



Consumerism

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The preoccupation with the acquisition of consumer goods and therefore the lack of interest with the search for the meaning of life

Apathy

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Lack of interest, enthusiasm or concern with the search for the

Affluence

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Having a great deal of wealth and therefore having a lack of interest in the search for the meaning of life

Disillusionment

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Feeling disappointed resulting from realising something isn't as good as one expected which leads to a lack of concern with the search for the meaning of life





The Sophists

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A group of travelling teachers in Greece during the 4th and 5th centuries who taught rhetoric, philosophy, grammar, literature, and statesmanship.

The Sophists' belief on justice

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According to the 'Theory of Relativity', there is no absolute truth. "Justice is simply the interest of the stronger", Thrasymachus.

Socrates' opinion on the Sophists

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He didn't see them as true philosophers because they charged for their services. He didn't believe in the 'Theory of Relativity' and rather sought to define justice.

Socrates on virtue

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He believed virtue was the most valuable possession and that ignorance was the cause of evil; "Knowing what is good is the same as doing what is good."





Socrates on happiness

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He believed that a moral life brought pleasure and satisfaction. He was against material things that only brought short-term happiness.

‘The Republic’ by Plato

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A Socratic dialogue by Plato, in which Plato deals with matters such as justice as a way of coming to terms with Socrates’ death.

The Allegory of The Cave

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An allegory in ‘The Republic’ which tells the story of prisoners in a cave. One of them is released and becomes enlightened, however, when he returns, he is met with hostility. The story represents the ignorance of the world.

Plato on dualism

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He believed the soul was imprisoned by the body, as the soul is infinite and unchanging, but the body is temporary.





The world of the senses according to Plato

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Humans were exposed to the world of the senses, a world of appearance and change, and the world of ideas, an unchanging, authentic world. He distrusted the senses and favoured ideas.

Aristotle's ideas about matter and form

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He believed that the form was the species, or what met the eye, but it was the matter which made it unique. He encouraged people to look beyond form and into matter.

Aristotle's 'Theory of Potency and Act'

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He believed that all things are made up of act, its current form, and potency, its potential.

Aristotle on the senses and the intellect

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He believed that knowledge began with the senses, but it was interpreted and understood through the intellect.





Augustine's
determinist view
of the world

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Augustine
believed that
one's fate was
pre-determined.

Augustine's
view of love

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He believed all humans
have the ability to love
and be loved, and that
one should even love
their enemy.

Aquinas' view
of goals

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“Properly human action is
action that pursues goals.”
He believed all nature
pursues goals and that the
ultimate goal was God.

Aquinas' five
statements
about God

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God is simple,
perfect, infinite,
immutable, one.





Religious
purpose of
symbols

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Symbols are used in religion to deal with abstract ideas which cannot be expressed with words alone, such as unity, love or tragedy

Author of
'Das Kapital'

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Karl Marx

Karl Marx's
view of
Religion

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He rejected Religion and saw it as "the opium of the people"

Karl Marx's
greatest
influence

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He was influenced by the industrial revolution. He believed that nobody could reach their potential slaving away in factories . He devoted his life to writing about the human struggle for freedom.





Albert Camus' Nobel Prize

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He won the Nobel Peace Prize for his work on the universal human struggle for a meaningful life

Types of myths

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Cosmic myths, hero myths, place myths, object myths, theistic myths

The purpose of the myth of Prometheus

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It was used to explain the origin of fire, the origin of human life and the origin of evil to the people at the time

Rites of passage and initiation

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They were used in ancient societies to mark certain important moments in one's life, such as puberty and the progression into adulthood





Rites of Burial and Sacrifice

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Ancient societies created elaborate rituals around death in order to help deal with their loss, e.g. mass graves

Rites of sacred Art and Artefacts

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Ancestors used art and artefacts as a form of spirituality, e.g. Newgrange

Forms of searching for the sacred in contemporary culture

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Praying and going on a pilgrimage

Secular humanism

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The belief that there is nothing greater than human existence. Secular humanists do not believe in an afterlife, but rather focus on fulfillment in this life.





Scepticism

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The belief that nothing truly exists until science can explain it

Atheism

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The denial of the existence of God

**Theoretical
atheism**

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The denial of the existence of God due to the belief that science and religion are incompatible: e.g. there couldn't be a loving God because there is so much suffering in the world

**Practical
atheism**

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The denial of the existence of God because the question is irrelevant, religious indifference





**Militant
atheism**

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Denial of the existence of God due to the belief that religion can be harmful and restrict human potential

Reductionism

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Breaking a more complex phenomenon down into its smallest and simplest parts

Agnosticism

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The belief that the existence of God is unknown and inconclusive

**The Big
Bang theory**

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The belief that the world exploded into existence 18 billion years ago





The Expanding Universe theory

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The belief that the galaxies are constantly moving apart. It supports the Big Bang theory because it means that the universe would have had to have been exploded into existence and expanding ever since.

Zeus

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The Greek sky and thunder God who ruled as the King of the Gods

Thor

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The Germanic mythical God associated with thunder, lightning, storms, and the protection of humankind

Polytheism

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The belief in multiple Gods





Moksha

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The Hindu word used to describe the achievement of complete freedom and release from all worldly attachments

The trinity of Hindu Gods

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Brahma, the creator of life, Vishnu, the preserver of life, and Shiva, the destroyer of life

Shinto

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A polytheistic Japanese religion, which was the official religion of Japan until 1945

Monotheism

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The belief in only one God





The story and person associated with the beginning of monotheism

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The story of when God appeared to Abraham in Canaan

Moses

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The prophet who led the Hebrews out of Egypt and received the 10 commandments from God on Mt. Sinai

God in Islam

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Allah

Divine Revelation

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A way God reveals himself to the people





Divine revelation in Christianity

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Christians see Jesus as the ultimate source of divine revelation, and believe that he will reveal himself once more at the end of time

Ongoing revelation

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The Christian belief that God has not fully revealed himself to the people

Divine revelation in Islam

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Muslims believe that Allah revealed himself to a long line of prophets, including Abraham and Moses, and that he revealed himself for the last time to Muhammed.

5 pillars of Islam

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Shahadah (belief in one God), Salat (prayer), Zakat (charity), Saum (fasting), Hajj (pilgrimage)





Prophetic relationship with God

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A prophet-like relationship. Somebody who religiously challenges people to change and who cries out for justice. For example, Father Peter McVerry

Mystical relationship with God

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An expression of one's relationship with God by going on an inner journey and leaving behind worldly distractions. People do this in religion through prayer, meditation, and contemplation.

Holy relationship with God

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An expression of one's relationship with God by recognizing certain events as sacred through rituals or prayer, such as birth, marriage, or death.

Poetic or aesthetic relationship with God

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A creative expression of one's relationship with God through things such as poetry, painting, and music





St Anselm's
argument for the
existence of God

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The ontological argument: if people could refer to God as the greatest conceivable thing, then he must exist, or else people couldn't imagine or refer to Him.

Aquinas' 5
proofs for the
existence of God

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The Prime Mover (something must have made the first move), The Uncreated Creator (What made the first creator?), The Necessary Being, The Perfect Being (From which humans got their idea of perfection), The Intelligent Designer

Origin of the
'Father' image of
God

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In Christianity Jesus called God 'abba', God is seen as the father of humankind. In Luke 11:14 Jesus taught his followers "Father, hallowed be your name."

Origin of the
'creator' image
of God

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Genesis: "So God created humankind in his image"



LC Religion – A: The Search for Meaning & Values



Origin of the all-powerful/omnipotent image of God

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The Jewish history of exodus gave rise to this image. It is an image which gave Hebrews faith through times of hardship.

Origin of the 'mother' image of God

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In Luke 13:20, God is described as breaking bread. In Isaiah God was described as a mother with a child.

Origin of the 'liberator' image of God

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During the Exodus the Hebrews saw God as a liberator, and it was an image which they would return to in times of oppression or hardship.

Origin of the 'love' image of God

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In Luke 15:11, in the story of the prodigal son, God is described as having unconditional love: "God so loved the world that he gives his only son".



Cut dotted horizontal lines. Fold vertical line.



King of the Jews
when the Romans
colonised Palestine

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Prefects in
Palestine

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Pontius
Pilate

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Herod
Antipas

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Herod the
Great

Men, appointed by
the Romans, to
govern over regions
in Palestine

The prefect of
Judea during
the time of
Jesus

Ruler of Galilee
during the time
of Jesus





The political impact of Roman rule on Palestine

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Roman rulers appointed prefects and rulers in each province. Often these rulers weren't Jewish. However, they appointed the High Priest in their region and often made very corrupt choices.

The social impact of Roman rule on Palestine

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The Romans introduced taxation which led a lot of traditional structures and small family holdings to break down. The Romans had all control over trade and extraction of local resources.

The religious impact of Roman rule on Palestine

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The Romans appointed High Priests in each region and often made quite corrupt decisions. The Jews, after the Babylonian exile, had become increasingly faithful to the Torah, Temple and promised Land and did not want the Romans to threaten that.

Josephus

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Jewish historian who wrote about Jesus towards the end of his life. He wrote about Jesus' miracles and believed in them.





The four
evangelists

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Matthew, Mark,
Luke and John

The 'Q'
document

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The source Matthew and
Luke used, which
contained quotes from
Jesus, when they were
writing their gospels

The
synoptic

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Matthew, Mark
and Luke

Pliny the
younger

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The Governor of the
Roman Province of Asia
Minor. He mentioned Jesus
in a letter to the emperor in
the context of causing
disturbances.





Tacitus

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A Roman historian and politician who wrote after Jesus' death. He was opposed to Jesus and mentioned him in his accounts of the burning of Rome

Messiah

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A saviour which the Jewish people were expecting as promised in the Hebrew Bible

Jesus' teaching
of peace over
violence

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Jesus invited people to “choose peace over violence” and “turn the other cheek” as a method of passive resistance. He taught people that “Blessed are the peacemakers” and to “Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you”.

Jesus' teaching
on inclusion

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Jesus taught that “All are welcome at God's table”. “When you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame and the blind”: Luke 14. “The last will be first and the first will be last in God's kingdom”: Matthew.





Jesus' teaching of sharing

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Jesus shared his meals in the gospels. The parable of Lazarus speaks of how a rich man was condemned to hell for not sharing his food. "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of God".

Jesus' teaching on uplifting the powerless

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In the Parable of the Good Samaritan, the Samaritan uplifted the powerless Jew. Jesus heals, and uplifts the powerless, in the gospels. He saw God as someone of the powerless: "Blessed are the meek... the poor."

Jesus' threat to imperial Rome

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Jesus proclaimed the Kingdom of God and claimed to be the messiah which was enough to pose a threat to imperial Rome and merit his arrest.

Jesus' threat to the Jewish Religious establishment

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Jesus had a non-literal understanding of the law and told people to love their neighbour before considering the law. He criticized the Pharisees who upheld the law and showed little compassion for others. He threatened the establishment financially when he turned the tables of the moneychangers in the temple.





Location of Corinth

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Corinth was a seaport. It was in the capital city of the Roman Province of Achaia.

Founder of the Christian community at Corinth

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St Paul

Problem of factions in Corinth

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Some members of the community called Paul their leader, others said they belonged to Peter or Apollo. This created division and weakened the community

Problem of eating meat in Corinth

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Some believed in idols ate meat offered to them. Others found this offensive as they saw idols as false gods. Some couldn't afford meat so it could division between rich and poor





The problem of status in Corinth

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The city of Corinth was cosmopolitan and modern. It was filled with materialism. Members of the community proclaimed to have experiences with God to put others down.

The problem of the resurrection in Corinth

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Some people in the community decided they didn't believe in the resurrection. St Paul taught them that without believing in the resurrection their faith was useless.

The Last Supper

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The dinner Jesus had with his disciples the night before his death. He did many symbolic things which showed his awareness of what the future held

Judas Iscariot

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He was one of Jesus' 12 disciples. He went to the chief of the priests and delivered Jesus to him.





Possible reasons
Judas Iscariot
delivered Jesus to
the High Priest

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He turned him in for 30 pieces of silver. Perhaps Judas was disappointed because he expected more from Jesus. Perhaps he thought he was giving Jesus an opportunity to come face to face with the Romans, or perhaps he just needed the money

Possible reasons
for Jesus'
sentencing

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He challenged the Romans and the Jewish religious system by arriving in Jerusalem for Passover. He overturned the tables of the money changers and called for restoration of the table.

Caiaphus

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The Jewish High Priest who tried and organized to kill Jesus

Jesus'
charges

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Jesus was charged with blasphemy, threatening to destroy the temple and to be the Messiah





Pilate's way of dealing with Jesus

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Pilate couldn't find a way to charge Jesus. So, he offered a crowd Barabbas, a criminal, or Jesus. They chose Barabbas and, therefore, Jesus was stripped and nailed to a cross.

The people who went to Jesus' tomb to anoint

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Mary Magdalene, Mary (the mother of James) and Salome

The events that unfolded when Mary Magdalene, Mary (the mother of James) and Salome went to anoint Jesus

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The large tombstone miraculously moved and inside they found an angel inside an empty tomb who told them to go tell the disciples he had risen. However, according to Mark, the women kept it a secret

The impact of Jesus' resurrection on the disciples

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At first they felt hopeless, but his resurrection gave them a new sense of the mission, it gave them an awareness of community, and they came to understand him as the mediator of salvation





Morality in Ancient Greece

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All Greek philosophers had opinions on morality. Socrates and Plato believed that knowledge was truth and that one only did wrong out of ignorance. These were important features of Greek morality

Morality in Ancient Rome

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Ethic of Cicero in De Officiis outlines the Roman justification of war. To them, war could be entered to protect a city, the innocent, to avenge wrongs and to honour pledges with allies.

Hebrew Morality

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They did not write on morality, but the story of Adam and Eve outlines some beliefs; God was a creator of life and gave commands, people would be cut off from the world if they disobeyed Him, no one could conquer the will to do evil.

Morality

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Principles to distinguish between right and wrong or good and bad





Personal Value

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Something an individual considers important

Community Value

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Something which is of importance to a group of people

The conflict between a community value and a personal value

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What's good for an individual may not be good for an entire community. For example, farming is bad for the environment, but it is important to farmers.

Balancing community values and personal

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When the state has to simultaneously protect the health of the nation and allow everyone to live freely





The Greek definition of the common good

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Plato: “The goal of the ideal state is not the advantage of any one class but the greatest possible happiness of the city as a whole”. Nicomachean ethics: It is more noble to attain good for a nation than for the individual.

Christian definition of the common good

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The Golden rule, love ones neighbour as thyself, demands respect to the common good. Christians have a high regard for obedience to God and rejects totalitarianism as there is a higher good (God).

Similarities between a religious person and a moral person

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Every religion has a moral code, and therefore, every religious person is a moral person

Problems that arise between being a religious person and also being a moral person

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Often religious rules are open to interpretation and can be used to justify wrongdoing. Religious rules can also prevent people from forming their own opinions and beliefs.





The Enlightenment

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The European intellectual movement of the 17th and 18th centuries. Also known as 'The Age of Reason' because reason replaced faith as a source of guidance.

Advances during the Enlightenment

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Advances were made in the fields of human sciences, medicine, weapons, and technology. The concept of human rights and democracy was born, giving rise to more ethical issues

Pacifism

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Pacifists believe that war is never justifiable, and they are strongly opposed to violence. The Quakers are a pacifist branch of Christianity.

Christianity on war

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The earliest Christians were opposed to war, like Jesus, but growing threat from Barbarians forced many to take part in war. In recent decades, due to the 2 world wars, Christians have become increasingly anti-war.





Religious context of The Decalogue and Covenant

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The word covenant means ‘bond’; it represents one’s relationship with God. God initiated the covenant with Abraham. Jewish morality is based upon living up to their side of the covenant.

Social and cultural context of The Decalogue and the Covenant

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The Covenant contains parallels influenced by Canaan and North Eastern laws at the time. Other Near Eastern cultures were developing similar lists at the time. Different cultures have developed different versions of the Decalogue.

5 key principles in the ethical vision of Jesus

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To give the maximum, that is what is inside that matters, to prioritise morality over religion, the importance of love and to never lose sight of God and your faith.

Jesus’ understanding of the Law of love

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In John 13:34, “I give you a new command that you love one another”. He emphasized the importance of love in the Kingdom of God and the importance of the Golden rule and how the two are intertwined.





Jesus'
understanding of
a Right

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It is the love of God compared with loving one's neighbour: "We love because he first loved us!".

The Beatitudes helped Jesus teach the Right Relationship. He believed that everything should come from a motivation of love.

Sin

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Something immoral or against God's will. It leads us to do harm to ourselves and others and prevents moral or spiritual growth.

Original sin

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The state which we find ourselves at birth; with the potential to sin.

Personal sin

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Someone who's sinful actions are shaping them and putting them in a state of sin.





State of sin

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Being in a state of sin doesn't refer to one's evil actions, but whether the motivation behind that action is to pursue evil.

Social sin

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When a sinful action effects society as a whole.

Structural injustice

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A type of social sin. When society itself, or structures within society, are responsible for wrongdoing.

Solidarity

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The overcoming of social sin. When members of the oppressed group come together to resist injustice.





Bioethics

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Ethical questions in medicine

Fundamentalism

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A literal following of religious law and the belief that the basics of religion should be strictly adhered to

Relativism

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The belief that everything is relative and that there is no absolute truth

Deontological ethics

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Deontology uses a set of rules to determine right and wrong. An example of this is the 10 commandments.





Teleological ethics

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Teleology determines something as right or wrong based on whether it has a positive or negative outcome

Virtue ethics

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Virtue ethics determines something as right or wrong based on whether or not a virtuous person would do it.

Influence of family on moral principles

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People often value things that their family's value. Equally, they often value things that they see as absent, or react against things they see as having a negative impact on their family.

Influence of friends/peers on moral principles

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Peer pressure is most prevalent in adolescence. Teenagers feel the need to fit in amongst peers, so they start to act like them. Equally, teenagers can come to value things they have a negative experience with.





Influence of
culture on moral
principles

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We are surrounded by aspects of culture, including religion. Certain laws can be influenced by religion, for example, in India it is illegal to farm or eat cows, as Hinduism has influenced their laws.

Influence of
media on moral
principles

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Each aspect of the media communicates something different to us. Media can be used as propaganda, working for or against something. Media can have positive or negative effect on morality.

Influence of life
experiences on
moral principles

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People learn from their mistakes, and equally, from what has gone well. For example, if you once experienced great injustice, it may cause you to see the law differently.

Human
freedom

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Liberty from
oppression





**Moral
freedom**

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Being physically free
and also being free
to choose your own
path in life.

Conscience

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The ability to gain
information and reflect,
and therefore to know the
difference between right
and wrong

Amorality

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**The
absence of
morality**

Immorality

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Consciously
acting against
what is moral





Sex

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Someone's
biology; whether
they are male or
female

Gender

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Whether something
is considered
masculine or
feminine

Influences
of Gender

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A society's history can influence
what they expect of men and
women. Gender roles vary
between cultures, e.g in Middle
Eastern and Asian cultures men
often hold hands, but that can be
seen as feminine in Western
cultures

Sociological
perspective on
gender

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Sociologists believe
that gender is learned
by the individual and
is influenced by
society





The feminist movement

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Feminism began in the 1960's in order to achieve equal opportunities for both men and women. However, there is still a long way to go before equality is achieved.

Biological perspective on gender

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Scientists argue that men and women are different due to the structure of their brains and impulses of their hormones

Gender roles in Islam

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Islam is the only religion which claims to fully liberate women, however, the Western world can be stereotypical due to Islamic extremist groups. Overall, it is a religion of equality.

Gender roles in

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Previously it was a very patriarchal religion. Women were excluded from many religious ceremonies. Movements, like reform Judaism, have brought more equality. However, the nature of the woman's role is an ongoing debate.

