

“How Christianity has Transformed Civilization”

Course Outline & Synopsis

Setting Christianity against its historical Greco-Roman backdrop, this class will seek to reveal the true impact that the Christian faith has had on our culture today. Some of the topics discussed will be:

- Christianity’s founding of hospitals & health care and the start of orphanages & charitable organizations
- The Christian inception & promotion of universal education & universities
- The Christian inception of the scientific method and the development of modern science
- How the concerns for human rights, equality under the law and economic freedom are deeply rooted in the Christian ethic
- Why slavery might well have remained an institution were it not for Christianity
- How Jesus & His followers gave unprecedented dignity, equality & freedom to women
- The impact of early Christians’ care for throwaway babies, the sick, the elderly and the poor on the surrounding, inhumane Greco-Roman culture
- The enormous Christian impact on art, music & literature

Topics to be discussed....

Transformed lives of people, education, science

Charity & compassion, hospitals & health care

Labor & economic freedom, liberty & justice for all, slavery abolished

Sanctity of human life, sexuality morality elevated, status of women elevated

Art & architecture, music, literature, additional influence of Holidays, Words & Symbols

Length of class....4 weeks

Teacher....Dave Maynard

References & recommended books (given at the end of the class):

“How Christianity has changed the world” by Dr. Alvin Schmidt, retired

Sociology professor

“What if the Bible had never been written?” by Dr. D. James Kennedy

“What if Jesus had never been born?” by Dr. D. James Kennedy

Notation....wherever you see GRC, it stands for Greco-Roman culture.

All of the handouts are from the book, “How Christianity Changed the World” by Dr. Alvin Schmidt. This book can be purchased from Amazon or Christian Book distributors (www.christianbook.com). I highly recommend this book.