rejection of popular Christian values had a profound influence on political leaders who have followed.

- **Renaissance Society:** changes in the social classes occurred during the Renaissance. Despite being the minority nobles dominated in 16th century in Europe during the Renaissance. Nobles were expected to live up to certain ideals of European aristocracy. These ideals were expressed in Baldasarrre Catiglione’s The Book of the Courtier.

- **Italian Renaissance Humanism:** Humanism, based on study of the classics, revived an interest in ancient Latin; but many authors wrote great works in the vernacular.

- **A key intellectual movement in the Renaissance was humanism.** Humanists studied grammar, rhetoric, poetry, moral philosophy, and history.

- **Petrarch:** believed that intellectuals had a duty to live an active civic life and put their study of the humanities to the state’s service.

- **Vernacular Literature:** The Italian author Dante and the English author Geoffrey Chaucer made vernacular literature very popular. Dante’s masterpiece was a story of the soul’s journey to salvation (Divine Comedy). Christine de Pizan wrote in French dialect defended women and their ability to learn if given the same educational opportunities as men.

- **Renaissance Education:** it was focused on the liberal studies. The Humanism movement led to changes in education. Humanists believed that individuals could attain wisdom and succeed by studying liberal studies. Physical education was also emphasized.
  - Liberal studies: history, moral philosophy, eloquence, letters, poetry, mathematics, astronomy, and music.
  - Physical education: javelin throwing, archery, dancing, wrestling, hunting, and swimming.

The goal of humanist educators was to create complete citizens, not great scholars. Humanists schools were the model for European education until 20th century.

- **Italian Renaissance Art:** The Renaissance that produced great artists and sculptors such as Michelangelo, Raphael, and Leonardo Da Vinci. Renaissance artists imitated nature through a human focused world view.
  - Frescos: created the illusion of 3 dimensions leading to a new realistic style of painting. The final era of Italian Renaissance painting form 1490-1520 is known as the High Renaissance.
  - Leonardo Da Vinci: mastered the art of realistic painting.
  - Raphael: reveal a world of balance, harmony and order.
  - Michelangelo: painter, sculptor and architect

**Prelude to Reformation**

- Christian humanism and Desiderius Erasmus paved the way for the Protestant Reformation.
- Christian Humanism reformed the Catholic Church. Christian Humanists believed that humans could improve themselves and thus society.