

Commitment to Moral Excellence

Posted by Bob Young

Introduction

“Either the Bible is the standard or there is no standard.”

Definition

Moral excellence, is better than just getting by morally

Moral excellence connects with life

Bible examples/Biographies

Jesus Christ—Heb. 4:15-16; 1 Pet 2:20-23; John 8:46, morally pure, holy

Samuel, 1 Sam 12:24

Daniel

Joseph

Paul

History shows the need for moral excellence

Jaworski: #1 problem is inflation, #2 problem is moral scandals and lack of excellence

Influence of religion has continually decreased over last 50 years

Tele-evangelism scandals, false fund-raising, false hopes

Ted Turner dismissed the Ten Commandments as the Ten Suggestions

Consequences of moral decadence

Blasphemes Christ and the church

Discourages the weak, others fall into sin, many fall away from Christ

Destroys respect for the church, impairs the power of evangelism

Souls are lost

How we can work toward moral excellence

Address the problems of hedonism, humanism, individualism, relativism

God must give the definition of moral excellence

True definitions must be absolute

Glorify God, accept his terms and principles

Seven characteristics of moral excellence

Faith

Bible study

Believing prayer

Integrity/honesty

Pure, holy lives

Servant attitude and disposition

Industry and hard work

How to develop leaders with moral excellence

Start in the home—Jochebed, Eunice, Lois; Abraham, Gen. 18:19

Start when the children are young. James A Garfield was asked, “When should I start training my child religiously?” “How old is he?” “Six years old.” “You are 100 years late.”

Maintain morality through Bible Study and faith building efforts, daily Bible reading

Participate in specific leadership training programs for youth

Present leaders must mentor future leaders and leader interns

Take care in appointing leaders, characteristics/qualities, “Lay hands quickly on no one.”

Demand accountability