

The Basis of Morality & Ethics

- Gen 2:16-18
- Gen 4:7
- Gen 6:5; I Pet 3:20; Gen 8:21
- Ex 19-20; Deut 5

The Basis of Morality & Ethics

- Moral = of or relating to principles of right and wrong in behavior
- Morality = a doctrine or system of moral conduct
- Ethics = the discipline dealing with what is good and bad and with moral duty and obligation

The Basis of Morality & Ethics

- In the new covenant, God again did not hesitate to tell us through the Scriptures what is right and what is wrong for our behavior
- Mt 5-7
- Gal 5
- Col 3
- I Pet 1:15
- I Jn 2:6

Nature Not the Basis for Right & Wrong

- Animals don't have ethics
- What does the Bible say?
 - 2 Pet 2:12
 - Man is different!
 - Gen 1:27; 2:20
 - Mt 22:35

Pleasure Not the Basis for Right & Wrong

- Hedonism
- What does the Bible say?
 - 2 Tim 3:4
 - Tit 3:3
 - Heb 11:25
 - Mt 10:38-39
 - Lk 12:15
- Jesus practiced:
 - Mt 26:42 – “not My will....”
 - I Pet 2:20-23 – “...who committed no sin...”

Community Standards Not the Basis for Right & Wrong

- Majority
- What does the Bible say?
 - Hos 4:1ff
 - Ex 23:2
 - Mt 7:13-14

Rationalization Not the Basis for Right & Wrong

- Rationalization = the action of attempting to explain or justify behavior or an attitude with logical reasons, even if these are not appropriate.
- “I’ve got my reasons”
- What does the Bible say?
 - I Sam 13:8

Situation Ethics Is Not the Basis for Right & Wrong

- In Humanist Manifesto II, published in 1973, under the heading of “Ethics,” the following is stated:
 - “Ethics is autonomous and situational, needing no theological or ideological sanction. Ethics stems from human need and interest.”
- What does the Bible say?
 - Rev 21:8
 - Rom 3:8

Human Experience Not the Basis for Right & Wrong

- In Humanist Manifesto II, published in 1973, under the heading of “Ethics,” the following is stated:
 - “We affirm that moral values derive their source from human experience.”
- What does the Bible say?
 - Prov 1:7
 - Eccl 2
 - Judges 21:25
- Examples
 - Prov 13:24
 - 2 Thess 3:6

Man Needs & Should Accept One, Absolute Standard

- Because of the limitation & ignorance of man
- What does the Bible say?
 - Jer 10:23
 - Prov 12:15
 - Prov 21:2
 - Isa 53:6

Man Needs & Should Accept One, Absolute Standard

- God's inherent right & authority
- What does the Bible say?
 - Rom 9:20-21
 - Prov 14:1
 - Prov 1:7
 - Ps 19:1-4
 - Hos 14:9

The Only, Absolute, Authoritative Standard for Determining Right & Wrong

- The Word of God!
- Ps 119:89
- 2 Tim 3:16-17
- 2 Pet 1:3-4
- Jn 12:48
- Rom 2:16
- Eph 5:7; 8-11
- Rom 12:2
- Rom 2:2
- Ax 5:29

The Only, Absolute, Authoritative Standard for Determining Right & Wrong: The Bible

- Phil 1:9-11– God’s law is suited, designed, for both then and now, to distinguish between the things that differ so that we can approve what is excellent
- Our Lord and Savior, our example, what did He do over and over, whether in the face of temptation or in conflict with the doctrines of men, what did He do? He said, “it is written.” Why? Because the Scriptures are THE authoritative standard in all things, not just morality and ethics.
- The rallying cry of every Christian ought to be as in Isaiah 8:19-20:
 - “To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.”
 - And hear what the Scriptures say in Ezek 44:23 regarding the priests of God: “And they shall teach My people the difference between the holy and the unholy, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.” Ought the children of God, saints, who are priests in the house of God today, do nothing less?

