

The intent of the gospel is not merely to transform a person in the religious aspect of his or her life, but to transform him/her in every area of living.

Every believer is called to a particular vocation in life, and in that vocation he or she is to be thoroughly Christian, and to obey the following scriptures:

I Corinthians 10:31 -- "Whether therefore ye eat or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."

Colossians 3:17 -- "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him."

These scriptures stress the relevance of Christianity (particularly Christian conduct) to every area of life! Notice the words "whatsoever" and "all."

Thus we must ask, "What does it mean to be a Christian in the home? In the work place or place of business? As a citizen of a country?"

And we must ask, "What is the Christian attitude toward capital punishment? Toward warfare? Toward birth control and abortion? Toward racial and economic justice? Toward a host of other moral issues to which we must address ourselves?"

Realistically, we cannot avoid these issues. We will inevitably entertain and adopt some view on these questions. Our task is to see that we adopt a Christian view!

#### D. Objectives of the Study of Christian Ethics

1. To see the need of relating the Christian ethic to every area of life.
2. To learn to more adequately interpret and apply the ethics of Scripture to specific problems.
3. To learn to distinguish between that which is absolute (the same in every situation), that which is tentative and subject to revision, and that which is relative (varying according to the situation) in this realm.
4. To learn to distinguish between that which is based upon tradition, custom, intuition, feeling, or experience; and that for which we have good evidence in the Scriptures.
5. To agree to disagree on differing interpretations, so long as we base our views upon an open, honest study of the Scriptures and of the facts to which they apply.
6. To share viewpoints, creative proposals, and relevant materials in the appropriate areas of study.