

*My atheist friend argues that there is no good and evil but it's just opinions, doesn't everyone have a God-given conscience? Some people are isolated in tribes and are uninfluenced by modern society. Can they still say that right is right and wrong is wrong? How would you answer the atheist's morality position?*

Each person has ideas about what is good and what is evil (Pr 31:9). Often men don't want to hear about God's standards (Ga 4:16).

If one made a list about what is right and what is wrong, his list may not include actions that offend a holy God (e.g. murder of the unborn [Ex 20:13] or adultery in marriage [Ex 20:14]); but, he will draw the line *somewhere* (e.g. It is wrong to throw puppies off of bridges). At some point he'll say, "That is wrong!" He has revealed own his value system.

What one individual thinks is irrelevant. What God thinks is all-relevant (1 Jn 3:4). It is God's universe and therefore he makes the rules. God can do something about those who violate his perfect standard (Mt 5:48, Re 21:8).

Man knows right from wrong. He has: an internal testimony (Ro 2:15), an external testimony (Ps 19:1) and the scriptures (Jas 1:18). Therefore, he is without excuse (Ro 1:20). Whether he chooses to obey God or not (Ac 5:29), is up to him (Ge 2:17).

When one believes (Acts 5:14; 1 Tim. 4:12), he is convicted of his sin and repents of wickedness (Acts 2:37, 38).

God in his goodness (Ro 2:4) and longsuffering (2 Pe 3:9) leads men to repentance (Jn 16:8–11). After one is converted, he is able to see his sin (Ps 51:3, 1 Co 2:14) as God does (Ro 8:1).

Isolated tribes know right from wrong, as well. If one kidnaps the chief's wife or daughter, he'll form an opinion about it. If one steals his from his camp, he'll have something to say about it.

When the unregenerate man says, "Don't judge", he judges that judging is wrong. His statement is self-refuting.

Christians share the truth (Mt 7:6). Men believe—or not (Jn 3:19, Re 22:11).

Sinners don't care for boldness from believers (Ac 7:52); but God does (Mt 11:11, Ga 1:10, 1 Jn 4:17).