WP-03 MORALITY

Objective Morality Requires a Moral Standard

STATEMENT

Some things are wrong regardless of anyone's opinion. Objective moral values require an objective standard beyond human preference, and the best explanation for that standard is God.

Read time **2 min** Sources & resources **2** Series **Morality**

01 ABSTRACT

Everyone recognizes that some acts, such as torturing children for fun, are wrong, not merely unpopular. If that recognition tracks something real, it needs a foundation. This paper examines whether such a foundation can exist without God, and answers the common objections.

02 THE ARGUMENT

Premise 1	If God does not exist, objective moral values and duties do not exist.
Premise 2	Objective moral values and duties do exist.
Conclusion	Therefore, God exists.

03 SUBJECTIVE VS. OBJECTIVE

Some standards are matters of preference: favorite food, music, paint color. Others hold regardless of preference: harming an innocent child to steal his lunch money is wrong even if the person doing it, or an entire culture, approves. If morality is only preference, the statement "that was evil" means no more than "I dislike that." Nobody lives that way. We hold people, companies and governments accountable to a standard none of them invented.

04 EVIDENCE

OBSERVATION	DATA & SOURCE	CONFIDENCE
Universal moral intuitions	Across cultures and eras, prohibitions on murder, theft, betrayal and cruelty to the innocent recur with striking consistency.	HIGH
Moral reform presupposes a standard	Calling the abolition of slavery or civil rights "progress" requires a fixed reference point. Without one, those changes are only differences.	HIGH

OBSERVATION	DATA & SOURCE	CONFIDENCE
Human rights language	Modern rights frameworks describe rights as inherent and inalienable: not granted by the state, and therefore grounded in something above it. The Declaration of Independence locates them in the Creator.	HIGH
Critics argue as if morality is objective	Arguments that evil disproves God assume real evil exists, which requires the very objective standard in question.	MODERATE

High = directly measured or widely accepted across worldviews. **Moderate** = well-supported, with recognized scholarly debate. **Interpretive** = consistent with the text, but depends on how the passage is read.

05 OBJECTIONS CONSIDERED

OBJECTION

Evolution explains our moral sense.

RESPONSE

Evolution might explain why humans have moral beliefs. It does not show those beliefs are true or binding. If morality is only a survival adaptation, it carries no more authority than an instinct.

OBJECTION

Society or consensus defines morality.

RESPONSE

Then a society that approves of cruelty is not wrong, only different, and reformers who oppose the majority are always in the wrong. Few accept those consequences.

OBJECTION

Is something good because God commands it, or does God command it because it is good?

RESPONSE

Neither. Good is grounded in God's unchanging nature. His commands express that nature, so they are neither arbitrary nor subject to a standard outside Him.

06 CONCLUSION

If you believe some things are truly right and others truly wrong, not just disliked, you are recognizing a moral law. A moral law points to a moral lawgiver. This is also the foundation RG3 uses to set business standards: a fixed reference, not a moving target.

> *"They demonstrate that God's law is written in their hearts." Romans 2:15*

07 FURTHER RESOURCES

VIDEO **The Moral Argument** Dr. William Lane Craig
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OxiAikEk2vU

VIDEO **The BEST FACTS: Standards & Morality** GCA
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iG0D3bNlHeA&list=PL59Qh4Scw7PebBz1Q-ixu5G7RPxCLWMt1&index=5

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