CHAPTER IV

HISTORICAL CRITICISM AND ANALYSIS OF THE DATA COLLECTED

In this chapter the investigator establishes External and Internal Criticism of the data collected through primary and Secondary sources.

Historical research or Historical Study is based on reports of observations which cannot be repeated although similar events may recur. The three major steps characteristic of the historical type of research are:

1. Collection of data through primary and secondary sources
2. Internal and external criticism of the data collected
3. Presentation of facts in a readable form involving problems of organization composition, exposition and interpretation.

Historical Criticism

The historical research worker has to depend on the conscious or unconscious testimony of others to collect material for his study. He cannot say how valid, reliable or significant the data he has been able to collect are, unless he carefully analyses them and sifts the true and the significant from the irrelevant, false or misleading. The process of appraisal which is used to derive usable and trustworthy data, called historical evidence, is historical criticism. It consists of two parts – external criticism and internal criticism.

External Criticism

It is aimed at establishing the authenticity or genuineness of the data. It is concerned with the question whether a document really is what it purports or
seems to be. To establish the genuineness of age or authorship of documents one may have to use many an intricate test of signature, script, type, spelling, language, usage, documentation, etc. It may involve physical and chemical tests of the material data—of ink, paint, paper, or parchment, cloth, stone, metal or wood. One must make sure that all the elements connected with the form of the data are not inconsistent with already known facts about its author and about the social and technological conditions of the period in which the remain or the document is supposed to have originated. In other words, the validity of the sources used must be established before their content is evaluated and used for research purposes.

Trustworthy, usable data in historical research are known as historical evidence. That body of validated information can be accepted as a trustworthy and proper basis for the testing and interpretation of a hypothesis. Historical evidence is derived from historical data by the process of criticism, which is of two types: external and internal.

The investigator tested very carefully the data collected through primary and secondary sources and found them to be consistent with what is known.

**Internal Criticism**

After the authenticity of historical documents has been established, there is still the problem of evaluating their accuracy or worth. Although they may be genuine, do they reveal a true picture? What of the writers or creators? Were they competent, honest, unbiased, and actually acquainted with the facts, or
were they too antagonistic or too sympathetic to give a true picture? Did they have any motives for distorting the account? Were they subject to pressure, fear or vanity? How long after the event did they make a record of their testimony, and were they able to remember accurately what happened? Were they in agreement with other competent witnesses?

These questions are often difficult to answer, but the investigator of this study is sure that the data are authentic and accurate. Only then the investigator of this study introduced them as historical evidence.

To establish the fact that between the years 1700 to 1800 the Danish Mission was the only agency that contributed to education in India, the primary sources such as the Missionary records from the Archives were utilized and the secondary sources such as Autobiographies and other published works in English and Tamil were utilized. To substantiate that it was because of Missionary Education (i.e.) secular education with Religious Education during this period, primary sources such as Government records, Education reports and Missionary records were utilized. The secondary sources such as books written by number of great scholars on (Christianity in India, the social changes it brought, and the efforts taken by missionaries to impart education, sacrifices and persecutions undergone by them, the efforts taken by the Missionaries to influence the British Government to introduce legislations) were utilized.

To show the condition of India in the 18th and 19th centuries, secondary sources such as books written by great historians and scholars were utilized to
evidence the fact that the reform movements by social reformers, influenced by missionary education, secondary sources such as books written by scholars like James S. Dennis and a number of other scholars.

From 1900 to 2000, a great leap forward has taken place in the upliftment of women, and mass enlightenment mainly due to the Missionary education is evidenced from the Missionary records of the various missions from the Archives. Primary sources such as Almanacs, Government orders, census reports, education reports, legal reports, give evidence to the above facts and they are collected from various Archival preservations and concerned departments.

Biography of Dr. Ida (founder Christian Medical College Vellore), Gandhiji ("My Experiments with Truth") and other published works in English and Tamil were utilised as secondary sources. To show the contribution of the Christian Institutions to value based education The Asylum Press Almanac and Directory of Madras. Extracts the Report of the Quin Quuennial Inspection Commission, Education Census of Madras Presidency, Native news paper reports of the contemporary period were collected from various archival preservations and concerned departments.

From the primary sources and secondary sources it is very clear that the data collected are authentic, trustworthy and accurate.
Analysis of The Values and Finding Comparison with NCERT’S List of 84 Values Found In The Christian Scriptures

Analysis of the values and finding comparison with NCERT’s [National Council for Educational Research and Training’s] List of 84 values found in the Christian Scriptures are as follows.

Christian Education was and is Value Based

A value oriented educational goal is forming men and women for others. The goal is to challenge our students to reflect upon the value implications of what they study, to assess values, and their consequences for human beings. Christian school Education is Bible centred. Good academic training is of course essential preparation for life in our complex society. The level of learning in most Christian schools is well above the National average. Christian schools offer spiritual training.

Christian Schools can teach the whole child, the whole truth, the whole time, academically, spiritually, physically and socially. Christ centered education will affect how our children see the world. Those who determine what young people are taught and what they experience, what they see hear think and believe will set the course for the future of this nation. Some parents may choose to send their children to Christian schools because there is better discipline than other schools. Some because the more rigorous academics found in Christian schools. Some, because of the better moral influence in Christian schools. Some, because of the positive learning environment
associated with Christian schools. Some, because there are less drug problems than in the local schools.

Today, children receive conflicting values – laden messages from Television, Radio stations, music and friends. They need to learn from educational materials that are Biblically integrated. Christian school education is preparation to weather the demands of life, because of the values inculcated through scripture education. It embraces the fundamental truth that each person is uniquely created in God’s image has a free will, and as a result is responsible for one’s actions to God, to self and others. It strives to instill the cultural ethical, and intellectual values upon which our democracy was founded. The scripture curriculum goals and objectives are designed to be useful to the student and to the community she serves and to be expressive of the faith she witnesses. The moral and spiritual values in the scriptures enlisted in the subsequent pages, encourage them to develop to their full potential. They provide each student with the incentive to become an interested appreciative, contributing and responsible member of her community. The Gospel values prepare the students for family life, higher education, professional development global awareness productive employment and service to her community.
NCERT's 84 Values In The Christian Scriptures

A abstinence

(Peter 2:11-12) "Dear friends, I urge you as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which was against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you, of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds, and glorify God on the day he visits us (Galatians 5:16). So I say, live by the spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. (Romans: 14:6) He who regards one day as special, does so to the Lord. He who eats meat, eats to the Lord, for he gives thanks to God; and he who abstains does so to the Lord and gives thanks to God. (Icorinthians: 8:13) Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother to fall into sin. I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause him to fall.

Appreciation of cultural values of others

Differences of cultural origin have caused many problems between different groups of people in the world. Racial, Cultural and Religious differences have even caused wars. This can be seen in the many conflicts between Arabs and Jews in the Middle East, between Hindus and Muslims in India, between Hutus and Tutsis in Rwanda and in the civil war in modern Yugoslavia. The Bible says "be of the same mind united in spirit, intent on one purpose. Christians should "walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called being diligent to preserve to the unity of the spirit, in the bond of peace. Ephesians. 4:1,3) (Acts 17: 23) for as I walked around and
looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar, with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD.

Many countries of the world consist of more than one culture or language group. In revelation 7:9, a great multitude of people, is described as coming from “every nation, tribe people and language”. The idea of racial, ethnic or caste superiority is an idea which has come from man’s pride. The Bible says “The Lord detests all the proud in heart” (16:5). In Christ, God sees all people in the same way. Christians are just forgiven sinners regardless of their racial or national or caste origin. (Romans 3:23 –25. Colossians 2:13) Prejudice and misunderstanding between different cultural groups has been common in every part of the world, throughout history. This kind of prejudice has resulted in many evil practices, such as one group making slaves of another group or one group going to war against another group. Land disputes, political oppression, and ethnic wars, have resulted from cultural prejudice. Similar cultural prejudice has existed in the church from the very beginning. When the Greek speaking Jews, and the local Hebrew Jews, began to have fellowship together, at the beginning of the church, the Hebrew Jews neglected the Greek Jewish widows in the daily serving of food. When the believers ate together. (Acts 6:1). But God was able to give church leaders the wisdom to solve problems of cultural prejudice.

(James 2:9) says But if you show favouritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as law-breakers”. The second principle needed in order
to overcome prejudice is the principle of unselfish love along with humility. In the time of Christ, Gentiles were all those people, who were not Jews. Jews thought they were superior to all other people, so they despised Gentiles, God gave a special vision to Peter and the vision was repeated three times. (Acts 10:16) to persuade the prejudiced Peter, for no proper Jew would ever think of entering the house of an unclean Gentile, Acts 10.28 – Peter the apostle of Christ said “God has shown me that I should not call any man, impure or unclean”. A little later Peter said to the same group”. I now realize how true it is that God does not show favourism, but accepts man from every nation. (Ethnos) who fear him and do what is right”. (Acts 10:34-35).

The word of God describes the nature of this great family of Christians in Paul’s words to the Galatians. “There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, Male nor Female. But you are all one in Christ Jesus. (Galatians 3:28).

Anti untouchability (Acts 10) Peter’s Mission to Cornelius: Roman centurion Cornelius is described as a devout man who feared God, with all his household, he gave alms generously to the people, and prayed constantly to God, In other words, he was a sincere seeker of God, an attitude that gradually envelops a person to seek the truth even more assiduously. One day at about three in the afternoon, he had a vision. He distinctly saw an angel of God. Who said, your prayers and gifts to the poor, have come up as a memorial offering before God. Now send men to Joppa to bring back a man named Simon who is called Peter. About noon, Peter went up on the roof to pray. He fell into a
trance. A voice told him "get up Peter kill and eat". Surely not Lord" Peter replied. "I have never eaten anything impure or unclean". The voice spoke to him a second time, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean". This happened three times. Following day Peter arrived in Caesarea and said to the gathering "You are well aware that it is against our law for a Jew to associate with a Gentile or visit him. But God has shown me that I should not call any man impure or unclean. I now realize how true it is that God does not show favouritism. But accepts men from every nation, who fear him and do what is right.

Nearly 2000 years later, the decision to accept Gentiles into the church on equal footing with Jews may seem minor, but at that time it was a hotly debated issue of enormous consequence. Antioch, the first church with a large number of Gentile members, sparked a major controversy with a Jewish dominated church in Jerusalem. The third largest city in the Roman empire. Antioch was at crossroads between the Mediterranean and the eastern world and from here the first missionaries went out to other nations and cultures. Cornelius, a Gentile was considered an outcaste by all the Jews, and his conversion to Christianity would have given rise to many misgivings among the Jewish Christians. Those who accept the Christian values should have no hurdles whatsoever by way of having to relinquish their socio-cultural values. The Christian faith is simply an inner commitment with the internal practices of Christian values.
Cleanliness (Leviticus 16:30) "Because on this day atonement will be made for you, to cleanse you. Then, before the Lord, you will be clean from all your sins". (Mark 7:14-19) "Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said listen to me, everyone and understand this. Nothing outside a man can make him 'unclean' by going into him. Rather it is what comes out of a man that makes him unclean. And he said, that which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, Theft covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, and foolishness. All these evil things come from within and defile the man. Don't you see that nothing that enters a man, from the outside can make him unclean? For it doesn't go into his heart but into his stomach, and then out of his body". (In saying this Jesus declared all foods clean) (Romans – 14,19,20) Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification. Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All food is clean but it is wrong for a man to eat anything that causes someone else to stumble.

Consideration for others, Concern for others, Compassion

The Bible tells us that God is concerned with us as individuals and also expects us to show concern for others, to have consideration for others and to be compassionate towards fellow human beings. God’s concern for people can be seen in his command to the Jewish nation, to make adequate provision for the poor, the widows, orphans and foreigners living among them.
A great part of Jesus ministry was in healing the sick. He also trained the disciples in this ministry, which they continued after his resurrection and ascension.

**The Poor and Needy** (Leviticus 23:22) When you harvest your fields, do not cut the corn at the edges of the fields, and do not go back to cut the ears of corn that were left, leave them for poor people and foreigners. The lord is your God. (Deuteronomy 10:18) “He makes sure that orphans and widows are treated fairly, he loves the foreigners who live with our people, and gives them food and clothes”. (Psalm 41:1) Happy are those who are concerned for the poor, the Lord will help them when they are in trouble. (Mathew 25:31) “When the son of man comes as king and all the angels with him, he will sit on his royal throne, Then the king will say to the people on his right, Come you that are blessed by my father’, come and possess the kingdom which has been prepared for you ever since the creation of the world, I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me a drink, I was a stranger and you received me in your homes, naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you took care of me, in prison and you visited me. The righteous will then answer him, When Lord, did we ever see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink. When did we ever see you a stranger and welcome you in our homes, or naked and clothe you? When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you? The king will reply, ‘I tell you whenever you did this for one of the least important of these members of my family, you did it for me! (James 1:27) what God the Father considers to be pure and genuine religion is this: to take care of orphans and
widows in their suffering and to keep oneself from being corrupted by the world. God’s concern for those in need must be our concern too. We will care for other fellow beings if we really realized Christ counted it the same as doing it for him.

The Sick and Handicapped (Leviticus 19-17) “Do not curse a deaf man or put something in front of a blind man so as to make him stumble over it. Obey me: I am the Lord your God (Matthew 8: 16) When evening came, people brought to Jesus many who had demons in them. Jesus drove out the evil spirits with a word and healed all who were sick. He did this to make what the prophet Isaiah had said come true, He himself took our sickness and carried away our diseases”. (Isaiah 53:4, 5 Mark 1:29-34, Luke 4:38-41). Just as there are many different causes of sickness and disability, so God uses different ways of healing man, nutrition, careful living, as well as by divine healing. Jesus also uses different methods and circumstances to bring spiritual healing to sinners.

**Duty, Loyalty to Duty** (Proverbs 22: 29) Seest a man diligent in his business. HE SHALL NOT STAND BEFORE MEAN MEN HE SHALL STAND BEFORE KINGS. (Prov. 18.9) One who is slack in his work, is brother to one who destroys.

**COURAGE** (Acts 23:11) “The following night the Lord stood near Paul and said, “Take courage! “As you have testified about me in Jerusalem, so you must also testify in Rome. (1 Corin 16:13) Be on your guard: Stand firm in the faith; be men of courage. Be strong. 14. Do everything in love. Deut 31:6 Be
redeemed by the sacrifice of God's only son, Jesus Christ. His incarnation in human life, His teaching, His death and His resurrection have helped humanity to have the privilege of being united with His life. It is then the humans come under the salient influence and power of the spirit of God in Christ, the Holy spirit, who gives them external life to live as children of God. Such a view of the humans lifts them to a dignity denied to them by science. The possibilities are infinity for them to value life here and now and to become what they truly are. Therefore, God loves even the worst criminal dearly, according to the Christian view.

Endurance, Tolerance

Endurance, Tolerance (Ephesians 4:2) Be always humble, gentle and patient. Show your love by being tolerant with one another. (Colossians 1:11-12) May you be made strong with all the strength which comes from his glorious power, so that you may be able to endure everything with patience. And with joy give thanks to the father, who has made you fit to have your share of what God has reserved for his people, the kingdom of light. (I.Thessalonians 5:14) We urge you, our brothers and sisters to warn the idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with every one. (James 5:7) Be Patient, then my brothers and sisters until the Lord comes. See how patient a farmer is as he waits for his land to produce precious crops. He waits patiently for the autumn and spring rains. You also must be patient keep your hopes high, for the day of the Lord's coming is near. Remember the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Take them as examples of patient endurance under suffering.
We call them happy because they endured. You have heard of Job’s patience, and you know how the Lord provided for him in the end. For the Lord is full of mercy and compassion. (PsaIn 37:7-10) Rest in the Lord and wait patiently for Him. Fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass. Cease from anger and forsake wrath. Fret not thyself in anywise to do evil. For evil doers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the Lord they shall inherit the earth. For yet a little while and the wicked shall not be: Yea thou shalt diligently consider his place and it shall not be. (Romans 12:12). Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing instant in prayer.

The Universality of Love

EQUALITY

To experience God as Abba is to experience people, as brothers and sisters. True, the father of our Lord Jesus Christ reveals himself as Abba to the followers of Jesus, to whom he communicates his spirit of sonship, so that they can cry out in ecstatic prayer, Abba, Father. But the compassion which this experience creates (4:7-12) is certainly not to be confined to the Christian community. Like the love of the father himself it must reach out to all humankind, to the evil and the good and to the just and the unjust. (Mathew. 5:45). We do not normally experience our fellow human beings in this way. Indians still spontaneously perceive their people as part of a complex, highly stratified system of caste. Africans see them as members of a tribe. To affirm the radical equality of all human beings, beyond all differences of sex, race,
culture, class, rank, or caste, is a profoundly radical and therefore conflict
provoking act, Jesus lived out such radicalism, when he dined with tax
collectors and sinners. (Mark.2: 15-17) (Luke.15:1-2) called women to be
disciples (Luke 10:38-42) (Mathew,28:9-10) (John 20:11-18) held up a gentile
as a model of faith (Mathew 8:15) and a Samaritan, as a model of compassion
(LK 10: 29–37) renounced domination for service. (Mk 10:35-45). To
experience God as Abba, is to grasp the absolute primacy of love. Interhuman
concern as our appropriate response to God’s love for us – ‘loving God by
loving neighbour – becomes the basis of all law (mt 22:40) and takes
precedence over all (MK 12:33). Every institution then becomes subordinate to
human need – for “the Sabbath is made for the human person, not the human
person for the sabbath (MK - 2:27). ‘Mercy’ that is interhuman concern, shown
in concrete acts of active compassion, towards the hungry and the out caste is
to be preferred to ‘sacrifice’ (Mt 9:13, 12:7) Reconciliation with an injured
brother or sister must precede reconciliation with God (Mt 5:23-24)
Unlimited forgiveness of others is a necessary precondition for effective
prayer. MK 11:25 (Mt b:14-15).

Friendship

There are proverbs in the Bible telling us how to act in relation to our friends.
(Prov 27:9) Some flowers and plants smell very nice and men can make oil
from them which have the same odour. This is just the picture of the pleasure
you can have from listening to the good advice of a true friend. (Prov 27:9)
Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart so doth the sweetness of a man’s friend by hearty counsel. (Prov. 27:17) ‘Iron sharpeneth iron, so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend’. Iron is useful for many purposes, but for cutting, it must be sharp. You can sharpen a sword or plough by rubbing it with another piece of iron. Ecclesiastes (Samuel 13:19 - 21) This is like two friends talking together face to face. Each one makes the other a little happier. (Prov 17:17) A friend loveth at all times and a brother is born for adversity. A true friend will love you even when you are in trouble. So will a loving brother or sister. (Prov.27:10) Thine own friend, and thy father’s friend, forsake not neither go into thy brother’s house in the day of thy calamity. For better is a neighbour that is near than a brother for off. We should remain loyal true and faithful to our friends and also to friends of the family. We must help them in time of trouble, if we expect their help when we need them. (Proverbs 18:24) A man that hath friends must show himself friendly, and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother. Only love can make other people love you. You must be truly friendly in order to have others as your friends. Many people pretend to be friendly and they are really trying to get something from you. Some people seem to have many friends but they all leave when trouble comes. (Prov. 16:28) A froward man soweth strife and a whisperer separateth chief friends. We should be careful not to listen to those who try to tell us lies about our friends 16:28. But we can thank God for true friends who love us even more than our own brothers, praise the lord for Christ our savior. He calls us friends (we call him Lord) (John 13:13) Hebrews 13:5. (Prov. 27:9) Perfume
and incense bring joy, and the pleasantness one's friend springs from his earnest counsel. (Prov.12:26) A righteous man is cautious in friendship, but the way of the wicked leads them astray.

Faithfulness

Corinthians 4:1 You should think of us as Christ's servants, who have been put in charge of God's secret truths. (Timothy 4:6) As for me the hour has come for me to be sacrificed. The time is here for me to leave this life. I have done my best in the race, I have run the full distance and I have kept the faith. And now there is waiting for me the victory prize of being put right with God. Which the Lord the righteous judge will give me on that day and not only to me, but to all those who wait with love for him to appear (Hebrews 12:15) Guard against turning back from the grace of God. Let no one become like a bitter plant that grows up and causes many troubles with its poison. When we face trials, temptations, persecution or suffering we must ask God to give us his grace to endure, so that we don't spread bitterness around by our complaining (I Samuel 12:24). Only fear the Lord and serve him in truth with all your heart. For consider how great things he hath done for you (Luke 16:10 -12). He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much, and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much. If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? And if ye have not been faithful in that, which is another man's who shall give you that which is your own. Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer behold,
the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried, and ye shall have tribulation ten days be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life (Rev. 2:13) I know thy works, and where thou dwellest even where satan’s seat is and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith even in those days where in Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where satan dwelleth. (Rev. 2:19) Unto the angel of the church in Tthyatira (2:19) “I know thy works and charity and service and faith and thy patience, and thy works, and the last to be more than the first. Rev.12:11. And they overcame him (satan) by the blood of the LAMB, and by the WORD of their testimony and they loved not their lives unto the death.

Freedom

The authority of Jesus enables him to confront the religious, social and political establishment of his people with sovereign freedom. (John 8:31) So Jesus said to those who believed in him, “If you obey my teaching you are really my disciples, you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free”. Jesus said to them I am telling you the truth. Everyone who sins is a slave of sin. A slave does not belong to a family permanently but a son belongs there forever. If the son sets you free, then you will be really free” (Romans 6:22). But now you have been free from sin and are the slaves of God. Your gain is a life fully dedicated to him, and the result is eternal life (Romans 8:1). There is no condemnation now for those who live in union with Christ Jesus. For the law of the spirit, which brings us life in union with Christ Jesus, has set me free from the law of sin and death (Corinthians 3:17). Where the spirit of the Lord is
present, there is freedom. (Galatians 5:1) Freedom is what we have - Christ has set us free! Stand then, as free people, and do not allow yourselves to become slaves again. As for you, my brothers and sisters, you were called to be free. But do not let this freedom become an excuse for letting your physical desire control you. Instead, let love make you serve one another (Ephesians 1:14). The spirit is the guarantee that we shall receive what God has promised his people, and this assures us that God will give complete freedom to those who are his. Let us praise his glory (I Peter 2:16). Live as free people. Do not however, use your freedom to cover up any evil, but live as God’s slaves Rom (6:5-23), (7:1-6), (Gal 2:3-5), (3: 26-29), (4: 1-11), (21-31), (Colossians 1:13, 14:2:11).

Good Manners

(Mathew 5:14) You are like light of the whole world. A city built on a hill, cannot be hidden. “No one lights a lamp and puts it under a bowl instead he puts it on a the lampstand, where it gives light for everyone in the house. “In the same way your light must shine before people, so that they will see the good things you do and praise your father in heaven” (Galatians: 6:9). So let us not become tired of doing good for if we do not give up, the time will come when we reap the harvest. So then as often as we have the chance, we should do good to everyone, and especially to those who belong to our family in the faith (Thessalonians 5:15). See that no one pays back wrong for wrong but at all times, make it your aim to do good to one another and to all people (Thessalonians 2:16). May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our father,
who loved us and in his grace gave us unfailing courage, and a firm hope, encourage you and strengthen you, always to do and say what is good. (Timothy 6:17) Command those who are rich in the things of this life not to be proud, but to place their hope, not in such an uncertain thing as riches, but in God, who generously gives us everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share with other. In this way they will store up for themselves a treasure which will be a solid foundation, for the future. And then they will be able to win the life which is true life (Hebrews 13:16). Do not forget to do good and to help one another because these are sacrifices that please God.

Honesty

The Bible describes principles and practices, that are displeasing to him. These include all forms of dishonesty, such as stealing, cheating, withholding wages, lies, bribery, false scales, and measurements, and misleading words. In addition, all forms of cruelty, and oppression are condemned, which include violence, crushing of the spirit, unjust laws, perverting justice in the courts, unfair dealings, and taking advantage of others weaker or poorer than oneself. Stealing cheating and Bribery (Exodus 20:15). Do not steal (Deuteronomy 5:19) (Exodus 23:8). "Do not accept a bribe, for a bribe makes people blind to what is right and ruins the cause of those who are innocent. (Leviticus 6:2). An offering is to be made if anyone sins against the Lord by refusing to return what a fellow. Israelite has left as a deposit or by stealing something from him, or by cheating him or by lying about something, that has been lost and
swearing that he did not find it. When a man sins in any of these ways, he must repay whatever he got by dishonest means on the day he is found guilty, he must repay the owner in full, plus an additional twenty percent. (Deuteronomy 16:18) Appoint judges and other officials in every town that the LORD your God gives you. These man are to judge the people impartially (Deuteronomy 24:14). “Do not cheat poor and needly hired servants, whether fellow Israelites, or foreigners living in one of your towns. (Deu-25: 13-14) “Do not cheat when you use weight and measures. The Lord hates people who cheat” (Leviticus 19:35). (Prov. 11:1, 20:10,23) (Deuteronomy 27:25) “God’s curse on anyone who accepts money to murder an innocent person”. (Jeremiah 17:11) The person who gets money dishonestly is like a bird that hatches eggs it didn’t lay. In the prime of life he will lose his riches, and in the end he is nothing but a fool. (Ephesians 4:28). Those who used to role must stop robbing, and start working, in order to earn an honest living, for themselves and to be able to help the poor. (Leviticus 6: 2-5) Law for sins done willingly. If a soul sin and commit a trespass against the Lord, and lie unto his neighbour, in that which was delivered him to keep, or in fellowship, or in a thing taken away by violence, or hath deceived his neighbour, Or have found that which was lost, and lieth concerning it, and sweareth falsely, in any of all these that a man doeth, sinning therein. Then it shall be because he hath sinned, and is guilty, that he shall restore that which he took violently away, or the thing which he hath deceitfully gotten, or that which was delivered him to keep, or the lost thing which he found. Or all that about which he hath sworn falsely, he shall
even restore it in the Principal, and shall add the fifth part, more thereto, and give it unto him, to who it appertaineth, in the day of his trespass offering.

Fellow Feeling

(Leviticus 25:35) If a fellow Israelite living near you becomes poor and cannot support himself or herself, you must provide for them as you would for hired servants. So that they can continue to live near you. Do not charge them any interest, but obey God, and let your fellow Israelites, live near you, Do not make them pay interest on the money you lend them, and do not make a profit on the food you sell them. This is the command of the LORD your GOD, who brought you out of Egypt, in order to give you the land of canaan and to be your God. (Deuteronomy 15:1) “At the end of every seventh year you are to cancel the debts, of those who owe you money. This is how it is to be done. All who have lent money to a fellow Israelite are to cancel the debt, they must not try to collect the money; the LORD himself has declared the debt cancelled. You may collect what a foreigner owes you, but you must not collect what any of your own people owe you, “If in any of the towns in the land that the LORD your God is giving you, there is a fellow. Israelite in need, then do not be selfish and refuse to help him. Instead be generous and lend him as much as he needs. Do not refuse to lend him something, just because the year when debts are cancelled is near. Do not let such an evil thought enter your mind. If you refuse to make the loan, he will cryout to the Lord against you, and you will be held guilty. Give to him freely and unselfishly, and the Lord will bless you in everything you do. “There will always be some Israelites who are poor
and in need, and so I command you to be generous to them”. (Deuteronomy 24:6) “When you lend someone something, you are not to take as security his millstones, used for grinding his corn. This would take away the family’s means of preparing food to keep alive”. “Do not deprive foreigners and orphans of their rights, and do not take a widow’s garment as security for a loan. Remember that you were slaves in Egypt, and that the LORD your GOD set you free that is why I have given you this command”. (Pslm 37:21) The wicked borrow and never pay back, but good people are generous with their gifts. (Prov.3:27) Whenever you possibly can do good to those who need it. Never tell your neighbours to wait until tomorrow if you can help them now. (Prov. 19:17) When you give to the poor it is like lending to the LORD and the LORD will pay you back. (Prov. 28:8) If you get rich by charging interest and taking advantage of people, your wealth will go to someone, who is kind to the poor”. (Mathew 5:42) “When someone asks you for something give it to him; when someone wants to borrow something lend it to him”. (Luke 6:34) “If you lend only to those from whom you hope to get it back, why should you receive a blessing? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount! 35. No! Love your enemies and do good to them; lend and expect nothing back. You will then have a great reward, and you will be children of the Most High God. For he is good to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful just as your Father is merciful”.
Citizenship

People expect to be governed peacefully and justly, with law enforcement officers to protect society from the harm of wicked people. Citizens must respect ruling authorities and keep the peace. Paul says in (Romans 12:18) "Do everything possible on your part to live in peace with everybody". Citizens are to live righteously and peacefully in their community, praying for their fellow citizens, and for God's wisdom to be given to their rulers. Jesus silenced the Pharisee who questioned him, regarding the payment of taxes to the Roman emperor of the occupying forces, "Pay the Emperor what belongs to the Emperor, and pay God what belongs to God" (Matthew 22:21). (Exodus 22:28) "Do not speak evil of God, and do not curse a leader of your people ("Acts 23:5") (Exodus 23:1). "Do not spread false rumours, and do not help a guilty person by giving false evidence. Do not follow the majority when they do wrong or when they give evidence that prevents justice". (Proverbs 24:21)

Have reverence for the LORD, my son, and honour the king. Have nothing to do with people who rebel against them. Such people could be ruined in a moment. Do you realize the disaster that God or the king can cause? (Proverbs 25:15) Patient Persuasion can break down the strongest resistance, and can even convince rulers. (Isaiah 33:15) – you can survive if you say and do what is right. Don’t use your power to cheat the poor, and don’t accept bribes. Don’t join with those, who plan to Commit Murder or to do other evil things. (Romans 13:1) - Everyone must obey the state authorities, because no authority exists without God’s permission, and the existing authorities have been put
there by God. Whoever opposes the existing authority opposes what God has ordered, and anyone who does so will bring judgment on himself. For rulers are not to be feared by those who do good, but by those whose do evil. Would you like to be unafraid of those in authority? Then do what is good, and they will praise you. Because they are God’s servants working for your own good. But if you do evil, then be afraid of them, because their power to punish is real. They are God’s servants and carry out God’s punishment, on those who do evil. For this reason you must obey the authorities. Not just because of God’s punishment. But also as a matter of conscience. That is also why you pay taxes, because the authorities are working for God, when they fulfil their duties. Pay, then, what you owe them. Pay them your personal and property taxes, and show respect and honour of them all.

1. Timothy 1:1-3 First of all, then I urge that petitions, prayers, requests and thanks-givings be offered to God for all people, for kings and all others who are in authority, that we may live a quiet and peaceful life with all reverence towards God, and with proper conduct. This is good and it pleases God our Saviour, who wants everyone to be saved and to come to know the truth.

Titus 3:1-2 Remind your people to submit to rulers and authorities, to obey them, and to be ready to do good in every way. 2. Tell them not to speak evil of any one, but to be peaceful and friendly, and always to show a gentle attitude towards everyone.
I. Peter 2:13-17 For the sake of the Lord submit to every human authority to the emperor, who is the supreme authority, 14 and to the governors, who have been appointed by him to punish the evildoers and to praise those who do good. 15. For God wants you to silence the ignorant talk of foolish people by the good things you do. 16. Live as free people; do not however use your freedom to cover up any evil, but live as God’s slaves. 17. Respect everyone, love your fellow – believers honour God, and respect the emperor.

National Unity

National consciousness.

National Integration.

Value for national and civil property

When the Jewish people forsook God and did evil God sent them prophets and teachers to warn them of coming judgement. If they disregarded the warnings, then, the things God foretold did happen. When people reported and turned from their wicked ways, God had mercy and restored them to a position of honour among the nations. God used the illustration of a potter to show that he could remake and redesign a plan for a repentant nation, just as the potter remodelled an imperfect vessel (Jeremiah 18:1-10). The chaos in many countries today can be likened to that in Hosea 4:1,2 …… There is no faithfulness or love in the land, and the people do not acknowledge me as God. They make promises and break them, they lie, murder steal and commit adultery, crimes increase, and there is one murder after another*. The world to-
day needs rulers and leaders who will help provide answers to the problems of society, from the word of God.

Helpfulness

The Good Samaritan An expert in the Law asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbour”. In reply Jesus said, A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man he passed by on the other side. So too a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled came where the man was, and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out, two silver coins, and gave them to the innkeeper. Look after him he said, and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense, you may have. Which of these three do you think was a neighbour to the man, who fell into the hands of robbers. The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him”. Jesus told him “God and do like wise”. Which one showed love? The priest saw the robbery victim in a half dead state. According to Old Testament law, a priest who touched a dead body made himself ceremonially impure (Leviticus 21: 1-4). The priest and religious Levite, decided not to get involved. Jesus audience might have been expecting the third character, to be a Jewish layperson. But Jesus added a twist by making the one who showed love a
Samaritan - a racial minority despised. In this way Jesus contrasted more religious beliefs with true love.

Lazarus and the rich man (Luke 16:19-21) There was a rich man who was dressed in purple, and fine linen, and lived in luxury every day. At his gate was laid a beggar, named Lazarus covered with sores, and longing to eat what fell from the rich man’s table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores. The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham’s side. Rich man also died and was buried. In hell where he was in torment he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. So he called to him Father Abraham, have pity on me, and send Lazars to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire. But Abraham replied, ‘Son remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony.

Humanism

In spite of the constitutional intent and directive many people are deprived of their rights to life, liberty, equality and pursuit of happiness because they are violated very often by certain segments of society. The Victims of such human rights violations are dalits, women, children, adivasis and the economically poor. Though untouchability stands abolished and its practice may be permissive under law, the inhuman practice persists in many parts of India. Dowry deaths, wife battering rape etc. are illustrative of the several cases of harassment and persecution to which women’s are subjected.
Child abuse is very common especially in urban areas for the purpose of drug peddling and other anti-social activities. The Mega Dams and river valley projects undertaken by the Government are often so very much against the right to livelihood of the indigenous people, as they involve in destruction of forest which is the main source of their livelihood. Jesus Christ declared that he was sent by his Father to give life in all its fullness to all the people. Christian missionaries in the years before and in the present endeavour to empower all the victims of human rights violations. Dalits, women, children, adivasis, to affairs and exercise their right to life which would ensure to them all the other rights also such as liberty, equality, dignity, and justice.

**Justice**

Justice abides in God and in people. God executes justice for the poor and oppressed. (Deuteronomy 10:18)." He doth execute the judgment of the fatherless and widow, and loveth the stranger, in giving him food and raiment. (Psalms 103:6). "The Lord executeth righteousness and judgement for all that are oppressed". (Psalms 146:7) Which executeth judgement for the oppressed: which giveth food to the hungry. The Lord looseth the prisoners. Divine justice can either be God 's punitive judgement. (Deuteronomy 33:21) or his deliverance of the chosen people (Judges 5:11, I Samuel 12:6-7). **God sends his justice against sinners.** (Amos 5:24) But let judgment run down as waters and righteousness as a mighty stream. The exercise of God 's justice is regarded as a favour and a benefit. I am the Lord; I act with steadfast love, justice and righteousness in the earth for in these things I delight, says the
Lord: (Jeremiah 9:24). Justice is ascribed to God because he assists the needy in attaining their just rights. (Deuteronomy 10:17). God's justice becomes synonymous with his activity as a Saviour (psalms 36:6)”. Thy righteousness is a like the great mountains, thy judgments are a great deep. O Lord thou preservest man and beast.

At the human level, all are to denounce the injustice and oppression of the poor and “sow for yourself righteousness”, reap steadfast love”. (Hosea 10:12). (Jeremiah 23:4) I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them”. They are to view justice as fidelity to the law. (Ezekiel 18:7-9) A person who hath not oppressed any but hath restored to the debtor his pledge hath spoiled none by violence, hath given his bread to the hungry, and hath covered the naked with garment: doth not take advance or accrued interest, withholds his hand from iniquity, executes true justice between contending parties, follows my statutes, and is careful to observe my ordinances, acting faithfully – such a one is righteous, he shall surely live, says the Lord God ” (Ezekiel 18: 7-9)

Conduct in conformity with the law is a source of merit and prosperity. An act of kindness becomes justice in the eyes of God. You shall give the pledge back by sunset, so that your neighbour may sleep in the cloak and bless you; and it will be to your credit before the Lord your God” (Deuteronomy 24:13). Justice is wisdom if any one loves righteousness her labours are virtues; for she teaches self control and prudence, justice and courage”. To oppress
one's neighbours is to tread justice under foot (Amos 5:7). To do justice means to vindicate the cause of the Poor and **oppressed by heading their cry, knowing their rights, and being their help.** (Job 29:15-17) (Prov. 29:7) and trying to deal fairly in the market place (Deuteronomy 24: 10-13). There are proverbs about kings and more about rulers and judges and our relations with them. One duty of a king is to listen to people who have problems and to settle their quarrels. He is the highest judge in the land, but there should be many lower judges to settle small cases. (Prov: 20:8) The king should know the word of God and judge righteously, (Deuteronomy 17:18, 19). He should tell the difference between right and wrong and be able to put down all evil. Wicked men should know by looking at the king that they will be punished for their crimes. (Prov. 20-26) A King must be wise enough to know who has done wrong and he must be strong enough to punish him. (Prov. 29:14) Often people are poor because someone has tried to take their property to make himself richer. In Luke 18:2-5 the Lord Jesus told about a poor widow whom someone was trying to rob. The king should judge these cases fairly if he wants God to leave him on his throne (Prov. 24:21,22). Here the wiseman advises his son to **obey the Lord, and the king. We should not go along with those who try to overthrow the government** by killing people. God will suddenly judge them and us too. If we help them in their evil way. "My son, fear thou the Lord and the King, and meddle not with them that are given to change. For their calamity shall rise suddenly, and who knoweth the ruin of them both". (Prov. 18:7) A good king or judge waits to hear both sides before he makes any
decision. 1 kings 3:16-28, 24:23. The wise man said that judges should not show special favour to one person rather than another. The law of God teaches that we should listen to unimportant people, as well as those who are great, and make a fair decision without fear Deuteronomy 1:17. (Prov. 28:21) This proverb repeats this warning against showing special favour to anyone. (1 Timothy 5:21) anyone who does may be tempted to accept a gift, and make his decision unrighteously. (Prov.18:16): With money a person can give gifts to guards and servants so they will let him in to see great men. He may bring still larger gift to the chief man. This is wrong because the person who receives the gift may be tempted to do what is not right. (21:14) So he will not punish you according to the law. Many Judges and officials to day will do anything for a large gift. God ’s law says it is wrong (Exodus 23:8). “And thou shalt take no gift, for the gift blindeth the wise, and perverteth the words of the righteous”. (Prov. 28:15). Wicked rulers do not judge fairly they accept bribes, and show favour to some of their friends. Poor people never get justice and for them the ruler is like a wild animal ready to kill them. Even so they should not try to get a better ruler by killing the wicked one. God will take care of his own people. (Prov. 24: 11,12) “If thou for bear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain. If thou sayest, Behold we know it not doth not he that ponderth the heart consider it? And he that keepth thy soul, doth not he know it? And shall not he render to everyman according to his works. (29:26) Many seek the ruler’s favour, but every man’s judgement cometh from the Lord”. Neither judges nor ordinary people
should ever take a gift which might lead them to do wrong. (I Peter 2:13 B)

For the sake of the Lord, submit to every human authority, to the Emperor, who is the supreme authority and to the governors, who have been appointed by him to punish the evil doers and to praise those who do good.

Kindness

(Romans 12:14-16) Ask God to bless those who persecute you. Yes ask him to bless not to curse. 15. Be happy with those who are happy, weep with those who weep. 16. Have the same concern for every one. (Corinthians 1:3) Let us give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the merciful Father, the God from whom all help comes!”. He helps us in all our troubles, so that we are able to help others who have all kinds of troubles, using the same help that we ourselves have received from God. (Galatians 6:2) Help to carry one another’s burdens, and in this way you will obey the law of Christ. (Ephesians 4:32) Be kind and tender hearted to one – another, and forgive one another, as God has forgiven you through Christ. (Philippians 2:1) Your life in Christ makes you strong, and his love comforts you. You have fellowship with the spirit and you have kindness and compassion for one another. I urge you then, to make me completely happy by having the same thoughts, sharing the same love, and being one in soul and mind. Don’t do anything from selfish ambition or from a cheap desire to boast, but be humble towards one another, always considering others better than yourselves. And look out for one another’s interests not just for your own. (Peter 3:8) To conclude: You must all have the same attitude and the same feeling: Love one another as brothers and
sisters and be kind and humble with one another. (Psalm 112:4, 9) Unto there ariseth light in the darkness, he is gracious, and full of compassion and righteousness. He hath dispersed, he hath given to the poor his righteousness endures for ever his horn shall be exalted with honour. (Isaiah 35:3), 'Strengthen ye the weak hands and confirm the feeble knees. Say to them that are of a fearful heart 'Be strong fear not' (Mathew 4:23, 24). And Jesus went about all Galliliee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people. And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with diverse diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with Devils and those which were lunatic, and those that had the palsy, and healed them.

**Kindness to Animals**

(Prov. 14:4) "Where no oxen are, the crib is clean but much increase is by the strength of the ox. The ox was used by the farmer to pull his plough, but it required attention also. **It must be fed. Isaiah 30.24.** The oxen likewise and the young asses that eat the ground shall eat clean provender, which hath been winnowed with the shovel and with the fan. Sometimes the oxen would fall into a pit, or hurt someone. A lazy farmer might not take care of his ox, but the result would be smaller crops and more poverty. We should be kind to our animals especially those that work for us. (Deuteronomy 25:4) Thou shalt not muzzle the ox when he treadeth out the corn.
Non Violence

Instead of countering violence with violence Jesus overcomes violence by freely submitting to it (Mt 26: 52-54). He thus becomes the ‘Scape goat’ who by taking upon himself all the innate violence of humankind, purges the world of violence and makes human reconciliation possible. “Not to carry out just revenge upon evil but to justify sinners by grace, whether they are lea lots, tax collectors Pharisees or sinners. Jesus commands his followers to love their enemies and not just their personal enemies, hostile to them as individuals, but their group enemies who hate, ostracize and persecute their group (Mk 6:27 – 28) He urges them to accept uncomplainingly even extreme forms of personal injury – to turn the other check when struck a particularly insulting backhand blow on the right one, to give up one’s cloak when one is sued for one’s tunic; to carry a burden two miles, when forced by a much resented law of the occupying power to carry it one (Mt 5:39-41).

Obedience

Blessings that result from obeying God. (Psalm 1) Happy are those who reject the advice of evil people, who do not follow the example of sinners, or join those who have no use for God. Instead they find joy in obeying the law of the Lord, and they study it day and night. They are like trees that grow beside a stream that bear fruit at the right time, and whose leaves do not dry up. They succeed in everything they do. The righteous are guided and protected by the Lord, but the evil are on the way to their doon (Jeremiah 17,7,8) (Psalma 19:8) The laws of the Lord are right, and those who obey them
are happy. Psalm (106:3) (Psalm 25:10) With faithfulness and love he leads all who keep his covenant and obey his commands.

Peace

(John 14:27) “Peace is what I leave with you; it is my own peace that I give you. I do not give it as the world does. Do not be worried and upset do not be afraid”. (Romans 5:1 – Now that we have been put right with God through faith we have Peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. (Romans 8:6) To be controlled by human nature results in death, to be controlled by the Spirit results in life and peace. (Romans 14:19) So then, we must always aim at those things that bring peace and that help to strengthen one another. (Philippians 4:6) Don’t worry about anything but in all your prayers ask God for what you need, always asking him with a thankful heart. And God’s peace, which is far beyond human understanding, will keep your hearts and minds safe in union with Christ Jesus. (Thessalonians 3:16) May the Lord himself, who is our Source of Peace, give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with you all. (Hebrews 12:14) Try to be at peace with everyone, and try to live a holy life, because no one will see the Lord without it. (James 3:17) The wisdom from above is pure first of all it is also peaceful, gentle and friendly. It is full of compassion and produces a harvest of good deeds, it is free from prejudice and hypocrisy. And goodness is the harvest that is produced from the seeds the peacemakers plant in peace. (Isaiah 26.3) Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in you, live peaceably with all men. (Corinthians 13:11) Finally brethren farewell. Be
perfect be of good comfort, be of one mind live in peace and the God of love
and peace shall be with you.

Proper Utilisation of Time

(Prov.18:9) The lazy person wastes his time. This is perhaps the worst thing we can say about him. Each of us has only one life, a certain number of years, days, hours, minutes. God will hold us responsible for how we use our time, Luke 19:15, (Ephesians 5:16). Perhaps the lazy person is working for someone else. He is wasting time for which his employer is paying him, and this is not honest some employees destroy the property of their employer. The lazy worker is in the same class. (Prov.19:15) Laziness makes you want to sleep too much. 26:14, and the result is you do not earn enough to buy the food you need. (Prov. 20:4) Another excuse is the weather. A lazy farmer says it is too cold to plough his field. So he is late sowing his seed and he has little or no harvest. Laziness makes you poor. The New Testament says he that will not work shall not eat. (Thesalonians 3,10), (Prov 21,25,26). The lazy man wants many things beside food, but he would rather die than work hard. The righteous man is willing to work so he will have enough for himself his family and still be able to give something to others. (Thessalonians 3,13), (Prov.24: 30-34) The wise man saw a field and vineyard of a lazy and stupid person. He saw many thorns and weeds, and the wall around the property was broken down. This wall was to keep out wild animals and thieves (Isaiah 5:1-2). The wise man understood that laziness brings poverty. Some people like to sleep more than to
work. Poverty will suddenly come on these and they will not be able to get started again. **Hard workers have all they need** (Prov.12:11). Men can work their land and get enough food, for their families, but it means hard work. Some people waste their time with useless things or stupid people. By this they show they are fools, wise people make the most of every opportunity (Ephesians 5:15-16). See then that ye walk circumspectly not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil (Prov. 28:19). He that tilleth his land shall have plenty of bread. But he that followed after vain persons shall have poverty enough (Prov.10:5). A good worker shows that he is wise and his father and mother have taught him well. They should be proud of him. Everybody should be busy in harvest time and help bring in the crops. Some people are so lazy they love to sleep more than work, even at harvest. Their parents are ashamed of them.

**Resourcefulness**

At the end of the Book of proverbs Ch.31, a woman is presented as the ideally wise person manifesting her wisdom and good management, that is wisdom in action. She rises early and goes late to bed. As a possessor of a pair of skilful hands, she does her cooking and makes clothes. She is an enterprising business woman. The husband and children are well cared for by her. Consequently they praise her. Her relations with her neighbours are in good terms. Her secret in all these is her **fear of God.** All should give her credit for her achievement. The woman in proverbs 31: 10-31 represents the model wife. The young pupils are urged to seek to imitate her ways with all their might and
make them their own. (Prov. 31 –VS 10-12) A good wife helps her husband. She is worth more to him than riches and precious stones. He can trust her fully not like the man in (Prov. 6:34). He does not have to fear that she will spend all his money and make him poor. She will stay with him all her life.

**A good wife works hard (Verses 13-19)**

She works with her hands verses, 13, 17-19, also Verses 22. She provides food for her family verses 14,15. She gets up early. Verses 15 and works late at night. She earns money and can buy more land Verses 16,24. She is strong. V17 wise and kind Verses .26.

**A good wife saves her money and provides for her family VS 20-24**

She has enough money so that she can be kind to others V20. She provides clothing for herself and her family Verses 21,22. Her husband can afford to spend time helping in the affairs of the city. Verses 23. She makes enough cloth to sell some and earn more money Verses 24.

**She is honoured by all (Verses 25-31)**

She wears nice clothing Verses 22 but is known and honoured for her good works. Verses 25. 1. Timothy 2:9,10; and for her wisdom and kindness Verses 26. She cares for her family and they are very grateful. Verse 27,28. Her husband thinks she is the best wife in the world. Vs 28,29. What is her secret? True she works hard, but the main thing is her faith in the Lord. She has earned her reward and the whole city knows it.
Reverence for old age

The Bible says in Leviticus. 19:32 “You shall rise up before the gray headed and honour the aged, and you shall revere your God; I am the Lord”. This statement from the Law of Moses reveals that it is right and pleasing to God for people to show respect for the elderly at all times. Showing this kind of respect is related in some way to showing reverence for God himself. The fifth commandment of the Ten Commandments says, “Honour your father and your mother Exodus (20:12). This commandment shows us that it is the will of God that all people should bring honour to their parents by showing them respect, and by carefully considering their advice (Prov. 1:8) (Exodus 20:12) is Honour your father and Mother a commandment with promise. Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land, which the Lord thy God giveth thee. The highest form of honour they can give to their parents is by living holy lives of Godly character and behaviour.

National Unity, National Consciousness. National Integration, Secularism and Respect for all religions

Value for National and Civic property

What should be the attitude towards the Nation and the Government?

What does the Bible say? The origin of the human government should be understood. God is sovereign. (Psalm 103:19) One of the ways in which God exercises his sovereignty is in the rise and fall of human governments. In (Romans 13: 1-2). We read these surprising words: Everyone must submit
himself to the governing authorities for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted”. The Bible teaches that human governments are established by God. This is very hard to accept especially when we live under a very corrupt or oppressive government. These words are all the more surprising, when we remember that Paul wrote them to Christians living in Rome, Rome was a very pagan city with some very corrupt and oppressive rulers, called Caesars. Some of these Caesars persecuted the Christians bitterly in the years after Paul’s epistle to Romans. Yet the Holy Spirit tells us through Paul that there is no government authority except that which God has established. By saying this Bible is not saying that every government is good. It is simply stating the fact that human government is God’s plan for man’s good. Human Government is God’s way of keeping law and order in a country. (Rom 13:3-4) We read “He (the government official) is God’s servant, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the wrong doers”.

The Bible is very specific about a Christian’s responsibility to the government of his country. He is to pray and he is to obey. In I Timothy 2:1-2 We are told, “I urge then, first of all, that…. prayers…. be made…. for kings and all those in authority”. Much time should be spent seriously praying for the government and its officials. This is not just a good idea. It is God’s commandment. In fact, it is of first importance. “I urge first of all”, says the apostle (1 time 2:1-2). It is a serious sin for Christians to fail to pray for the
government of their country. Much unnecessary suffering and bad government is a direct result of a failure by God’s people to pray regularly and seriously for their government. The second responsibility toward their government is to obey the government and to keep its laws. In I Peter 2:13-15, we read, “Submit yourself for the Lord’s sake to every authority instituted among men, whether to the king as the supreme authority, or to governors, who are sent by him, to punish those who do wrong, and to commend, those who do right. For it is God’s will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish men”.

Dignity of the Individual

Dignity of the Manual Work

Human rights, according to the Bible can be explained in terms of dignity equality and responsibility, God created us in his image, and the Holy spirit enables us to call God as ABBA or father. Jesus taught us to pray saying our father in Heaven. This created order gives us remarkable human dignity (Gen. 1:27) (Romans 8:15). “Gen 1:27. So God created man in his own image in the image of God created he him, male and female created he them”. Rom 8:15. For ye have not received, the spirit of bondage again to fear, but ye have received the spirit of adoption, where by we cry, ABBA, father. Mother Mary illustrates powerfully the human dignity especially when we take into account of the way in which she was called, and obeyed to be the mother of our Lord. She magnifies the Lord, as He had raised her from her most humble status (Luke 1:48,52). The right of a humble woman was protected and exalted. God
s mercy endures forever. He remembered us in our low estate and his mercy
endures for ever (Psalm 136:23). The song mentions about social economic
equality of the people as well (Luke 1:52,53).

Quest for Knowledge

The book of proverbs consists of a series of instructions and speeches by
(31:9) and a poem on the ideal wife. (31:10-31). The instructions and speeches
of wisdom (Prov. 1:1-9:18) deal with fear of the Lord, foolishness, the loose
woman, sluggard or lazy bones, and the personification of wisdom.

Purity

(Mathew 5:8) “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see (be near
to) God”. This beatitude calls us to pray for an inner purity of heart to have
motives that are genuine and sincere, to think about and serve others rather than
ourselves, “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit
within me (David’s prayer in psalm 51). (Psalm 24:3.4) “Who may ascend the
hill of the Lord who may stand in his holy place. He who has clean hands and a
pure heart” (Corinthians 6:3-6). We put no stumbling block in any one’s path,
so that our ministry will not be discredited 4. Rather as servants of God we
commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance,
Simple living

Keep your lives free from the love of money and be satisfied with what you have. For God has said “I will never leave you, I will never abandon you. (Hebrews 13:15)

Social Justice

We live in a world of the very poor. If the 638 million inhabitants in India, to day, some 290 million live on or just above the poverty line defined by the central government pay commission as the minimum required eidi for moderate activity while some 300 million are below this line and cannot afford even this minimum. Such poverty leads to massive malnutrition. Possible 70% of the people of India are undernourished both qualitatively, and quantitatively. They lack not only the special kinds of food (Vitamin, proteins) needed for healthy growth and functioning. But even the minimum amount of food (1500 –2000) calories per day) necessary. 60% of all the children in India between the ages of three and five suffer from some form or other of retarded growth with 40,000 of them going blind for simple lack of vitamin A.

What are the causes of this appalling situation? Cultural factors play an important part (the other worldliness, and extreme individualism of Hinduism, the apathy induced by a fatalistic understanding of the doctrine of karma, the stagnation and social immobility which results from the regid and oppressive system of caste) no doubt play an important part. The poor are always thoughts of as victims of injustice.
In Ex 6: 2-9 repeatedly affirms his determination to protect "the widow, the orphan, and the refugee". Types of helplessness in a pre-welfare state society (Deut 10:17-18 Ps 68:5) and to vindicate: the oppressed of all the earth. (Ps 76:9; 146:5-9). Indeed so serious is this concern of His that He demands with deadly earnestness, on similar concern for the powerless from His people (Ex.22: 21-24) Deut (24:14-18) (Jer 7:5-7) (Ps 82:1-4) and from their king. (Jer 22:1-5) and condemns through his prophets any kind of oppression with frightening violence. Hos 4 : L3 : (Am 2:6-8) 4: 1-3; 8:4-12 Mic 2:1-5; 3:1-4; 6:9-15; 7:1-6 Is 3:13-15; 5:8-10;10:1-4; 58:1-12 Jer 5:26-30; 7:8-15; 22:13-17; E zck: 22:1-16; 34:1-26). Exodus 22: 21-24 Thou shalt neither vex a stranger non oppress him: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt. Ye shall not afflict any widow, or fatherless child. If thou afflict them in any wise, and they cry at all unto me, I will surely hear their cry. And my wrath shall wax hot, and I will kill you with the sword, and your wives shall be widows, and your children fatherless. (Deuteronomy 24: 14-18). Thou shalt not oppress an hired servant that is poor, and needy, whether he be of thy brethren or of thy strangers that are in thy land, within thy gates. At his day thou shalt give him his (wages) neither shall the sun go down upon it for he is poor; and setteth his heart upon it. Lest he cry against thee unto the Lord, and it be sin unto thee. The fathers shall not be put to death for the children neither shall the children be put to death for the fathers; every man shall be put to death for his own sin.

Thou shalt not pervert the judgment of the stranger, nor of the fatherless, nor take a widow's raiment to pledge. But thou shalt remember that thou was a
bondman in Egypt, and the Lord thy God redeemed thee thence. Therefore I command thee to do this thing. When thou cutest down their harvest in they field, and last forgot a sheaf in the field, thou shalt not go again to fetch it. It shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow, that the lord thy God may bless thee in all the work of thy hands. When thou beats thine olive tree, thou shalt not go over the boughs again, it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless and for the widow. When thou gatherest the grapes of thy vineyard, thou shalt not glean it afterward. It shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless and for the widow. And thou shalt remember that thou wast a bondman in the land of Egypt, therefore I command thee to do this thing (Jeremiah 7:5-7). Oppress not the stranger, the fatherless and the widow and shed not innocent blood in this place. (Psalm 82:3-4) Defend the poor and fatherless. Do Justice to the afflicted and needy. Deliver the Poor and needy: rid them out of the hand of the wicked. (Jeremiah 22: 1-5) Thus saith the Lord: Go down to the house of the king of Judah, and speak there this word. And say, Hear the word of the Lord, O King of Judah, that sittest upon the throne of David, thou and thy servants and thy people that enter in by thy gates. Thus saith the Lord: Execute ye judgement and righteousness and deliver the spoiled out of the hand of the oppressors. And do no wrong, do no violence to the stranger, the fatherless nor the widow, neither shed innocent blood in this place. For if ye do this thing indeed then shall thee enter in by the gates of this house, kings sitting upon the throne of David riding in chariots and on horses, he and his servants and his people. But if ye will not hear these words,
I swear by myself saith the Lord, that this house shall become a desolation.

Amos 4: 1-3 Hear this word ye kine of bashan that are in the mountain of Samaria which oppress the poor, which crush the needy, which say to the masters. Bring and let us drink. (Amos 8:4-12)

Hear this O ye that swallow up the needy even to make the poor of the land to fail. Saying, when will the new moon be gone that we may sell corn? And the Sabbath, that we may set forth wheat making the ephah small and the shekel great, and falsifying the balances by deceit? That we may buy the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of shoes. Ye, and sell the refuse of the wheat. The Lord hath sworn by the excellency of Jacob, surely I will never forget any of their works. Shall not the land tremble for this, and everyone mourn that dwelleth therein? And it shall rise up wholly as a flood; and it shall be cast out and drowned as by flood of Egypt.

**Self Restraint**

Proverbs Chapter 5 (Verses 3-6) says that, a strange woman is like a trap. The Bible warns all his children of the danger. (Verses 7-10). They would be very sorry at the end (Verses 11-14). They should early learn to control themselves (Verses 15-19) better still let God control (Verses 20-21). If they refused they would be judged. “For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil. But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two edged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell. Last thou shouldest ponder the path of life, her ways are movable, that thou canst not know them”. The strange woman can say very
nice things and her lips appear to be very attractive. But in the end she is very bitter and will cut like a sharp sword. She acts at first like a friend but later she becomes a great enemy. Proverb Chapter 5: (Verses 7-10) “Hear me now therefore O ye children, and depart not from the words of my mouth. Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house. Lest thou give thine honour unto others and thy years unto the cruel. Lest strangers be filled with thy wealth, and thy labours be in the house of a stranger”. Stay away from the strange woman, never enter her house. If you do, you give up your honour, you will be ashamed of yourself, just because you gave in to a strange woman. God promised long life and honor to those who get wisdom but sin will role you of both. You give your money to the stranger woman and so strangers get your wealth which you have earned. Chapter 5: (Verses 11-14), tells, You lose your wealth and also your health. (Proverb 5: 11-14) “And thou mourn at the last, when thy flesh and thy body are consumed. And say, How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof. And have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined my ear, to them that instructed me. I was almost in all evil in the midst of the congregation and assembly.”

Terrible disease may be spread by immoral women. You will be very sorry you did not obey your father and those who taught you the word of God. But by then it will be too late. You gave up your honour and people in the church and the town will despise you. (Verses 15-19) say, it is natural to be thirsty and good water is a gift from God. In many homes, there was a well of water right in the owner’s courtyard. Here the father is saying that the son
should be satisfied with his own wife. Neither husband nor wife should go out
to seek pleasure and satisfaction with anyone else. God will bless the married
couple who stay faithful to each other. (Proverb 5: Verses 20-21), Why should
a man seek pleasure with a strange woman, not his own wife. He may think she
is very attractive, but he should remember that the Lord knows his thoughts and
sees everything he does.

The results of sin (Proverbs 5: 22-23). People think that one little sin,
will not do any harm, but it always makes you want to do it again. Soon it
becomes a habit and it is always hard to get out of a trap. (Proverbs 5: Verses
20-35). The Father advised his son to pay attention to his command. This
would keep him from sinning with a strange woman either a prostitute (Verses
24-26) or another man’s wife. God’s law of wisdom will keep a man from
yielding to temptation, including the evil woman. She may flatter him, with her
smooth words, praising him for his strength, his good looks or his smart mind.
The Lord wants us to be careful about people who praise us, either men (26-28,
28.23; 29) or women (2.16.5.3, 7.5,21).

Her beauty may be genuine or artificial. She may wink with her eyes to
attract attention as men do (6:13; 10. 10). The wise son should not think that
such a woman is desirable nor fall into her trap. A prostitute must be paid for
her services, and this may become very expensive, (29.3). Many men are poor
because they pay so much for their immoral habits. A woman should be
satisfied with her own husband but some wives always want more. This is not
only the desire for pleasure. Such a woman is hunting, as a hunter follows a wild animal. The wicked woman is hunting for the precious life of her victim. She would feel proud, and superior to other women, if she could catch another man. It might cost a man his life and the Holy spirit gives clear warning in this verse.

**Adultery** (Proverb 6: 27-35) Here the Holy Spirit warns men against the sin of adultery by showing what the sad results will be. (Proverb 5: Verses 27-28). The Penalty is certain. A man may try to carry fire too close to the body, but his clothes will be burned. You cannot walk on hot coals without getting burned.

It is also true that you will be hurt if you commit adultery with another man’s wife. A touch may be the first step toward the complete act and so it is a sin in itself. It depends on the heart. Even looking at a woman may be a sin, (Job 31). Adultery is stealing what belongs to another man and is worse than stealing things. A person may be so hungry that he steals some food. He has to pay back what he took and much more, but people do not despise him. The law of Moses said he must pay back two or four or five times as much (Exodus 22-14). Solomon said, seven times, even if this punishment took everything in his house. (32, 33), Adultery is worse than stealing. A man is not wise if he commits this sin (7.7, 0.16). He is destroying himself, he could be punished with death. (Leviticus 20.10). He will always be dishonoured.
The woman's husband blames the man more than his own wife and will make sure that people do not forget his act. The husband will not accept any payment from the person who has done this wrong thing. **The woman with strong evil desires (proverb 7: Verses 6-23).** The father was looking out of his window and watching people on the street (Verse 6). There were many simple young people without experience and one was very foolish. V.T. This young man knew the woman and walked up and down near her house for over an hour, from sunset until the night was quite dark. (Verses 8,9). He was ready to be tempted. God hates sin and He will never lead us to a place of temptation, (Mathew 6:13). But in time of temptation, He will surely make a way of escape, (I Corinthians 10.13). Joseph ran away from a sinful woman but in (Proverbs 7) the young fool kept walking around her house. (Proverb 7: 10-12) Before long, the woman met him, dressed like a prostitute, she was clever, a fast talker always wanting her own way. She liked to walk around the streets, and hang around corners more than to stay at home. She always seemed to be looking for a man. This night she found one. He was hoping to meet her she took hold of him and kissed him with a hard face and started to speak. She said that her bed was ready. She had made it looking beautiful, and smelling very nice (6.34). So she told him, her husband was away on a long business trip, and would not be back for several days (21). She forced him to go in with her but all she had was clever words, (22, 23). So he followed her. He was like an ox about to be killed. He was a fool, like a bird or animal falling into a trap. The hunter will shoot an arrow to kill his victim. Sin may suddenly bring a terrible
disease, with great pain in the body. We know that God will surely punish the sinner.

Social Service

Jesus Christ left heaven’s glory and lived on earth in meekness and poverty to serve, heal and teach all who would come to him. No one would expect an important person to be the servant or slave of others. Nevertheless, he, the Lord of glory came in humility as a servant, and even to suffer death, in order to save people from their sins. Many relief agencies, medical services, and educational institutions, around the world can be traced to Christ’s influence in the lives of those who love him.

Do for others what you want them to do for you. This is the meaning of the Law of Moses, and of the teaching of the prophets (Luke 6:31) (Mathew 20:26). If one of you wants to be great, he must be the servant of the rest and if one of you wants to be first, he must be your slave – 28. Like the Son of Man, who did not come to be served, but to serve and to give his life to redeem many people. (Mark Chapter 10: 35-45, Luke 22: 24-26). (Luke 14:13) “When you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind, (14) and you will be blessed because they are not able to pay you back. God will repay you on the day the good people rise from death. (John 13:12) – After Jesus had washed their feet, he puts his outer garment back on and returned to his place at the table, “Do you understand what I have just done to you? I, your Lord and Teacher have just washed your feet. You, then, should wash one another's feet. I have set an example for you, so that you will do just what I have done for
you. I am telling you the truth: slaves are never greater than their master and messengers are never greater than the one who sent them. Now that you know this truth, how happy you will be if you put it into practice (Romans 12: 13). Share your belongings with your needy fellow Christians, and open your homes to strangers (Hebrews 10:24). Let us be concerned for one another to help one another to show love and to do well.

**Solidarity of Mankind**

Christianity’s central belief that God has identified. Christianity’s central belief that God has identified his very self with the suffering humanity, and that he is their abiding defence, is the most encouraging and hope conferring truth it can offer to the world. The Church exercises this solidarity, when like Jesus it breaks the division between the pure and the impure, touches the untouchable and overcomes every kind of exclusion in society and in its own life. This solidarity should be extended to the whole of creation. There is no hope for humanity without hope for the whole creation.

**Sense of Discrimination between Good and Bad**

In Christian religion, God gave people free will to choose their own good or evil. Though the humans are part of the created order they are supreme among them. The humans are the first among the created. They are uniquely privileged.
The Unique Privileges of the Humans are:

1. The pride of their fellowship with God who belongs to make them His sons and daughters.

2. The power they wield over the rest of creation.

3. Their sense of discrimination between good and bad so that they may know God to be righteous, just and loving.

4. Their sense of fellowship with other men and women.

Team Work and Team Spirit

In the book of Nehemiah, we find the values “Team Work” and “Team Spirit” Nehemiah’s heart was in Jerusalem, a small troublesome place far from the centre of power. When he heard of the difficulties his people were experiencing, there he took his career and probably his life in his hands and spoke to the king about it. Shortly thereafter he was building by night, the broken down walls of a city he probably had never seen before. Nearly 100 years had passed since his people had returned to Jerusalem from exile. Though the temple had been rebuilt, the city was barely occupied. They were in danger of losing their identity. Why? Partly because the city lacked a wall.

What if the border between Mexico and United Stated was wide open so that anyone could cross and live on either side at will. The distinction between Mexico and Texas would soon dissolve.
For lack of wall the Jews were facing assimilation, into the culture of their neighbours. A wall would give them a chance to make Jerusalem, truly a Jewish city, keeping it safe and controlling who came and went.

The books of Ezra and Nehemiah both tell how the disgraced and battered Jews returned from exile, to rebuild their country. The book of Ezra begins with exiles returning to a ruined city-burned and pillaged nearly 50 years before by an overpowering Babylonian army. Would Jerusalem now have a new beginning. Psalm 126 captures the returning exiles feelings. “We were like men who dreamed. Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of Joy.” The Persian empire had conquered mighty Babylon, and under the emperor cyrus, offered all Jews a chance to return to their land. It was too good to believe. The Israelites continued to feel opposition from their neighbours even long after the temple was successfully completed. The quarrel during Xerxes and Artaxerxes’ reigns, over the defensive wall, Nehemiah with Ezra’s help completed years later.

**Truthfulness, Honesty**

( Corinthians 4:2 ) We put aside all secret and shameful deeds. We do not act with deceit, nor do we falsify, the word of God. In the full light of truth we live in God’s sight and try to commend ourselves to everyone’s good conscience ( Ephesians 6:14 ). So stand ready, with truth as a belt tight round your waist. ( Philippians 4:8 ). In conclusion my brothers and sisters fill your minds with those things that are good and that deserve praise, things that are true noble, right, pure, lovely, and honourable. ( 3 John 3,4 ) for I rejoiced
greatly, when the brethren came and testified of the truth that is in thee, even as thou walkest in the truth. I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.

Sympathy

(Psalm 8, Verses 3-4) God’s concern for people can be seen in his command to the Jewish nation to make adequate provision for the poor – the widows, orphans, and foreigners living among them. A great part of Jesus ministry was in healing the sick. He also trained the disciples in this ministry, which they continued after his resurrection, and ascension. Sometimes there is healing through the individual or united prayers of his children.

Socialism

The Bible says God is pleased when nations and individuals help starving and destitute people. He wants strangers to be welcomed warmly and treated fairly. (Deuteronomy 19:14) Do not move your neighbour’s boundary mark established long ago in the land that the Lord your God is giving you” (Deuteronomy 27:17) (Proverbs 22: 28, 23:10).

(Proverbs 3: 27 to 30) whenever you possibly can, do good to those who need it. Never tell you neighbours, to wait until tomorrow, if you can help them now. Don’t plan anything that will hurt your neighbours. They live beside you, trusting you. Don’t argue with others for no reason. When they have never done you any harm. (Mathew 7:12) – “Do for others what you want them to do
for you this is the meaning of the Law of Moses, and of the teaching of the prophets.”

**Self-Control**

(1 Corinthians 9:25-27) Every athlete in training submits to strict discipline, inorder to be crowned with a wreath that will not last; but we do it for one that will last forever. That is why I run straight for the finishing line; that is why I am like a boxer who does not waste his punches. I harden my body with blows and bring it under complete control, to keep myself from being disqualified after having called others to the contest. (Galatians 5:16-25)

What I say to this: Let the Spirit direct your lives, and you will not satisfy the desires of the human nature. “For what our human nature wants is opposed to what the Spirit wants, and what the Spirit wants is opposed to what our human nature wants. These two are enemies, and this means that you cannot do what you want to do. If the Spirit leads you, then you are not subject to the law. “What human nature does in quite plain. It shows itself in immoral, filthy and indecent actions. In worship of idols and witchcraft. People become enemies and they fight: They separate into parties and groups; they are envious get drunk, have orgies, and do other things like these. I warn you now as I have before: those who do these things will not possess the Kingdom of God. But the Spirit produces love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility, and self-control. There is no law against such things as these. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have put to death their human nature with all
its passions and desires. The spirit has given us life: he must also control our lives.

(1 Timothy 4:7) Keep yourself in training for a Godly life. Physical exercise has some value, but spiritual exercise is valuable in every way, because it promises life both for the present and for the future.

(2 Timothy 2:4) A soldier on active service wants to please his commanding officer and so does not get mixed up in the affairs of civilian life. An athlete who runs in a race cannot win the prize unless he obeys the rules.

(James 1:26) Do any of you think you are religious? If you do not control your tongue, your religion is worthless and you deceive yourself.

(James 3:2) All of us often make mistakes. But if a person never makes a mistake in what he says, he is perfect and is also able to control his whole being.

(I Peter 2:11) I appeal to you, my friends, as strangers and refugees in this world! Do not give in to bodily passions, which are always at war against the soul.

Spirit of Enquiry

Certain aspects of modern scientific philosophy seem to suggest that everything is progressing according to blind chance. The human mind can make logical moral, personal spiritual and religious judgements. Correctly viewed the biblical account and the scientific account are complementary. For example, we have a description of how a human being is fashioned as a special
creation, by God in Psalm 139. Modern genetics show us just how intricate is the physical nature of the human person.

Simple Living, Self-help, Self-Respect, Self-Support, Self-Study, and Self-reliance

The word vocation means 'Calling'. Our vocation is our daily work. The Bible says God is always at work, and Jesus as a carpenter at Nazarath, has set an example giving dignity to manual work. (John 5:17). It is important to have proper attitude to our work. Though many opportunities are created for employment, the stark reality of the problem of unemployment is looming large, and the terrific competition for any lucrative job in our world is quite high. The students need to be convinced that there is something higher than the monetary gain accruing from a job. In the book of Genesis we note that the first man, Adam, was not only created by God, but was given the task to till and to keep the Garden of Eden [Genesis 1:28; 2:15]. In other words, God gives the human being responsibility to work hard and maintain the ecological balance of our environment. Further our work is a gift from God and it is not to be taken as a duty or an unavoidable drudgery. Even a pessimistic writer, Ecclesiastes, claims that there is nothing better for a person than to enjoy and find satisfaction in is nothing better for a person than to enjoy and find satisfaction in his/her work [Ecclesiates 2: 24; 3:22. It is not the work as such that is the result of sin, but the pain, frustration and suffering arising in work situation in the world dominated by evil, exploitation and sin [Genesis 3:16f; Ecclesiates 2:22]. Our work is part of God's plan, as He wants us to find dignity and
enjoyment in the work we do [Psalms 104:19-24]. A right moral attitude will give proper meaning for our work. A sense of justice, fair play, honesty, sincerity, determination to achieve a desired result ought to be some of the overriding factors of any good work. Diligence in work is essential if a person is to earn his/her living honestly [I Thessalonians 3:6, 10-12]. Any creative work cannot be achieved unless it is wedded to indomitable industry. One has to work hard and even become a drudge in order to qualify to be a genius.

**Gentlemanliness**

Leviticus 19:17 "Do not bear a grudge against anyone, but settle your differences with him, so that you will not commit a sin because of him. "Do not take revenge on anyone or continue to hate him, but love your neighbour as you love yourself. I am the LORD." (I Peter 3:8) To conclude: you must all have the same attitude and the same feelings; love one another as brothers and sisters, and be kind and humble with one another. "Do not pay back evil with evil or cursing with cursing; instead, pay back with a blessing, because a blessing is what God promised to give you when he called you.

**Integrity**

Deuteronomy 25:15 use true and honest weights and measures, so that you may live a long time in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. (Leviticus 19:36, Proverbs 11:1; 16:11, Ezekiel 45:10 Kings 12:4) Joash called the priests and ordered them to save up the money paid in connection with the sacrifices in the Temple, both the dues paid for the regular sacrifices and the money given as free will gifts. Each priest was to be responsible for the money
brought by those he served, and the money was to be used to repair the Temple, as needed...the men in charge of the work were thoroughly honest, so there was no need to require them to account for the funds.) (Chronicles 24:12-14) (Proverbs 4:24) Never say nothing that isn’t true. Have anything to do with lies and misleading words. Look straight ahead with honest confidence; don’t hang your head in shame. (Proverbs 4:2). Be honest and you show that you have a reverence for the LORD; (Proverbs 21:3). Do what is right and fair; that pleases the LORD more than bringing him sacrifices. (Isaiah 32:8)...an honourable person acts honestly and stands firm for what is right. (Romans 13:1) Everyone must obey state authorities, because no authority exists without God’s permission, and the existing authorities have been put there by God...That is also why you pay taxes, because the authorities are working for God when they fulfil their duties. Pay, then, what you owe them; pay them your personal and property taxes, and show respect and honour for them all. (II Corinthians 8:20 we are taking care not to stir up any complaints about the way we handle this generous gift. “Our purpose is to do what is right, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of others.

Patriotism

(1 Timothy 2:1) First of all, then, I urge that petitions, prayers, requests, and thanksgivings be offered to God for all people, for kings and all others who are in authority, that we may live a quiet and peaceful life with all reverence towards God and with proper conduct. This is good and it pleases God our Saviour, who wants everyone to be saved and to come to know the truth.
(Psalm 72:1) Teach the king to judge with our righteousness, O God; share with him your own justice, so that he will rule over your people with justice and govern the oppressed with righteousness. May the land enjoy prosperity; may it experience righteousness.

Leadership, Regularity, Punctuality

There are characteristics that are required of those who are entrusted with positions of responsibility, one is expected to work faithfully and earnestly and obey their superiors, cheerfully, as if they were working for Christ. These attitudes of service, whether people are treated fairly or harshly, and whether they are being watched or not, are pleasing God, and are a good testimony for Christ, from whom they will one day get their reward. (Mathew 24:45). Luke 12:47) 1 Corinthians 7:17 Ephesians 6:5, 1 Timothy 6:1, (Titus 2:9)

Self Confidence

Philippians 4:10 In my life in union with the Lord it is a great joy to me that after so long a time you once more had the chance of showing that you care for me. I don’t mean that you had stopped caring for me – you just had no chance to show it. And I am not saying this because I feel neglected, for I have learnt to be satisfied with what I have, I know what it is to be in need and what it is to have more than enough. I have learnt this secret, so that anywhere, at any time, I am content, whether I am full or hungry, whether I have too mush or too little. I have the strength to face all conditions by the power that Christ gives me.
(Psalm 72:1) Teach the king to judge with our righteousness, O God; share with him your own justice, so that he will rule over your people with justice and govern the oppressed with righteousness. May the land enjoy prosperity; may it experience righteousness.

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Hygienic Living

God created our bodies to function with great physical, mental, emotional and spiritual potential. The observance of these laws would eliminate much sickness around the world.

They were to:

- Keep the Sabbath as a day of rest dedicated to God (Exodus 20:10)
- Observe sexual purity (Leviticus 18:1-23)
- Quarantine infectious disease (Leviticus 13:45,46)
- Destroy spreading mildew (Leviticus 13:47-59); 14:33-57
- Observe safety precautions (Deuteronomy 22:8)
- And arrange for proper sanitation (Deuteronomy 23:1214)

Mental health is also very important. We need God's peace to keep our hearts and minds safe (Philippians 4:6). Many stories and instructions in the Bible were written for our emotional health. Those who love God’s Word have an inner source of Spiritual health to endure the storms of life.

Democratic Decision Making

The Bible, inspite of its diverse perspectives, it is profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness (II Timothy 3: 16) Our moral struggle should be motivated on the basis of the messages of the Bible, lest we are lost without direction. Overtly spiritualising the basic human problems, in the words of the scripture may not appeal to the critical mind. In
fact we should think through the issues we face by making proper evaluation of it in the light of the scripture before taking a final decision.

Initiative

An interesting story about initiatives and their rewards, is mentioned in Mathew. 25:19-21. A man gives his servants property and leaves on a long journey entrusting a servant with a thousand dollars, and another with five thousand dollars, on his return the servant with $5000 reported that he made 5000 dollars more and the servant with a thousand dollars said that he kept it safe to return it to the Master. The first servant was rewarded for taking the initiative to double the money and the other servant was punished.

Respect for others

I Peter 2:17 (a) tells us to show proper respect to everyone. In the book of Leviticus, the Bible advises us to respect parents and elders. In Ephesians, women are advised to respect their husbands and servants to respect their masters. Romans 13 exhorts all men to respect those in authority.

Sincerity

Each of us will have an assignment in life and in some way have an authority above us. Scripture’s guideline, to all of us is to obey our masters with respect, fear and sincerity from the heart. (Ephesians 6: 5) goes to step further and says that this sincerity from the heart must be similar to obeying God.
Sense of Social Responsibility

To drive a sense of responsibility followers of Christ are commanded to 1) devote themselves to doing what is good, 2) provide for their own daily necessities and 3) not live unproductive lives (Titus 3:14)

Universal Truth

Truth is the Truth whether we accept it or deny it. One aspect of truth is God’s invisible attributes of eternal power and divine nature. This is clearly seen and understood from creation and laws of nature (Roman 1:20).

Courtesy

The Bible exhorts us to entertain strangers and extend courtesy to those we do not know. Hebrews 13:2. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels.

Common Good; Common Cause;

Basic instruction of scripture is to do good to others. Knowingly not doing good within our capacity is even defined as sin (James 4:17). Readiness to do whatever is good is listed along with Christian duties of obedience and submission to authorities (Titus 3:1). Scripture says that doing good to others has divine rewards because God is pleased with such sacrifices. Hebrews 13:16.

Devotion

The soldier is exhorted to endure hardship. Getting involved in civilian affairs for a soldier is looked at as a hindrence to his devotion. Scriptures give the example of a solider for a life of devotion (II. Timothy 2: 3 & 4).
Discipline, Self Discipline

Scripture gives the 'art' as an exemplary model for discipline. Proverbs 30: 24 t 28. There are four wise little creatures from whom we can learn lessons. Ants sow how wise they are when they store up food for the winter.

(i) some little animals are wise enough to live in holes in the rocks, so larger animals cannot catch them.

(ii) Locusts travel together in great numbers. They have no leader but move forward in the same direction.

(iii) spiders and lizards are very small yet they find their way into the palace of the king.

Forward Look

A summary of this value listed in the scripture reference below is covered in the following points. Past success should not allow room for complacency. Past failure to be forgotten. Today's hard work is for future success and all striving is toward a goal. (Phil 3: 13,14).

Gratitude

Giving thanks in all circumstances is God's guideline for life (I Thessalonians 5:18). The Book of proverbs counsels us to be grateful to others for the good they have done.