

Mere Christianity
Book 3, Chapter 3
Social Morality

Questions:

1. What is the “first thing” to understand about Christ and Christian social morality?

2. What is the “second thing” to understand about this?

3. What are the right and wrong ways “the Church ought to give us a lead” to make society better?

4. Lewis says that the New Testament hints at what a fully Christian society would look like. What are its features (2 Thess. 3:6-12; Rom. 13:1-7; Titus 3:1-2; 1 Pet. 2:13-17; Eph. 5:15-21; Col. 3:16)? Would you like to live in such a society? Why or why not?

5. Heathen Greeks, Old Testament Jews, and Christians of the Middle Ages were all against one kind of economic system (Exod. 22:25; Lev. 25:35-37; Deut. 23:19-20; Prov. 28:8; Matt. 25:27). What is that system? What are its pros and cons today? How can and should the limitation in question be understood?

6. Whether we “give a man a fish” or “give him a fishing pole and teach him to fish,” charity (giving to the poor) remains one of our moral duties as Christians (2 Cor. 8:1-5, 11-15; Eph. 4:28). What does Lewis say is “the only safe rule” for giving—and what is for many of us a great obstacle?

7. What is the primary reasons for contemporary Christians not having a truly biblical influence on society?