

Christian Ethics Session 1 What Is Christian Ethics

This recent edition of Christian Ethics Volume I is a thoroughly revised and updated version of fundamental moral theology. As in the previous editions, the author makes himself an interpreter of the demands of Vatican Council II and its request that moral theology be rooted more fully in Holy Scripture. At the same time account is taken of the new developments in the field of ethics. New issues of actual concern are taken up, such as the deontological and teleological conditions of moral norms, the confrontation between conscience and civil or ecclesiastical law, the communal roots of Christian identity, the requirement of liberty and the ethical compromise. The book addresses itself to all who are interested in the moral teaching of the Christian faith and endeavors to be a helpful instrument to this end.

The older teens in your parish want a youth ministry program that exposes them to relevant, real-world topics in an active, engaging way. Horizons is an innovative, comprehensive approach to religious education. Its foundation is teacher-led, creative learning strategies that give students ample opportunities for discussion, reflection--and fun! Designed for grades 9-12, Horizons utilizes a

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module system so that you can combine courses and topics to meet the specific needs of your parish. Seven core courses set the stage for discussing central and foundational themes. Then choose from a wide selection of age-appropriate minicourses to round out your curriculum and craft summer courses, retreats, and youth-group activities. The Youth Ministry Strategies component features more than 65 creative youth activities to complement the Horizons curriculum. And on top of all that, Horizons includes outstanding training resources. You'll be able to create the most engaging and relevant youth ministry program for senior high that is available anywhere.

Rev. Vigo Auguste Demant (1893–1983) was a significant theologian and social commentator of the first half of the twentieth century. This book contains his up-until-now unpublished Gifford Lectures, in which Demant provides cultural analysis as he attempts to address why humanity struggles so much with modernity and living in the contemporary world. The lectures have additional notes and commentary to make them comprehensible, since not all of them are complete. The first chapters set Demant in his context and the final section provides assessment of both his ideas and his impact.

Although Demant died in 1983, his ideas continue to prove influential to thinkers and theologians today. Contains 70 readings from the Fathers to Bernard

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Haring from Catholic and Protestant traditions.

This is an introduction to African Christian Ethics for Christian colleges and Bible schools. The book is divided into two parts. The first part deals with the theory of ethics, while the second discusses practical issues. The issues are grouped into the following six sections: Socio-Political Issues, Financial Issues, Marriage Issues, Sexual Issues, Medical Issues, and Religious Issues. Each section begins with a brief general introduction, followed by the chapters dealing with specific issues in that area. Each chapter begins with an introduction, discusses traditional African thinking on the issue, presents an analysis of relevant biblical material, and concludes with some recommendations. There are questions at the end of each chapter for discussion or personal reflection, often asking students to reflect on how the discussion in the chapter applies to their ministry situation.

This update of a classic text evaluates contemporary ethical options and pressing issues of the day from a biblical perspective.

Essays by leading ethicists provide students with a comprehensive introduction to ethical thinking.

“When Character and the Christian Life first appeared in 1975, it was the most important theological contribution to moral debate to appear for many years. Hauerwas followed Catholic moral theology in making the theory of the virtues a topic

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for argument between secular and Christian moralities; but he linked that theory to a distinctively Protestant view of God's relationship to human beings. And he did this in a way that might have been thought to challenge equally Catholic and Calvinist views of morality, let alone the impoverished and narcissistic perspectives of theological liberalism." —Alasdair MacIntyre, author of *Whose Justice? Which Rationality?*

First published in 1985 as *Les sources de la morale chrétienne* by University Press Fribourg, this work has been recognized by scholars worldwide as one of the most important books in the field of moral theology

Christians must reclaim the true definition and thoughtful explanation of biblical happiness in order to live abundant lives. Biblical Ethics restores to the church the way she should live: as morally happy beings created in the image of God to enjoy glorifying him. The modern church has forgotten the biblical role of happiness according to a Christian worldview. The bride of Christ today faintly reflects the beauty of her Hebraic genesis. She has fallen fast asleep under the spell of deontological (duty-based) ethics that fails to take into account God-given aspects to her humanity, such as personal desires. Three key Hebraic words have the hermeneutical power to transform the church back to her radiant self: *esher* (i.e., happy, happiness), *barak*

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(i.e., bless, blessed), and shalom (i.e., peace, prosperity, health, well-being, favor, friendship, security, and salvation). These terms collectively prescribe a proper morality of happiness to be lived in Christian community. This book is meant to be used as an academic text and/or supplementary study guide evidenced by end-of-chapter review questions, as well as questions for personal reflection and spiritual growth.

Through the study of Scripture and by rational analysis, this book will help readers think through and articulate their Christian ethical position on difficult issues including abortion, euthanasia, environmental concerns, sexual expression, medical technologies, war, politics, work and Christian leadership.

Introducing Christian Ethics helps Christians form a sound basis for making ethical decisions in today's complex postmodern world. Raising 14 key ethical questions on today's most pressing issues including abortion, war, sexual ethics, capital punishment, and more, Scott Rae guides his readers in making moral choices wisely. Based on the best-selling college and seminary ethics textbook *Moral Choices*, this book distills nearly two decades of teaching and study into a succinct and user-friendly volume. It is an ideal primer for pastors, students, and everyday Christians who desire engagement with the world around them in an intelligent and informed manner.

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Teaching and study resources for the book, including additional video clips based on the questions corresponding to each chapter, make it ideal for use in the classroom as well as for pastors and for teaching settings within the church. Resources are available through www.ZondervanAcademic.com.

Too often, says Nigel Biggar, contemporary Christian ethics poses a false choice either conservative theological integrity or liberal secular consensus. *Behaving in Public* explains both why and how Christians should resist these polar options.

Informed by a frankly Christian theological vision of moral life and so turning toward the world with openness and curiosity, Biggar's succinct argument charts a third way forward.

Common sense is usually bland and boring. Nigel Biggar's book *Behaving in Public*, however, is full of common sense that is anything but bland and boring. That's because Biggar employs his common sense polemically to show what's deficient in one and another position on speaking as a Christian in public, and to point to alternatives. Over and over I found myself saying, Yes, of course; he's right. This is a wonderfully fresh, perceptive, and sensible discussion.

Nicholas Wolterstorff Yale University How can the church witness effectively in public debates in modern, mostly secular societies, without either losing its integrity or imposing its perspectives on others? In this important new book Nigel Biggar maintains that the integrity of the Christian message should not be confused with distinctiveness. . . . Offers a nuanced yet demanding position on the public role of the church, cutting through unhelpful dichotomies and reminding us that theological seriousness need not be sectarian or intolerant. Jean Porter University of Notre Dame Clear in thought, elegant in expression, and generous in dialogue, this book offers a new and convincing approach to Christian

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ethics. . . . Biggar argues for the integrity of a mature, discriminating, nonmoralizing Christian ethics which is inspired and equipped for critical engagement with the church and the wider public and which cares about the flourishing of both. Werner G. Jeanrond University of Glasgow *Behaving in Public* shows people who care about public life how to combine theological integrity and political effectiveness. . . . This is a theology that offers an alternative to today's polarized politics. Robin W. Lovin Southern Methodist University

A few years ago, the first distinction that ethicists drew was the line between Christian ethics and philosophical ethics. However, in our global context, Christian ethicists must now, in addition, compare and contrast various ethics. Christian ethics has become increasingly multivocal not only because of a plurality of faiths but also because of a plurality of Christianities. In light of these new realities, this book will introduce Christian ethics. It will lay out history, methods, and basic principles every student must know. The author also will include case studies for further explanation and application. This updated survey of Christian ethics addresses major thinkers, movements, and issues from the early church to the present. A broad range of topics is discussed, including the biblical and philosophical legacies of Christian ethics and ethics through the early, medieval, Reformation, Enlightenment, and modern eras. This new edition contains more extensive discussions of ethics in the twentieth century, including Vatican II, ecumenical social ethics, and Orthodox Christian ethics. A new section, "Toward the Third Millennium," looks at the issues we will face in the coming decades, including medical, scientific, and political dilemmas, and issues of terrorism, war, and peace. An introductory text explaining the nature, relevancy, coherency, and structure of the moral law as revealed

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throughout the Bible, with discussion of the Ten Commandments as a moral rubric and a subsequent application of each commandment to Christian living. Written by experienced teachers and A-level examiners, this textbook covers the key modules of the OCR Religious Studies syllabus.

An Introduction to Biblical Ethics B&H Publishing Group
An intelligent discussion of the foundations and methods in ethics and ways to apply a Christian worldview to our secular culture.

Christian Ethics and Nursing Practice shows how the religious and moral teachings of the Christian Bible compare, contrast, and correlate with the ethical standards of modern nursing, as stated in the Code of Ethics for Nurses. It describes four main strands of moral discourse in the Bible--law, holiness, wisdom, and prophecy--and shows the relevance of those strands for contemporary bedside and advanced practice nursing. The work could serve as a textbook for courses in nursing ethics at Christian colleges and universities or as a guidebook for practicing nurses, who have devoted their lives to caring for the sick, the injured, the elderly, the disabled, and the dying as a way of living out their commitment to Jesus Christ.

In Love and Christian Ethics, nearly two dozen leading scholars analyze and assess the meaning of love from a wide range of perspectives. Chapters are organized into three areas: influential sources and exponents of Western Christian thought about the ethical significance of love, perennial theoretical questions attending that consideration, and the implications of Christian love for

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important social realities. These major experts in the field bring a richness of thought and experience to deliver unprecedentedly broad yet rigorous analysis of this central tenet of Christian ethics and faith. Love and Christian Ethics is sure to become a benchmark resource in the field.

In metaethics, there is a divide between those who believe that there exist moral facts independently of human interests and attitudes (i.e., moral realists) and those who don't (i.e., antirealists). In the last half century, the field of religious ethics has been inundated with various antirealist schools of moral thought. Though there is a wide spectrum of different positions within antirealism, a majority of antirealist religious ethicists tend to see moral belief as an historically dependent social construction. This has created an environment where doing religious ethics in any metaphysically substantial sense is often seen not only as out of fashion but also as philosophically implausible. However, there is a lack of clarity as to what antirealists exactly mean by "construction" and what arguments they would use to support their views. *Religious Ethics and Constructivism* brings together a diverse group of scholars who represent different philosophical and theological outlooks to discuss the merits of constructivism vis-à-vis religious ethics. The essays explore four different kinds of constructivism in metaethics: social (or Hegelian) constructivism, Kantian constructivism, Humean constructivism, and theological constructivism. The overall aim of these essays is to foster dialogue between religious ethicists and moral philosophers, and to open

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the field religious ethics to the insights that can be provided by contemporary metaethics.

In this excellent outline of Christian ethics, Robin W. Lovin achieves a balance between the questions and issues which form the core of the study of ethics and the life situations from which those questions arise.

Eschewing a sectarian approach which dismisses other understandings of the moral life, Lovin nonetheless lays claim to a specifically Christian understanding of ethics. He begins with basic Christian convictions about the reality of God and human redemption and weaves these convictions into the fabric of moral concerns that are widely shared in contemporary society. He takes note of the problems that arise when Christians try to act on or enforce their convictions in a pluralistic society and recognizes the variety of theological and moral beliefs that are held within the Christian community, as well as in the wider society.

Christian ethics is a most perplexing subject. This Guide takes the reader through the most fundamental issues surrounding the question of Ethics from a Christian perspective: Is ethics a meaningful topic of discourse and can there be such a thing as an ethical argument or ethical persuasion? What is the meaning of the adjective in "Christian Ethics"? Could right behavior be different for Christians than it is for others? Can we turn to the Bible for help? Does the Bible tell us what to do, or give us insight into the good we should aim to achieve, or give us a narrative by which to live? Is it best to think of ethics as a matter of duty, or good, or excellence? If we take the virtue line and say that ethics is about human

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excellence, doing well as a human being or succeeding at being a good human being then what will we say about humans who cannot achieve excellence? The virtue approach leads us to place friendship as the goal of ethics.

In African American Christian Ethics, Samuel K. Roberts builds an ethic upon a Trinitarian foundation and explores scripture, tradition, human experience, and reason as sources for such an ethic. Using this framework he examines critical issues, including human sexuality and family life, medicine and bio-ethics, and the pursuit of justice.

"An ethical man is a Christian holding four aces." So said Mark Twain. But practicing Christians, at least, want to be ethical in all areas of life and work--not just when they are holding four aces. To those faced with the many questions and quandaries of doing business with integrity, Alexander Hill offers a place to begin. Alexander Hill carefully explores the foundational Christian concepts of holiness, justice and love. These keys to God's character, he argues, are also the keys to Christian business ethics. Hill then shows how some common responses to business ethics fall short of a fully Christian response. Finally, he turns to penetrating case studies on such pressing topics as employer-employee relations, discrimination and affirmative action, and environmental damage. This is an excellent introduction to business ethics for students

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and a bracing refresher for men and women already in the marketplace.

Haddon Robinson's widely used and influential text, *Biblical Preaching*, has influenced generations of students and preachers. In *The Big Idea Companion for Preaching and Teaching*, trusted leading evangelical homiletics, teachers of preaching, and experienced pastors demonstrate that Robinson's "big idea" approach to expository preaching still works in today's diverse cultures and fast-paced world. This accessible resource offers an insider's view on figuring out the big idea of each book of the Bible, helping preachers and teachers check their interpretation of particular biblical books and passages. The contributors offer tips on how to divide each book of the Bible into preaching and teaching passages, guidance on difficult passages and verses, cultural perspectives for faithful application, and suggested resources for interpreting, preaching, and teaching. Pastors, teachers, Bible study leaders, small groups, and college and seminary students and professors will find a wealth of valuable information in this resource. Recent decades have seen a steady trend in Roman Catholic teaching toward a commitment to active nonviolence that could qualify the church as a "peace church." As a moral theologian specializing in social ethics, Schlabach explores how this trend in Catholic social teaching will need to take shape if

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Catholics are to follow through. Globalization, he argues, is an invitation to recognize what was always supposed to be true in Catholic ecclesiology: Christ gives Christians an identity that crosses borders. To become a truly catholic global peace church in which peacemaking is church-wide and parish-deep, Catholics should recognize that they have always properly been a diaspora people with an identity that transcends tribe and nation-state.

After examining what Scripture teaches about the goal and motive of the Christian life, the author addresses moral dilemmas, human-life issues, sexuality, economic justice, and truthfulness.

We are pleased to announce that God's Companions by Samuel Wells has been shortlisted for the 2007 Michael Ramsey Prize for theological writing.

www.michaelramseyprize.org.uk Grounded in Samuel Wells' experience of ordinary lives in poorer neighborhoods, this book presents a striking and imaginative approach to Christian ethics. It argues that Christian ethics is founded on God, on the practices of human community, and on worship, and that ethics is fundamentally a reflection of God's abundance. Wells synthesizes dogmatic, liturgical, ethical, scriptural, and pastoral approaches to theology in order to make a bold claim for the centrality of the local church in theological reflection. He considers the abundance of gifts God gives through the practices of the Church, particularly the

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Eucharist. His central thesis, which governs his argument throughout, is that God gives his people everything they need to worship him, be his friends, and eat with him. Wells engages with serious scholarly material, yet sets out the issues lucidly for a student audience.

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