



Backbencher's Quaker Quotes Quiz

This year Backbencher asks us to pin down some quotations.



With answers

A WHICH QUAKER WOMAN SAID OR WROTE ... ?

Match the quotation to the speaker: Margaret Fell, Sarah Grubb, Helen Steven, Anne Wilson

- 1 A traditional Quaker, thou comest to meeting as thou went from it and goes from it as thou came to it but are no better for thy coming; what wilt thou do in the end?
- 2 At Bath I had to go to the Pump Room and declare the truth to the gay people who resorted there.
- 3 God hath said that his daughters should prophesy as well as his sons.
- 4 I do not wish to deny that on April 4th, the anniversary of the death of Martin Luther King, I was inside the Faslane Submarine base, and that I was there as a deliberate act.

B SURELY SOME MISTAKE ...

Misquotes: See if you know, or can guess, what's wrong and suggest the correct wording.

- 1 Walk cheerfully over the world, answering that of God in every one; then you will come to be patterns, be examples in all countries ... (George Fox)
- 2 Theology unites, service divides. (Margaret Fell)
- 3 Oh Lord, may I be directed what to do and what to leave to a committee. (Elizabeth Fry)
- 4 The men and women being generally online, the children kept up their meetings regularly, and with a remarkable gravity and composure. (Joseph Besse)

C WHO IS BEING REFERRED TO IN THESE QUOTATIONS ... ?

- 1 She did hang as a flag for others to take example by.
- 2 While I was in the dungeon a little boy ... about fifteen years old, came to me and he was convinced and came to be a very fine minister.
- 3 He did not immediately relinquish his gay apparel; it is even said that he wore a sword.
- 4 ... the first that called us Quakers because I bade them tremble at the word of the Lord.

D CAN YOU DATE THESE QUAKER STATEMENTS ... ?

- 1 Can we not say that God can enter any relationship in which there is a measure of selfless love?
a) 1863 b) 2006 c) 1963
- 2 To impoverish the earth now to support outward greatness appears to be an injury to the succeeding age. a) 2002 b) 1772 c) 1652
- 3 Speak truth to power a) 1915 b) 1955 c) 1985
- 4 Action may demand courage. This may mean taking part in public protests or acts of disobedience. (Epistle of Britain Yearly Meeting) a) 1958 b) 1983 c) 2017

E AND FINALLY ...

Not famous quotes, just things you might hear around a Quaker meeting. But in what connection?

1 Our Friend is not heard.

- This is ...
- a) A Quakerly request to conclude a spoken contribution.
 - b) A way of saying a Friend's opinions are unpalatable.
 - c) A request to speak up.

2 Please collect your schedule.

- This likely refers to ...
- a) Shared transport for a Glenthorne weekend.
 - b) Financial contributions.
 - c) An environmental "Come to meeting by bus" initiative.

3 Can we uphold the table please?

- This is usually heard ...
- a) In a meeting for business.
 - b) At a meeting's garden working party.
 - c) When making arrangements at Hospitality Committee.

4 Sufferings is on Saturday.

- This refers to ...
- a) A sharing meeting for Friends with complaints.
 - b) An all-age physical fitness event organized by Social Committee.
 - c) A national executive committee meeting.

5 LM is always before AM.

- This is ...
- a) A form of traditional, but now defunct, plain Quaker timekeeping.
 - b) A reference to Quaker business meetings.
 - c) The order clerks invite Members to contribute in a discussion.

6 We will finish by shaking hands.

- This describes ...
- a) The ending of a meeting.
 - b) How Quakers settle thorny issues in Finance Committee.
 - c) How to deal with disruptions at a peace demonstration.

7 The letters on the table: QPS, QHS, QSRE and QCCIR

- This likely refers to ...
- a) A popular Quaker board game similar to Scrabble.
 - b) Items to be shared from the clerk's postbag.
 - c) Making posters in all age worship.

8 That name would not have occurred to me.

- This would express ...
- a) An apology for increasing forgetfulness.
 - b) Difficulty in adjusting to a large number of new members.
 - c) An opinion about the suitability of a nomination.

Answers, as usual, in the February edition of Quakevine. For those who can't wait, they will also be available early in January on our website, yorkquakers.org.uk

Answers

A WHO SAID OR WROTE ... ?

- 1 **Anne Wilson** (as recounted by Samuel Bownas in *Quaker Faith and Practice* 19.60)
- 2 **Sarah Grubb** (She was 13 at the time. QfP 28.04)
- 3 **Margaret Fell** (*Women's Speaking Justified*, 1666)
- 4 **Helen Steven** (Statement to Dumbarton Sheriff Court 1989, in QfP 24.27)

B SURELY SOME MISTAKE ...

- 1 **It's the other way around:**
Be patterns, be examples ... etc, then you will come to walk cheerfully over the world ...
- 2 **Should read :** *Theology divides, service unites.*
- 3 **Should read:** *Oh Lord, may I be directed what to do and what to leave undone.*
- 4 The men and women being generally **in prison**, the children kept up their meetings regularly, ... (QfP, 19.35)

C WHO IS BEING REFERRED TO ... ?

- 1 **Mary Dyer** (QfP, 19.18)
- 2 **James Parnell** (QfP, 19.26)
- 3 **William Penn** (QfP 19.47)
- 4 Justice Bennet of Derby (Recounted in: George Fox, *Journal*, Chapter IV, 1650)

D CAN YOU DATE THESE QUAKER STATEMENTS ... ?

- 1 **c) 1963** (*Towards a Quaker View of Sex*)
- 2 **b) 1772** (John Woolman, *Journal and Essays*, QfP 25.01)
- 3 **b) 1955** (Title of influential book by American Friends Service Council, *Speak Truth to Power: A Quaker search for alternatives to violence*. Preface says phrase is of older Quaker origin, without giving an exact source)
- 4 **c) 2017**

E AND FINALLY ...

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|------|------|------|------|
| 1 c) | 3 a) | 5 b) | 7 b) |
| 2 b) | 4 c) | 6 a) | 8 c) |