

MORALITY AND THE BELIEVER

Romans 1:15 ... “who show the work of the law written on their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness...”

I do not have every translation of the Bible (there are many), but in the ones I have, the words “moral” and “morality” do not appear. Those words were added to our language after the Bible was written. So, although “moral” doesn’t appear in any of my translations, the words “holy” and “holiness” do, and they represent the opposite of immorality.

The most essential steps that a person must take to become “saved” and guaranteed a home in heaven, are: confession to Christ of their sins, repentance of sin, and adopting a lifestyle of worship and service to Christ. Believers who desire intimate relationships with Christ and enjoy the fringe benefits of salvation, will spend time in prayer, Bible study, church attendance, and evangelism (telling others about him). They will seek forgiveness from God for sins and mistakes made after being born-again, and forgive others of their sins. These are the steps that lead believers toward holiness, which is the state in which Christ can be your best friend.

Many believers make it their ambition to find loop-holes in the Bible so they can continue to practice certain behaviors after they are born again. The word “abortion” does not appear in scripture, but the Bible clearly states it is a mortal sin to kill anyone outside of war or court-ordered executions. The word “buffet” is not in the Bible, but gluttony is identified as a sin. “Shabu,” and “cocaine” are not mentioned, but we are told that our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit and must be kept pure. The phrase “reckless driving” cannot be found in the Bible, but we are commanded to obey authorities.

If you think you can do something that society considers wrong, immoral, unlawful or unkind just because you cannot find that specific word condemned in the Bible, then you are overlooking the fact that God, who is absolute perfection, inspired the Bible. If you think your specific sin was overlooked, then you believe God is inferior; that he makes mistakes, is forgetful, or just not very smart. This simply means you have been convinced by satan that you are smarter than God, and you can best decide what is right and wrong.

Today’s verse tells you that God’s law is written on your heart. Even if you don’t have a Bible or you choose not to read it, the difference between right and wrong was written on your heart and programmed into your conscience when God created you. That is why you struggle to find loop-holes. You know that following your carnal (worldly) desires is wrong, so you try hard to justify them. There is one word that is meant to stop you dead in your tracks when you are about to intentionally sin: Holiness. God demands that you live a holy life, which is impossible if you remain in sin and ignore his law and the conscience he gave you. If you struggle with immorality and constantly find yourself looking for loopholes in God’s Word, ask the Holy Spirit to keep you from temptation and to replace those desires with thoughts and deeds that please God.

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