Sirius A, and yet for centuries the Dogon have believed that it's the most important star in the sky, which might explain why they've built their religion on it. Astronomy, cosmology, biochemistry – the Dogon have knowledge of all these things and insist they were taught by alien beings they refer to as 'the Nommo' and whom they divide – at least according to an ancient Dogon text – into separate kinds: the Nommo Die, who is God; the Nommo Titanye, who came to Earth in spaceships and are the Nommo Die's messengers and deputies; and then finally there's someone they call 'O Nommo' who's going to be sacrificed for the sake of the purification and reorganization of the universe (This made me think of my 'Red Light' dream!) and will enter human form and then descend upon the Earth. And then the even more stunning thing. I'll quote it: 'The O Nommo divided his body among men to feed them, and as the universe had drunk of his body, the O Nommo also made men drink, and he gave his life principle to human beings.' A little later in the text it says he was 'crucified on a kilena tree' and soon afterward rose from the dead."

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55. "The code of the besa could not be satisfied except by the killing of a male."

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56. "when the wariness and vigilance had relaxed"

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57. "I am falling"

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58. "this record was now in some peril"

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59. "he'd grasped the full horror of the situation"

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60. "wear a charm to ward off the evil eye? Had he not with his finger traced a sign of the cross into every loaf of bread he had ever baked? How had the demons taken charge of this night?"

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61. "blazed with a terrifying inner light"

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