

important stages in its onward progress had been passed. The first, and in some respects the most important of these, was the awakening of conscience to a recognition of the difference between right and wrong, which was one of the very earliest experiences of the race whereby man was sharply differentiated from the lower animals. This sense once awakened was never afterwards wholly lost by any nation among men. It was no doubt often mistaken in its judgment as to what was right and what was wrong, and sometimes went woefully astray, but has never entirely vanished even with the most degraded tribe, and could always be appealed to with more or less effect when fit occasion arose.

Then, too, the very necessities of human existence had enforced the recognition of various duties as binding up to certain limits. The almost constant need for food and clothing of some sort imposed on man the duty of working for the supply of himself and family. The helplessness of the young appealing to parental affection had led to a recognition of the mutual obligations of parents and children. The prolonged dependence of the young upon the support and protection of their parents had also shaped in some form everywhere the institution of marriage as a permanent relationship, not to be lightly broken by either party to the injury of the other, nor even by the consent of both parties to the injury of the children. The natural desire of every man to enjoy the fruits of his own labor or skill had compelled the acknowledgement of some rights of property and to the establishment of some method for securing them from infringement. The danger of invasion from plundering strangers had created a certain solidarity of tribe or nation for mutual protection. Mutual loyalty, patriotism and courage were such manifestly important virtues for the common good that they found recognition on all hands and abundant encouragement. Truthfulness in testimony was so clearly necessary in the administration of justice that, as far back as we can trace any clear history, the oath to enforce it was a familiar part of all judicial procedure. The religious sentiment which seems native in the human heart early devised various institutions and forms to give it