



Emmanuel Ahabwe

# The Christian Understanding Of Social And Ethical Issues In Africa

The Christian-African Understanding Of Society  
And Ethics

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## **Acknowledgements**

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My special thanks to my wife Jean, who sometimes missed me because I was dedicating time to this work. She really played a big role in the background or else I would not have finished it.

My tribute to my father who gave me some ideas about African tradition but died before I finished this book

## **Dedication**

I dedicate this book to my late father Yokana Buntu

May his soul rest in peace

## ABBREVIATIONS

1 Tim.	-	1 <sup>st</sup> Timothy
2 Chr.	-	Second book of Chronicles
Deut.	-	Deuteronomy
Eccl.	-	Ecclesiastes
Eph.	-	Ephesians
Eph.	-	Ephesians
ff	-	following
Gen	-	Genesis
Jer.	-	Jeremiah
Lev.	-	Leviticus
Lk.	-	Luke
Matt.	-	Mathew
Mk.	-	Mark
Neh.	-	Nehemiah
Prov.	-	Proverbs
Ps.	-	Psalms
Rom.	-	Romans
Thess.	-	Thessalonians

## INTRODUCTION

Society has a number of issues that keep on changing in appearance, understanding and interpretation. Every time these issues come up they bring about complexity of how one can go about them. Social issues are important topics that concern society while ethical issues are morals and behaviour of different societies treating human behaviour from the 'good' and 'bad' point of view. They are so important in the organisation of society and cannot be done away with. However drawing from past experience, the current situation presents circumstances that one can build on in order to prepare for the future.

Christians are followers of Christ have Christ as the model on which their behaviour should be based (Mk 10:44, Mt 11:29 John 13:15). Accordingly the unity of mankind and especially the Christian community is the will of God (John 17:22). The task of the Christian understanding of social and ethical issues in Africa discovers how Christians should approach the social behaviour that surrounds them in relation to their expected behaviour as Christians in relation to African Context.

The appropriate examples are drawn from the bible to back up Jesus Christ's teaching and relate with the African concept of these issues regarding the prevailing circumstances. Each of the topics has the two dimensions of Africa (both tradition and modern) and the biblical / Christian. The pick on African context has a purpose of looking at the compatibility of Christian understanding and African tradition that has undergone situational changes over time.



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**2011**



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