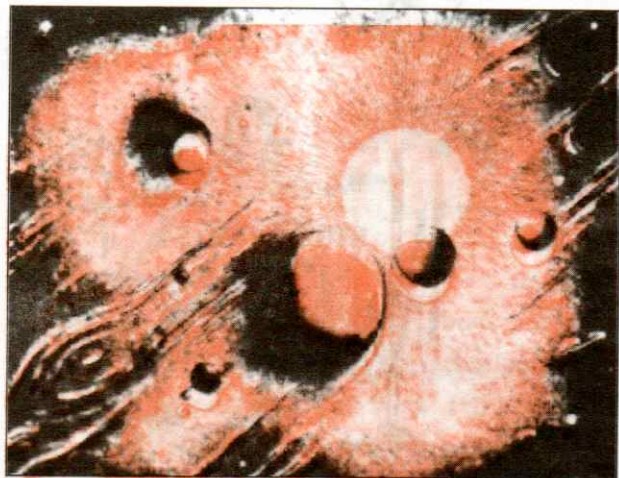


- * God had set up some norms already in the creation. This we call the Natural Law.
- * God has inscribed them in the hearts of the human beings. This we call the Conscience.
- * He gave them in writing on Mount Sinai. These we call the Ten Commandments.
- * He perfected them through Jesus Christ. This we call the Christ-event.

Therefore, the Natural Law, the Conscience, the Ten Commandments and the Christ-event are the ways for us to grow in human dignity.



2. THE CONSCIENCE

God gives each human being an inner power to find out what is good or bad and what is right or wrong. He talks to us every minute from within our hearts and guides us. God's voice in our hearts is known as the conscience.

The one who speaks to us through the natural law and conscience is God himself. The response that we can give to him is to live according to the natural law and our conscience. When we live in this way, our human dignity grows.



1. THE NATURAL LAW

When God created the heaven and the earth, he put perfect order in them. Therefore, each of the creations functions according to its own order. For example, the sun, the moon and the other planets move in their own orbits; each of them does its functions properly. We have different seasons according to the natural law. Lives appear, grow, give fruits and die out. We experience them in our life. We say that all these happen according to the natural law.

Their (Gentiles) conduct shows that what the Law commands is written in their hearts. Their consciences also show that this is true, since their thoughts sometimes accuse them and sometimes defend them. (Rom 2:15)