

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON QUOTES CONTINUED:

The great thing for us as a race, is to conduct ourselves so as to become worthy of the privileges of an American citizen and these privileges will come. More important than receiving privileges is the matter of being worthy of them. Nobody likes to come in contact with a whining individual and nobody likes to be connected with a whining, despairing race.

When an people, regardless of race or geographical location, have not been trained to habits of industry, have not been given skill of hand in youth and taught to love labor, a direct result is the breeding of a worthless, idle class, which spends a great deal of its time trying to live by its wits.

So long as the Negro is permitted to get education, acquire property, and secure employment, and is treated with respect in the business or commercial world, I shall have the greatest faith in his working out his own destiny in our Southern states.

The foundation of every race must be laid in the common everyday occupations that are right about our door.

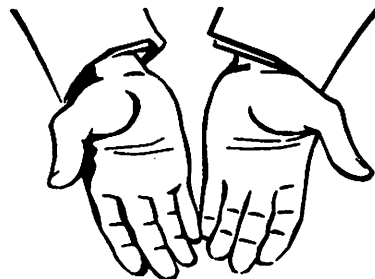
A man's position in life is not measured by the heights which he has attained, but by the depths from which he has come.

We shall succeed not by abstract discussions, not by depending upon making empty demands, not by abuse of some other individual or race, but we will succeed by actually demonstrating to the world that we can perform the service which the world needs, as well or better than anyone else.

There are definite rewards coming to the individual or the race that overcomes obstacles and succeeds in spite of seemingly insurmountable difficulties. The palms of victory are not for the race that merely complains and frets and rails.

The colored boy has been taken from the farm and taught astronomy—how to located Jupiter and Mars—learned to measure Venus, taught about everything except that which he depends upon for daily bread.

One of the saddest sights I ever saw in the South was a colored girl, recently returned from college, sitting in a rented one-room log cabin attempting day by day to extract some music from a second-hand piano, when all about her indicated want of thrift and cleanliness.



QUOTATIONS OF BOOKER T. WASHINGTON

Any movement for the elevation of the Southern negro in order to be successful must have to a certain extent the cooperation of the Southern white.

We shall prosper in proportion as we learn to glorify and dignify labor and put brains and skill into the common occupations of life. It is at the bottom of life that we must begin and not at the top; nor should we permit our grievances to overshadow our opportunities

An educated man on the street with his hands in his pockets is not one whit more benefit to society than an ignorant man on the streets with his hands in his pockets.

I have learned that it is important to carry education outside of the school building and take it into the fields, into the homes, and into the daily life of the people surrounding the school.

The Negro should be taught book learning, yes, but along with it he should be taught that book education and industrial development must go hand in hand. No race which fails to do this can ever hope to succeed.

There is as much dignity in tilling a field as in writing a poem.

Learn all you can, but learn to do something, or your learning will be useless.

It seems to me that the temptation in education and missionary effort is to do for people that which was done a thousand years ago, or is being done for people a thousand miles away, without always making a careful study of the needs and conditions of the people we are trying to help. The temptation is to run all people through a certain educational mould, regardless of the condition of the subject or the end to be accomplished.

One of the weakest points in connection with the present development of the race is that so many get the idea that the mere filling of the head with a knowledge of mathematics, the sciences, and literature means success in life.



Is there not as much mental discipline in having a student think out and put on paper a plan for a modern dairy building as having him merely commit to memory poetry that somebody else thought out years ago?