

Christian Ethics: Where Life and Faith Meet
Chapter One Summary
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A Survey Relating to the Christian Lifestyle

In regards, to the Christian lifestyle there is a call of oneness among the body of Christ. Although, Christians have various gifts that edify each other, they are given by the Holy Spirit to build, strengthen, and encourage the Church for service in His Kingdom. Gifts are manifested when the body of Christ seek Him for guidance, directions, and answers. Nevertheless, from a misaligned worldview of negativism, self-seeking desires draws one into various ungodly lifestyles. This phenomenon results in consequences of faith that shows lack in genuine lifestyles of growth and comfort.

Nevertheless, worldview becomes a challenge that has negative effects on “integrating beliefs and behaviors.” When Christians have thoughts of materialism it leads to self-will and forsake godly wisdom. Furthermore, hedonism comes on the scene with an attitude of seeking the good part of life. It is associated under the category of life’s fruits of satisfaction. Whereas, the worldview of humanism separates individuals from wholehearted service to God.

Additionally, pragmatism and atheism are other negative worldviews. Morris points to “it doesn’t matter if a behavior is wrong or right or whether or not it hurts anyone. Everything in life is determined by its practicality.”¹ Atheism is “a rejection of unbelief of God. He does not exist. and life is an accident of nature.” Atheism is a negative worldview that impacts godly living.

¹ Morris, Russell A. 2015. *Christian Ethics: Where Life and Faith Meet*. Bloomington IN: WestBow Press.

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The Church in a Postmodern World

When postmodernism and modernism meet, it is helpful and practical for the church to reunite that which is broken. It is a time to separate the chaff from the wheat and discard that which is useless. At the same time, be mindful of the need for restoration of ungodly thoughts that separates individuals from His Word. When attempts are made to a connection of that which is ungodly, it defiles the Lord's temple (our bodies).

Additionally, Morris continues in his revelation of identifying "postmodernism as a rejection and reaction to the basic tenets of modernism." Wherein, Christian ethics continue with elaboration on the life and faith that meets together from a biblical perspective. Soon after, Christians are exposed to a new awakening of the church to gain more revelation of a twenty first century church. Next, it is important to take note of all trends that affects religious beliefs and behaviors displayed by Christians.

Consequently, a shifting "occurring toward a religious perspective is oriented to the Spirit." This is a concept that communicates God breathed truth in the holy Scripture. Morris place emphasis on this, "the preaching style tends to be negative rather than explanatory; and, while belief and doctrinal concerns are rooted in Scripture, they may draw from other sources as well."² In closing, Christian behaviors must always exemplify the proclamations of biblical truths and continual on the path of seeking guidance from the Holy Spirit.

² Ibid., 18.

