

Study QUESTIONS

Ep. 1421: What Does True Christian Moral Excellence Look Like? (Christian Character Series – Part III)

https://christianquestions.com/character/1421_moral_excellence

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God has granted everything needed for life and godliness through His promises. These promises form the foundation of Christian character. Our response is *allegiance*—loyal commitment to God’s will. 2 Peter 1:5 is used throughout the questions:

1. Describe the “Allegiance Attribute” of faith. Why is it important, especially in the context of developing a Christian character? (Hebrews 11:1, Ephesians 2:8-10, James 1:2-8, 2:18)
2. What is the full sense of the Greek word *aretē*, translated as “moral excellence”? How does Peter use this word? (2 Peter 1:3, 1 Peter 2:9) Does this challenge your current view of what God is calling you to become?
3. How do we fully supply moral excellence to the foundation of our faith? Do you see areas in your life where you can make better choices, so that you are reflecting God’s purpose for you?
4. How does God’s own excellence set the standard for the kind of moral excellence Christians are called to pursue? (2 Peter 1:3) When you “fix your eyes on Jesus,” what specific qualities of his moral excellence stand out as patterns you need to imitate?
5. What should our moral excellence look like? Use 1 Peter 2:9-12, James 2:18, 1:19-20, Ephesians 4:31-32 and Galatians 6:9-10 to formulate a thorough answer.
6. How do *aretē* and *kalos*, both translated “excellent” or “excellence,” differ? How are they related? (James 2:18) In which are you stronger? How can you work on increasing the other character trait? (1 Peter 2:9-12)
7. How can our typical response to anger (quick, slow, reactive, etc.) either cultivate or choke out moral excellence? Which of the “put away” behaviors in Ephesians 4:31-32 (bitterness, wrath, clamor, slander, malice) do you need to confront more honestly?
8. How do we know the standard God sets for us is not too high? (2 Peter 1:4,5) When you are most tempted to “lose heart in doing good” (Galatians 6:9), how does the pursuit of true moral excellence help you to persevere?
9. How are you working on forming your moral excellence after the image of God’s care for you? Is “the allegiance of your heart” to God and His son stronger today than it was yesterday? How are you growing?
10. Why is moral excellence the very next step built upon faith?