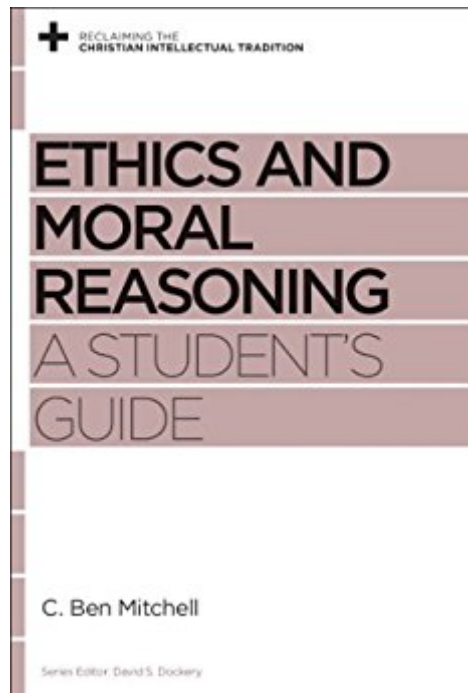


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# Ethics And Moral Reasoning: A Student's Guide (Reclaiming The Christian Intellectual Tradition)



## Synopsis

From drone warfare to gay marriage, the modern world is full of ethical conundrums stemming from a plethora of amazing technological advances and dramatic cultural shifts. Challenging the relativism so rampant in our society today, C. Ben Mitchell helps us thoughtfully engage our morally confused world in this introduction to ethics from a distinctly Christian perspective. Drawing on insights from key historical figures and modern Christian ethicists such as Stanley Hauerwas and N. T. Wright, this book will help you embrace a holistic approach to moral reasoning that is founded on Scripture and informed by history.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This small book is a wonderful tool, it is a part of the Reclaiming the Christian intellectual Tradition series which is designed for Christian students. Small but mighty, it demonstrates why and how every believer is called to Christ-conformed ethical reasoning. C. Ben Mitchell is very gifted in communicating complex issues in easily understood terms. It will help prepare a generation of Christians to think Christianly, to engage the academy and culture and serve the church and

society. This book is a guide to thinking about the good, and how the conduct, attitudes, and character should be oriented toward the triune God. Before reading the book I looked at all the Appendix and definitions, questions for reflection, glossary, resources for further study, general index and scripture index. Another item I was particularly impressed by was the timeline with all of the theologians and issues from Ten Commandments, Buddha, Confucius to our modern theologians like Christian Smith, everything that had to do with our developing an ethical consciousness. I can't say it was an easy book, but what a perfect guide to ethical thinking. Questions like, "Can we be good without God and his revelation?" The chapters are Challenges of a relativist world, history of moral reasoning, enlightenment ethics, Evangelical ethics and using the Bible in Moral decision making. Excellent.

There is no more important subject for Christians than ethics. Although short, this book gives a good overview for both students and lay people interested in the subject. The opening chapter treats moral relativism. For me, this is one of the most important chapters in the book. Although the manifestation of a morality can vary from culture to culture, the underlying premise doesn't. I like the author's example: giving the finger to someone in our culture may not seem the same as showing the bottom of your foot, but in their respective cultures they both indicate a lack of respect for the individual. The book surveys the important cultural sources of ethics, predominantly the old testament and the ten commandments, and Christ's teachings in the new testament, particularly the sermon on the mount. The book also touches on enlightenment ethics, focusing on Kant, and ends with a brief summary of Evangelical ethics, focusing primarily on authors alive today. It ends with a useful chapter on how the Bible can and should be used in moral decision making. I highly recommend this book if you're interested in ethics. It's easy to read and offers much food for thought about ethical and moral issues and the historical background. While billed as a student guide, I think anyone interested in ethics would find the book well worth reading. I reviewed this book for Crossway Publishing.

Is morality discovered or constructed? Is there a set of ethics that transcends every culture's mores and every person's preferences, or is it all based on nature or nurture and one's desire for pleasure and aversion to pain? If you're ready to begin studying ethics, what ethics is, how ethics have been understood/explained/defined through history, and what their basis is, or if you need a refresher course to remind yourself, then this book is a great place to start. This book isn't meant to be exhaustive, and it isn't meant to exhaust the reader either. That's why it is a slender six chapters and

110 pages. It is a starting place to grasp hold of the basic ideas of the study of ethics. This book doesn't overwhelm, rather it gives you an overview of how many different people have tried to pin down that thing we call ethics. I made notes all through this book, and had conversations with myself as I read. I know that the first read only scratches the surface here... and this book is an introduction to the field! Thank you Crossway for my review copy!

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