

Sapiens

"Most empires have found it alarmingly easy to put down rebellions. In general, they have been toppled only by external invasion or by a split within the ruling elites."

"The Roman Empire did not require the Christians to give up their beliefs and rituals, but it did expect them to pay respect to the empire's protector gods and to the divinity of the emperor. This was seen as a declaration of political loyalty."

"The modern age has witnessed the rise of a number of new natural-law religions, such as liberalism, Communism, capitalism, nationalism and Nazism. These creeds do not like to be called religions, and refer to themselves as ideologies."

// on human rights

"If we encounter an ethical or political dilemma, we should look inside and listen to our inner voice – the voice of humanity. The chief commandments of liberal humanism are meant to protect the liberty of this inner voice against intrusion or harm. These commandments are collectively known as 'human rights'"

"In short, scientific research can flourish only in alliance with some religion or ideology.

"The ideology justifies the costs of the research. In exchange, the ideology influences the scientific agenda and determines what to do with the discoveries."

"The state and the market approached people with an offer that could not be refused."

"Is there anything more dangerous than dissatisfied and irresponsible gods who don't know what they want?"

