

Christian Ethics or Christ Ethics, Part 1

Primary Text: Luke 9:5, Matthew 5:48, John 15:5, Philippians 4:13

~We need to be careful not to be a church or disciples that are “penny wise but pound poor”

- I. Ethics—the philosophical study of proper conduct and good living
 - a. Ethics encompasses the concept and analogies of right and wrong

- II. Ethics raises these three questions
 - a. What is the good life?
 - b. What is the life worth living?
 - c. What is a moral code?

Notes:

- III. Our presuppositions:
 - a. The Bible is inerrant
 - b. We do not have the original text to work off of
 - c. No translations in the modern age can convey all of the nuances that are particular to the original language
 - d. Believers (disciples) only have the promise of the Holy Spirit that He will guide you in truth
 - e. Only believers (disciples) can interpret the Bible correctly with the aid of the Holy Spirit
 - f. Unbelievers, no matter how qualified, cannot properly interpret the Bible
 - g. The principle of correct interpretation of the Bible accepted by all means that the Bible is the best way to interpret itself verse by verse

~If you believe all of these things, you are categorized as a fundamentalist

Notes:

- IV. Ecumenism—initiative focused on unity, cooperation, and shared spirituality
 - a. Started with these denominations: Roman Catholicism, Eastern Orthodoxy, Anglicanism, and Protestantism
 - b. This movement has led to interfaith pluralism—that one religious worldview is not the sole sacred truth, and there are truths in other faiths. This view advocates religious tolerance
 - c. Legalist—one who declares without any fear that we must believe in the Word of God and, as disciples, do what it says

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Notes:

- IV. What is a Christian Ethic?
 - a. Starts first at the Sermon of the Mount, continues to The Great Commission, and then to The Council of Jerusalem
 - b. Acts 15:19
 - c. A Christian Ethic is formed by Augustine and Aquinas, and became the foundation. However, other sources influenced Christian ethics.

Notes:

Question for Thought:

- 1) What is the difference between a Christian ethic and a Christ ethic?