

Morals Vs Ethics

(Compiled by Paul R. Blake from multiple sources)

Introduction:

- A. There is a difference between what is moral and what is ethical.
 - 1. It is the difference between what is absolutely right and what is generally acceptable.
- B. Ethics - a system of moral principles specific to a culture; the rules of conduct recognized in respect to a particular group, culture, individual (subjective).
 - 1. Ethics claims to be beyond the scope of human understanding and is more concerned with actions and consequences rather than knowing absolutes of what is right or wrong.
- C. Morals - the rules of right conduct or the distinction between right and wrong; founded on the fundamental principles of right conduct rather than on legalities or custom (objective).
 - 1. Morality refers directly to what is right and wrong, regardless of what people think.
 - 2. This term is characterized by definitive statements such as "That act is immoral" rather than descriptive ones such as "Many believe that act may be immoral under certain circumstances." It is often challenged by a moral skepticism, in which the unchanging existence of a rigid, universal, objective moral truth is rejected, and supported by moral realism, in which the existence of this truth is accepted.
- D. It is the difference between what a man believes is right or wrong and what God says is right and wrong.
 - 1. Prov. 16:1, 9, 20:24; Jer. 10:23; Psalm 37:23

I. WHAT IS MORALLY RIGHT OR WRONG IN EVERY CASE AND EVERY TIME?

- A. The Bottom Line Rule: God is first in every case and every time.
 - 1. Matt. 6:33, 22:37-38
- B. The Golden Rule: Every human being merits the same treatment from you that you want for yourself from them in every case and every time.
 - 1. Matt. 7:12; Gal. 5:14
- C. The Honesty Rule: Tell the truth in every case and every time.
 - 1. Matt. 5:37; Rom. 12:17; Eph. 4:25
- D. The Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Rule: Do your best in every case and every time.
 - 1. Matt. 5:41; Col. 3:23-24
- E. The Time Stewardship Rule: Be a good steward of your time in every case and every time.
 - 1. Eph. 5:15-16; Ecc. 9:12
- F. The Consistency Rule: Do the right thing in every case and every time whether in the presence of others or not.
 - 1. 1Peter 2:12; Matt. 5:16

Conclusion:

- A. Phil. 4:8