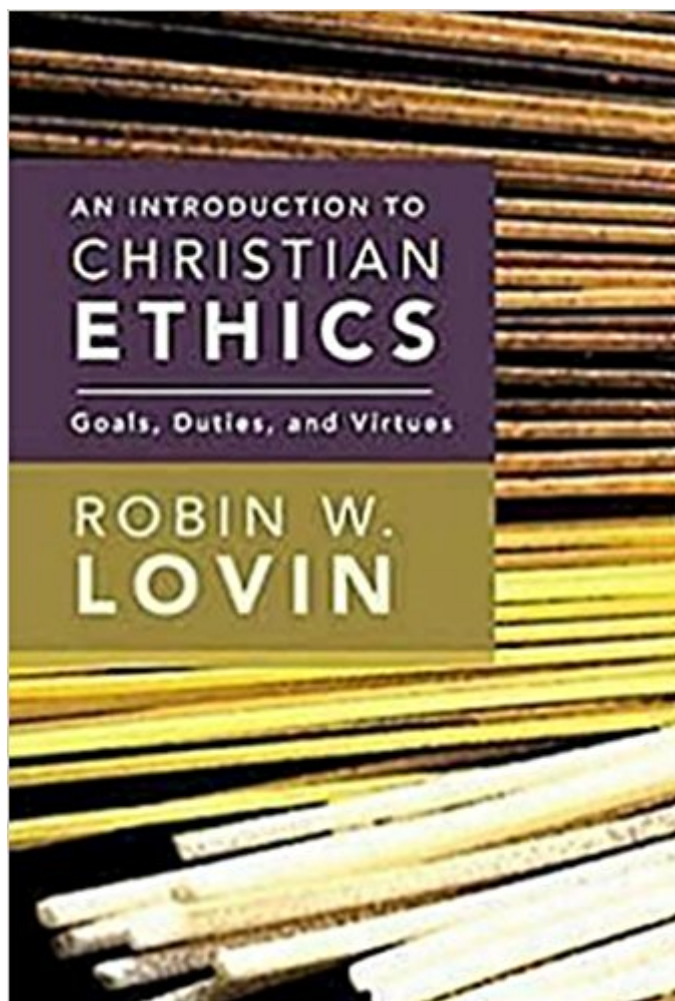


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An Introduction To Christian Ethics: Goals, Duties, And Virtues



Synopsis

A few years ago, the first distinction that ethicists drew was the line between Christian ethics and philosophical ethics. However, in our global context, Christian ethicists must now, in addition, compare and contrast various ethics. Christian ethics has become increasingly multivocal not only because of a plurality of faiths but also because of a plurality of Christianities. Beginning with five key ideas about God's relationship to humanity and history, Dr. Lovin shows how these work together to shape the Christian stance. In the first three chapters, he then shows how those ideas took shape in relation to other ways of thinking about ethics in the world of early Christianity and identifies four major variations: Synergy, Integrity, Realism, and Liberation. The six remaining chapters cover historical and contemporary developments in the three ways of thinking about moral choices: teleology, deontology, and areteology. Test cases are also included. The purpose of the book is to indicate what is possible in Christian ethics, rather than to prescribe one way that it ought to be done. The aim is not to get readers to choose one among the Christian possibilities and use it exclusively, but use this introduction as a resource to arrive at their own ways of thinking about moral problems in order to act with integrity.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Dr. Robin W. Lovin (B.A., Northwestern University; B.D., Ph.D. Harvard University) is Cary Maguire University Professor of Ethics at Southern Methodist University. Prof. Lovin served as Dean of the Perkins School of Theology from 1994 until 2002 and previously held teaching positions at Emory University and the University of Chicago, and he was Dean of the Theological School at Drew

University. He is an ordained minister of the United Methodist Church and is active in local and national church events. His research interests include social ethics, religion and law, and comparative religious ethics. He has served on the editorial boards of numerous scholarly journals, including the Journal of the American Academy of Religion, Studies in Christian Ethics, and the Journal of Law and Religion, and he is an editor-at-large for the Christian Century.

Good introduction to Christian ethics. Reviews classic models of ethics from Christian and non-Christian traditions and analyzes how they are applied and altered for use by Christians in the Catholic, protestant and evangelical communities, historically and currently. The author suggests Christian ethics will sometimes work very much like various classical models and other times quite differently because of theological commitments, which he classifies by one of several "stances." The author does not choose a stance or apply any methods to current social issues, though he does create hypotheticals to allow students to practice use of key models. Those from Christian traditions which are committed to an authoritative approach to scripture, will find the lack of any specific application of Bible texts deficient, but the book does serve to introduce the big, historical ideas concisely and fairly.

This kindle book is improperly formatted. Page 187 location 3288 there are multiple run-on sentences, so something is jumbled. I thought I encountered this earlier in the book but initially decided I was wrong. Owing to this issue, I am probably right. It is hard to cite for required work when the text is incorrect. It's even harder to understand the meaning behind the sentences.

This is a reasonably balanced view of ethical approaches. It certainly addresses Christian Ethics but within the context of non-Christian ethics and does not try to make a case that Christian ethics should be the only ethics we study and use. I would have liked to see more attention paid to dealing with intentionally unethical members of a group or society, but maybe that is for a more advanced treatment.

I'm mentoring a man into full time ministry for my church and I wanted to make sure he was rooted and grounded in Christian ethics. I'm using the book and it's lessons as a primer for understanding the need for a honest, sincere, and educated Christian world-view. It's a very good book and creates much discussion. I highly recommend it!

This is an excellent introduction to Christian ethics, suitable for advanced undergraduates or a basic graduate course. The layout is clear, and the inclusion of discussion questions is an added bonus. Currently, I am using this as part of a reading course for a Navy chaplain.

The best overview that I have ever read.

Great as usual!

for school

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