

The Puritan Values & Beliefs

Read the list of Puritan values and beliefs. Identify those that still apply to mainstream American society with a + and those that no longer apply or have degenerated in today's society with a -. If you are not sure what something means, google it!

1. God is the supreme ruler of man.
2. Man should love God more than himself.
3. Man should live according to the Ten Commandments.
4. God is an angry God who is vengeful and punishes transgressors.
5. Heaven and hell are locations; God is male; the Devil is male.
6. Vanity is sinful.
7. Pleasure is sinful.
8. Purity must be in all things.
9. White symbolizes purity; black symbolizes sobriety; red symbolizes passion, uncontrolled emotions and the Devil.
10. Never waste time.
11. Work hard at whatever you do.
12. Be conscious in all things.
13. Save for a rainy day.
14. Men are superior to women physically, emotionally, and mentally.
15. Women should be under the domination of men.
16. It is a disgrace for all women not to marry.
17. A woman's place is at home.
18. "Spare the rod and spoil the child." Children are to be seen, not heard.
19. Sobriety is swell (temperance in use of strong drink).
20. Other religious views aren't to be tolerated.
21. Tithe—give freely to the church.
22. "Cleanliness is next to Godliness."
23. The theories of pre-destination and election (God chooses certain individuals to be saved) are valid.
24. Work together for the common good.
25. One should always be gainfully employed.
26. Stress plain living and high thinking.

