

Salt and Light for the King

3: Source of Ethics

Jan 23, 2022

Psalm 119:105 “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”

Review

- What is Christian ethics?

- Christian ethics = “any study that answers the question, “What does the whole Bible teach us about which acts, attitudes, and personal character traits receive God’s approval, and which do not? [Grudem, *Christian Ethics*, 37...from John Frame]”

- What is the basis for ethical standards? God’s moral character.

Source of Christian Ethics

- Where do Christian ethical standards come from?

- _____ (Ps 1:1-2; Ps 119:1-6, 9, 105; 2 Tim 3:16-17)

What are some objections to using the Bible to learn how to live ethically?

- What truths about Scripture impact Christian ethics?

1. _____

- The words of God himself (2 Tim 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:16-21)

Are you persuaded of this claim?

- The _____ must _____ the mind (1 Cor 2:14; Jn 10:27)

What are some other proposed authorities for ethics?

- Therefore...if God speaks in the Word, we believe, submit to and obey the Word (Isaiah 66:2)

2. _____

- God gave us a Bible we can _____ (Deut 6:6-7; Ps 19:7; 2 Tim 3:14-17)
- And yet...
 - We are dependent upon the _____ (1 Cor 2:12, 14; 2 Cor 3:14-18)
 - We must _____ on God's Word (Ps 1:2; Ps 119:15, 23, 48, 78)
 - We exert _____ in our study of the Bible (Ezra 7:10)
- Therefore...if we can understand the Word, we should live it (James 1:22)

How does the clarity of Scripture encourage a study of ethics?

3. _____

- We need the Bible to know the _____ (Rom 10:13-17; Jn 3:18; 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Tim 2:5-6) and God's _____ for how we live (Deut 29:29)

*What about **natural law**?*

- God has _____ his will, knowledge of moral right/wrong (Deut 29:29; Ps 1:1-2)

What is the outcome of ethical thinking that doesn't realize the necessity of Scripture?

- Therefore...realize your dependence upon the Word

4. _____

- Scripture contains _____ the words needed for salvation and life (2 Tim 3:16-17; Ps 119:1-8)
- Don't _____ or _____ from the *sufficient* Word

Name examples of ways that Christians go beyond the Word

- Therefore...keep reading and meditating on the Bible

When we search the Bible to understand it rightly, we can be confident ethical decision-makers