

SESSION SIX: Moral Goodness and the Degradation of Morality by Desire and Human Supremacy.
What Happened to Moral Theory in the 20th Century.

"Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law."
(Romans 13:8)

"...that the requirements of the law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit." (Romans 8:4)

1. Who the morally good person is: One who is intent upon promoting human goods (including good humans) that are effectively in one's reach, in their relative degrees of importance. A morally evil person is: One intent upon destroying human goods. It's really very simple. Every child knows.
2. Some cases of human goods: physical necessities, health, knowledge, varieties of experience, loving family relationships, social openness and stability, etc. etc.
 - On "leaving the world a better place." "Contributing."
3. The basic moral conflict in human life: Between what we want and what we know we ought to do to further the good.
 - Some historical "solutions":
 1. Aristotle—Good habits
 2. Hobbes—Fear
 3. Butler—Conscience
4. One must know that reality is on the side of the "ought," of the demand to do what we do not want to do. "Ought" is always derived from an "Is." Hume's foolishness.
5. Morality is invariably degraded by human supremacy, which means the supremacy of human desire—the contemporary outlook, but as old as humanity. *"Fleshly lusts which war against the soul."* (I Peter 2:11) The "three things that are in the world": *"the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the pride of life."* (I John 2:16)
6. What it means to say that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. (Prov. 1:7)
You cannot start somewhere else and get to wisdom, to knowledge of how to live.
7. Compared to Luke 14:26: *"If anyone comes to me, and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple."*
(Compare Matt. 6:33)
8. "Ought" can only be derived from an "Is." The "is" of God's kingdom, in which I am perfectly safe and have no reason to do anything other than what is right. Compare "Business is business," etc.
9. What happened to moral theory in the 20th Century.
 - The moral consensus of 1880-1900.
 - The surrender of the spiritual nature of man.
 - Moral theory without a moral subject matter.