

and moulded by Christian influences than by pagan or Mohammedan.

I believe this is true of all nominally Christian lands, although we must confess that, in many of them, the gospel has been well nigh deprived of its vitality, and little more than its external covering remains. But even there Christianity exerts a decidedly better influence than the most refined system of human invention. Moreover, we may impute whatever of good moral influence is exerted by Mohammedanism to the principles — and these are not few and unimportant — which it has purloined from the Bible.

Again, you will find that just in proportion as Christianity has been corrupted, and the Bible is withheld from circulation among the people, will the literary, civil, social, and moral condition of a nation be degraded. Suppose you had the power to pass suddenly from such a country as New England, or Old England, or Scotland, into Austria, Russia, Spain, or France. Would you need a geographer to tell you that you were in a land where a withering blight had come over the pure gospel? While you would meet crucifixes, oratories, cathedrals, chapels, and confessionals every where, you would find the Bible nowhere. And while you would hear *Te Deums*, and chanted prayers, and the praises of the virgin and the saints in all places of worship, and on all days and hours, you would listen in vain for unadulterated gospel truth at any time. And while the antiquated walls of monasteries and convents would meet you in every place, the academy and the school house would be wanting in all places. And when you became acquainted with the character of the great body of the population in those lands, you could not doubt that the gospel, which you had seen doing so much in the country from which you came to elevate, enlighten, and bless,