

## **I. Philosophy of Social Studies**

God has created our world and those who inhabit it. He is sovereign over them. God has ordained specific institutions such as government and family. Social Studies is the study of the history, geography, economics and social structures of this world God has created.

## **II. Instructional Goal and Biblical Truths**

The topics studied in Social Studies help us to better understand God's attributes and His desires for our lives.

### **1. God created each of us with a purpose.**

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11*

*If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. Galatians 3:9*

### **2. God has placed us in relationships with others.**

*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these. Mark 12:30-31*

### **3. God has given us rules to live by.**

*Exodus Chapter 20*

*Follow my decrees and be careful to obey my laws, and you will live safely in the land. Leviticus 25:18*

### **4. God expects us to learn from a knowledge of history.<sup>1</sup>**

*These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come. 1 Corinthians 10:11*

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<sup>1</sup> Haycock, Dr. Ruth C. Encyclopedia of Bible Truths for School Subjects. 1993. Association of Christian Schools International. 12.

**5. God is sovereign: no man or nation can overrule Him.<sup>2</sup>**

*He makes nations great, and destroys them; he enlarges nations, and disperses them.  
Job 12:23*

**6. God controls the rise and fall of rulers.<sup>3</sup>**

*By me kings reign and rulers make laws that are just; by me princes govern,  
and all nobles who rule on earth. Proverbs 8:15,16*

**7. All nations are responsible to God.<sup>4</sup>**

*I will deal with them according to their conduct, and by their own standards I will judge  
them. Then they will know that I am the LORD." Ezekiel 7:27*

**8. The history of nations is dependent on their responses to God and to His people.<sup>5</sup>**

*The day of the LORD is near for all nations. As you have done, it will be done to you;  
your deeds will return upon your own head. Obadiah 1:15*

*Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people. Proverbs 14:34*

**9. All nations will ultimately worship God.<sup>6</sup>**

*That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the  
earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.  
Philippians 2:10-11*

*For dominion belongs to the LORD and he rules over the nations. Psalm 22:28*

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<sup>2</sup> Haycock, Dr. Ruth C. Encyclopedia of Bible Truths for School Subjects. 1993. Association of Christian Schools International. 14.

<sup>3</sup> Haycock, Dr. Ruth C. Encyclopedia of Bible Truths for School Subjects. 1993. Association of Christian Schools International. 15.

<sup>4</sup> Haycock, Dr. Ruth C. Encyclopedia of Bible Truths for School Subjects. 1993. Association of Christian Schools International. 19.

<sup>5</sup> Haycock, Dr. Ruth C. Encyclopedia of Bible Truths for School Subjects. 1993. Association of Christian Schools International. 10.

<sup>6</sup> Haycock, Dr. Ruth C. Encyclopedia of Bible Truths for School Subjects. 1993. Association of Christian Schools International. 10.

**10. God shaped and controls His creation and it all belongs to Him.<sup>7</sup>**

*You alone are the LORD. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you. Nehemiah 9:6*

**11. God is concerned about all kinds of people, wherever they live and whatever their status.<sup>8</sup>**

*I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right. Acts 10:34-35.*

**12. The powers that be are ordained of God, the Supreme Ruler who established human government.<sup>9</sup>**

*There is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Romans 13:1*

**13. Government and government officials are to be respected for their position and obeyed, but obedience to God comes before obedience to men when the two conflict.<sup>10</sup>**

*<sup>18</sup>Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. <sup>19</sup>But Peter and John replied, "Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God's sight to obey you rather than God. <sup>20</sup>For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard." Acts 4:18-20.*

**14. God expects us to be good stewards of the material things we are blessed with.**

*Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. James 1:17*

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. Philippians 4:6*

*The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. Genesis 2:15*

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<sup>7</sup> Haycock, Dr. Ruth C. Encyclopedia of Bible Truths for School Subjects. 1993. Association of Christian Schools International. 26.

<sup>8</sup> Haycock, Dr. Ruth C. Encyclopedia of Bible Truths for School Subjects. 1993. Association of Christian Schools International. 26.

<sup>9</sup> Haycock, Dr. Ruth C. Encyclopedia of Bible Truths for School Subjects. 1993. Association of Christian Schools International. 52.

<sup>10</sup> Haycock, Dr. Ruth C. Encyclopedia of Bible Truths for School Subjects. 1993. Association of Christian Schools International. 52.

**15. Those who worship God remember Him through special days and celebrations.**

*This is the day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord – a lasting ordinance. Exodus 12:14*