

3. Return favors (2nd Commandment, **Deuteronomy 15:7-8**, help the poor)
4. Be brave (**Joshua 1:7**, Be strong and courageous)
5. Defer to authority (1st Commandment, **Exodus 19:7-8**, Obey God)
6. Be fair, and (**Exodus 20:16**, Thou shalt not bear false witness)
7. Respect others' property (**Exodus 20:17**, Thou shall not covet/steal)

These are generally consistent worldwide, but not implemented in the same way everywhere. These rules cannot be applied to specific situations as the observed variations preclude arriving at the same “right” and “wrong” assessment across different populations. This viewpoint has been proven to not exist.

Viewpoint #5

Completely Objective Universal Truth

If there is an objective standard for determining that what you do is right or wrong. The objective standard would have to be independent of, and separate from, humanity – otherwise, it would just be Society’s opinion (see Viewpoint #2).

- If there was an objective standard for morality, it would be a law
- It would be something in effect regardless of human opinion - by definition - a law
- Something outside humanity needs to inform humanity about it – a command

Physical laws are self-enforcing – for example, gravity occurs whether you believe it exists or not.

An objective “right” is not self-enforcing, so it must be a “moral law” that prescribes a proper action, but individuals are free to violate the law if they so choose. A moral law describes what “should” be the case – it makes an obligation or command of what “should” be done.

To be objective, it must be independent of humanity and apply equally to previous generations, the current generation, and future generations. Since an objective moral law transcends humanity, the moral obligations would supersede any deviant, human political and societal definitions of “right” and “wrong” – it does not adhere to Viewpoints #1 and #2.

Command (definition): to give an authoritative order.

- The order should be carried out but can be disobeyed, but there are consequences for not doing it.

A command requires that two entities are involved, one giving the command and one receiving it (i.e. humanity).

If an objective moral law has the property of being a command that we receive and the command originates outside of humanity, then there must be an objective entity beyond any individual or collective humanity that gives the command.

- Objectivity requires that the law applies to all generations.
- Objectivity requires consistency – no changes.

If the origin of the moral law is an abstract entity, we would have no reason to feel guilt. For it is personal attachment to a personal entity, not rules or principles, that elicit feelings of guilt and shame in us.

What Viewpoint #5 really defines is ...

Viewpoint #4

Morals come from God

God is independent of Humanity:

- **Isaiah 55:8** For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.
- **Isaiah 55:9** For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

God has communicated to us the complete, simple moral law:

- **Matthew 22:36** Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart
- **Matthew 22:38** Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself

The Simple Answer

The second point of God’s Laws is that “right” is anything which is unselfish (love others as yourself). “Wrong” is anything which is selfish. The selfishness in any situation will be the “wrong.” The unselfishness in a situation is the “right.”

God’s moral law does not change:

- **Malachi 3:6** For I am the Lord, I change not

God’s moral law is for all generations:

- **Psalms 119:160** Thy word is true from the beginning; and every one of thy righteous judgments endures forever.

Test it

- Murder requires a selfish motive.
- Theft requires selfish desire.
- Divorce occurs because one or both spouses do something selfish.
 - Adultery,
 - Lack of commitment (me vs. us),
 - My money vs. our money, etc.
- All of the “wrong” actions listed in Mark 7:21-23 require selfishness.

Mark 7:21-23 For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.

Accept Jesus and pursue a life of choosing “right” actions.

- **Isaiah 33:22** For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver, the Lord is our King; he will save us.

Church of Jesus
Christ
Restoration
Branches

Bonus Info

