

personal english

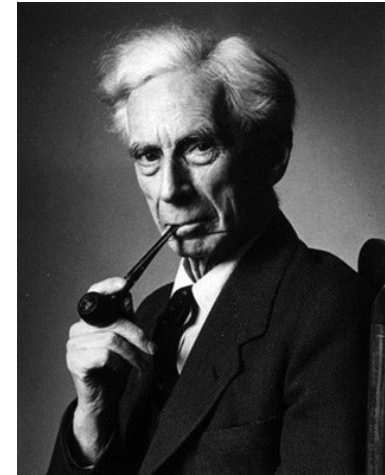


Quote #12

Bertrand Russell

“If I were to suggest that between the Earth and Mars there is a **china teapot revolving about the sun in an elliptical orbit**, nobody would be able to disprove my assertion provided I were careful to add that the teapot is too small to be revealed even by our most powerful telescopes. But if I were to go on to say that, since my assertion cannot be disproved, it is an intolerable presumption on the part of human reason to doubt it, I should rightly be thought to be talking nonsense.

If, however, the existence of such a teapot were affirmed in ancient books, taught as the sacred truth every Sunday, and instilled into the minds of children at school, hesitation to believe in its existence would become a mark of eccentricity and entitle the doubter to the attentions of the psychiatrist in an enlightened age or of the Inquisitor in an earlier time.”



Bertrand Arthur William Russell was a **British philosopher, logician, mathematician, historian, writer, social critic and political activist**. In **1950** Russell was awarded the **Nobel Prize in Literature** ‘in recognition of his varied and significant writings in which he champions humanitarian ideals and freedom of thought’.

Click on the pictures for a **VIDEO** on Bertrand Russell and an **INTERVIEW** with him