# **Can I Choose My Own Morals?**

Tough Questions Message Series Week 6 2 Timothy 4:3-4 Pastor Jeff Burkholder July 16, 2023

## A. Can I choose my own morals?

Two options: <u>Live</u> from a secular worldview or a biblical worldview.

"A worldview is a way you look at the world. It's the lens through which you interpret all your experiences and through which you make decisions. It's your colored glasses you wear, even if you don't know you're wearing them."

"What is a Worldview and Why it Matters", Truth Story, January 6, 2018, truthstory.com

#### B. What is the secular worldview?

- God: There may or may not be a God, but if there is one, He's content to leave us to the <u>authority</u> of ourselves.
- 2. Man: Is a living product of <u>evolution</u>, and we answer to no one but ourselves.
- 3. Authority: Right and wrong is determined by <u>individuals</u> and popular consensus.

"The tie that functionally binds the worldviews of millions of people is the authority of the self rather than the authority of any given religion of its god(s)." Natasha Crain, *Faithfully Different*, Harvest House Publishers, Eugene, OR, 2022, p. 41.

#### C. What is the biblical worldview?

- God: God is the living and true God, revealed in <u>scripture</u>; all things were created by Him and for Him. (1 Thessalonians 1:9; Genesis 1 and 2; Colossians 1:15-19)
- Man: Has been created by God, in God's image, for God's purposes and glory, and will give an <u>account</u> to God. (Genesis 1:26-31; Colossians 3:17; 2 Corinthians 5:10)
- Authority: God is a moral lawgiver with His character being the objective standard of <u>goodness</u>. (Exodus 20:1-17; Matthew 22:37-39)

#### D. Morality in a secular worldview:

- 1. <u>Happiness</u> is the ultimate goal.
- 2. <u>Feelings</u> are the ultimate guide.
- 3. <u>Judging</u> is the ultimate sin.

### E. Morality in a biblical worldview:

- 1. Glorifying God is the ultimate goal. (Colossians 3:16-17)
- 2. The <u>Bible</u> is the ultimate guide. (Psalm 119:1-5; 1 John 5:3)
- 3. To reject Jesus is the ultimate sin. (John 3:16-18)

### **Reflection/Response:**

- 1. Am I going to live by a secular worldview or a biblical worldview? Am I going to live for myself or God?
- 2. In what areas of my life have I chosen to live for my happiness rather than God's glory?
- 3. In what areas of my life am I allowing feelings to guide and influence me rather that God's Word?