

No. 88 Why Live by Bible Standards?

PLEASE NOTE: In addition to discussing the benefits of living by God's standards, help listeners grow in appreciation and love for Jehovah. If you wish, you may use the provided artwork to illustrate the points indicated

THE BIBLE'S MORAL STANDARDS ARE FROM GOD (4 min.)

Most people recognize the need for standards in at least some areas of life (w06 10/1 8 ¶4)

Where can we find *moral* guidance that is trustworthy and beneficial?

The standards of conduct in the Bible come from Jehovah God (2Ti 3:16)

Unlike human standards, God's standards do not change (Mal 3:6)

Let us examine how Bible standards reflect Jehovah's personality and how we can benefit by applying them

JEHOVAH'S STANDARDS ARE LOVING (7 min.)

Jehovah is a loving God; everything he does is motivated by love (1Jo 4:7, 8)

He provides us with moral guidance because he loves us [Read Isaiah 48:17, 18]

Bible standards for *family life* emphasize showing unselfish love (Eph 5:22-25, 28, 33; 6:1-4)
[Image 1]

When family members follow God's guidance, the entire family benefits

[See the "Bible Questions Answered" article "Can the Bible Help Me to Have a Happy Family?"]

JEHOVAH'S STANDARDS ARE WISE (8 min.)

Jehovah's knowledge and wisdom are far superior to our own (Isa 55:8, 9)

Choosing our own standards is dangerous (Pr 14:12; Jer 10:23; 17:9)

Following God's wise guidance protects us from harm [Read Proverbs 2:6, 7]

Bible standards regarding *sexual morality* benefit those who follow them (1Co 6:9, 10, 18; w11 11/1 8)

Are these standards unrealistic? No

Jehovah helps those who want to live by his standards to do so (1Co 6:11; w10 4/15 9 ¶11)

JEHOVAH'S STANDARDS ARE JUST (7 min.)

Jehovah is a God of justice who always does what is right [Read Deuteronomy 32:4]

He treats all people fairly and impartially (Ac 10:34, 35)

Jehovah wants us "to do what is right and just" (Pr 21:3)

Bible standards regarding *how we treat others* promote peace and happiness (Ps 106:3)

By being honest and fair, we earn the trust of others (Eph 4:25, 28; Heb 13:18; lvs 194 ¶18)

[Image 2]

Is it unrealistic to be honest in the corrupt world of today? No

Jehovah promises to care for those who live by his standards (Ps 5:12; Mt 6:33)

KEEP GROWING IN LOVE FOR GOD AND FOR HIS STANDARDS (4 min.)

The more you come to know and love Jehovah, the easier it will be for you to live by his standards (1Jo 2:3; 5:3)

As you read the Bible, reflect on Jehovah's personality and the reasons behind his standards

As you apply Bible standards in your life, notice how you benefit (Ps 34:8; 119:138)

How thankful we are to Jehovah for giving us his standards in the Bible! (Ps 40:5)

Be determined to let him guide you always

[Adhere closely to the outlined material, and observe the indicated timing of each section.
Not all cited texts need to be read or commented on. See *Reminders for Those Assigned Public Talks* (S-141)]

TO BE COVERED IN 30 MINUTES

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S-34-E No. 88 5/22