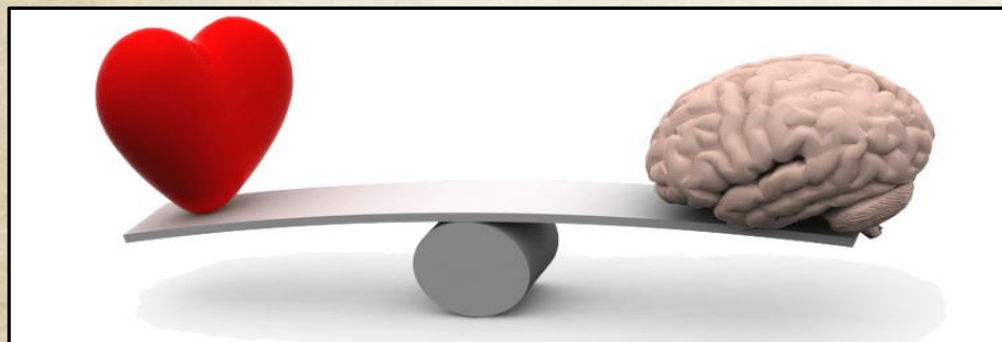


# the story behind James

- 5 CHAPTERS
- 109 VERSES
- 2,309 WORDS

James is about behavior that  
is prompted by the heart.

- **Ethics** and **Morals** are often confused or used interchangeably.
- Both **Ethics** and **Morals** are the reasons for our thoughts, attitudes and actions.
- **Ethics**: may well be associated with Laws, commands, restrictions set by society or current culture.
- **Morals**: are more personal and often more emotional it is about feelings.
- Both **Ethics** and **Morals** are subject to change.
- **Ethics** are about head stuff
- **Morals** are about heart stuff.



# *Ethics and Morals*

*Ethics: Practical,  
communal and aimed  
at keeping the social  
machine functioning.  
Morals: Personal,  
subjective and often  
tied to understanding  
and emotions*

# Six Ethical Reasonings – based on society

1. **Autonomy – self determination**
2. **Non-maleficence – avoiding doing harm**
3. **Beneficence – Doing good, promotion of others**
4. **Justice – fair and just treatment equality**
5. **Fidelity – reasonable commitments, keeping promises**
6. **Veracity – truthfulness, integrity, and honesty.**



- Laws
- Commands
- Policies
- Expectations
- Mandate
- Code
- Regulations
- Decrees
- Orders
- Directives
- Procedures
- Protocols

**ETHICS ARE  
DEFINED,  
AND  
KNOWN**

## Seven Moral Reasonings – personal - emotional

- **Bravery:** Willing to face fear without thought of peril.
- **Fairness:** The understanding of equality in all situations.
- **Deference to Authority:** Following rules for the greater good
- **Helping the Group:** Traditions and altruism
- **Loving Your Family:** Family bonds, a preference to kinship.
- **Returning Favors:** Giving back to those who give to you.
- **Respecting Others' Property:** Personal possessions should be honored.



MORALS ARE  
PERSONALLY  
DETERMINED

Throwing a pizza box out the window of your car when you are finished with it.



Ethics or Morals?

Taking the last piece of pizza?



# James

For James, life started with the adherence to governed rules, the law, the cultural expectations of the Jewish people (Morals). After his conversion he saw true spirituality as an ethical decision. Ethics were the key to internal change, true spirituality. Ethics causes us to change internally, it makes our heart and spirit more MATURE. James would use the word perfection.

		Ethical	Moral
James 1:22	“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves”	✓	
James 1:2	Consider it all joy when you encounter various trials.		✓
James 1:10	For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all.	✓	
James 5:8	You too be patient, strengthen your hearts for the coming of the Lord is at hand.		✓
James 4:17	Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do, and does not do it, to him is sin.	✓	

# Christian Morals require growth

1. There is difference between age and maturity
2. The older we are, the more mature we should be.
3. Lack of spiritual maturity causes problems.
4. The Epistle of James was written to help us understand and attain spiritual maturity...
5. One of our Goals for this study is to kick start your Spiritual maturity!
6. Our study of James is like a journey.
  - We need to know where we are going.
  - What you can expect to see.
  - What it is going to cost.
  - Why we are going.

*Maturity is  
about  
morals*

James 1:1-4 NASB

1 James, a bond-servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes who are dispersed abroad: Greetings.

2 Consider it all joy, my brothers and sisters, when you encounter various [c]trials,

3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.

4 And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

JAMES the Brother of Jesus



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Next week we will examine James 1:2-4. but to start us thinking about it: Is portion about Ethics or Morals?

The first verse tells us much:

- The Person of James
  - The Personality of James
  - The Purpose of James
  - The Point of James
- 
- Next week introduction to the first theme of James:
  - Trails and Temptation.

