From Where Do We Get Our Morals?

by Wayne Goff

It is easy for me to see that many of us get our *ideas* about morals from the society in which we live. And that is not surprising because we eat, drink, and sleep surrounded by the influences of America.

However, if you asked any Christian "From where do you get your moral values?", they would quickly respond: "From the Bible, of course!" But do we really? Let's take a quick test to see.

- 1. Do you think dancing is sinful, or a popular, healthy social exercise?
- 2. Do you think drinking alcoholic beverages is sinful and leads to drunkenness, or do you think one or two drinks at the restaurant, or at home is fine because it relaxes you?
- 3. Do you think homosexuality is sinful, or do you believe it is an acceptable alternate lifestyle to which any human being has a right?
- 4. Do you think that abortion is the murder of an unborn child, or do you think that it is a woman's right because it is her own body?
- 5. Do you think that there are moral absolutes, or do you think that most everything is relative and that those who argue for absolutes are unreasonable and mean-spirited?
- 6. Do you think that politics and religion are to be kept out of the public's mind, or do you think that man should live by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God?

Now that you have been given a pretty good sampling of the difference between the mindset of the world and the mindset of a Christian, you can see a drastic difference. Young Christians are tempted every day to "cave in" knowingly, or unknowingly, to the popular views and mores of society today. Wrong views have so inundated our minds that we have a tendency to just (1) give in and give up, or (2) think that this is the way it has always been.

Dear reader, it is important to you to view the world around you with a critical eye. Examine your own life to see if you are in the Faith (2 Cor. 13:5). Ask yourself daily, if necessary, why you believe what you believe. Have you been unduly influenced by the world around you, or are you dutifully maintaining your walk that is worthy of your Divine calling (Eph. 4:1)?

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