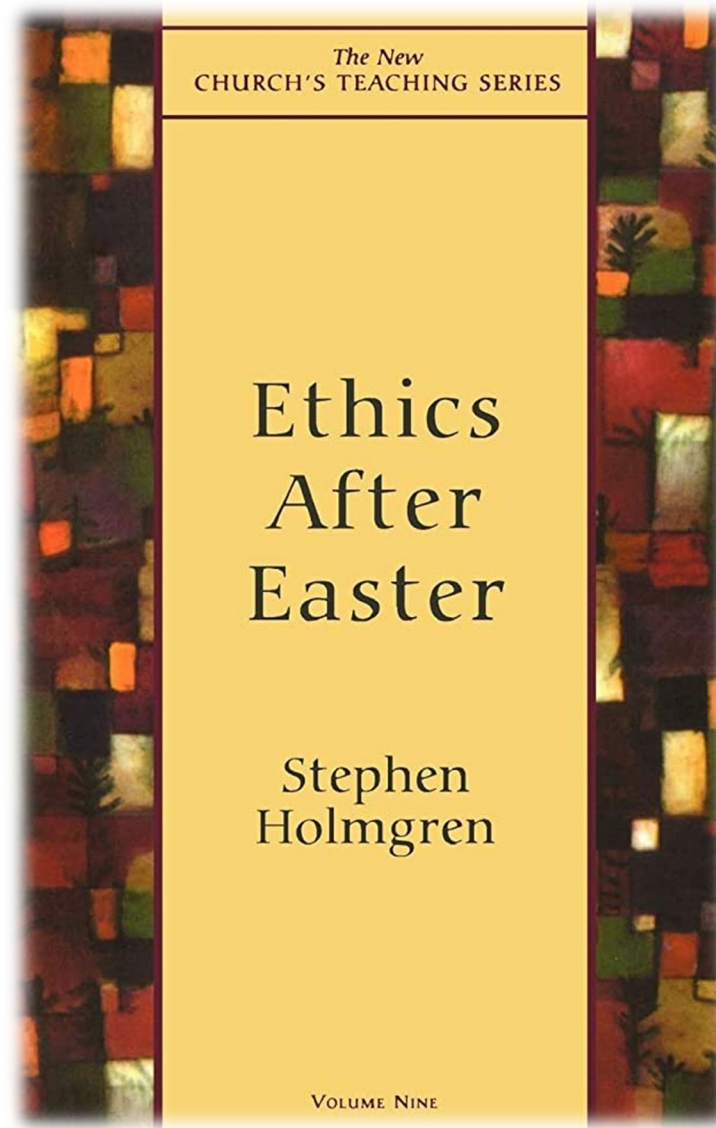


## Stephen Holmgren

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D.Phil from Oxford  
University

192 pages, including endnotes,  
resources and questions for  
discussion



# OPENING PRAYER

Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray:

To see thee more clearly,

Love thee more dearly,

Follow thee more nearly,

Day by day.

Amen.

*Attributed to St. Richard of Chichester*



# ETHICS: A DEFINITION

- ❑ Ethics are theories about right action or permissible conduct.
- ❑ We use them both to guide particular acts and to shape the whole course of our lives.
- ❑ Christian Ethics is thinking about right action in ways that are shaped by reference to the moral good that we know in and through Jesus Christ.



“

You shall love the Lord your God  
with all your heart, and with all  
your soul, and all your mind....

”

Matthew 22:37-40



# ETHICS AFTER EASTER: THE WALK FROM THE FONT

- ❑ Our faith is an Easter faith.
- ❑ Baptism begins this new life.
- ❑ Christian living is baptismal living.
- ❑ *How am I supposed to live now?*



# BURIED WITH CHRIST

Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is buried with Christ in God.

(Colossians 3:1-3, NASB)



So put to death anything that comes from sinful desires. Get rid of impure acts. Don't let your feelings get out of control. Remove from your life all evil desires. Stop always wanting more and more; you might as well be worshiping statues of gods. God's anger is going to come because of these things. That's the way you lived at one time in your life.

But now here are the kinds of things you must also get rid of. You must get rid of anger, rage, hate and lies. Let no dirty words come out of your mouths. Don't lie to one another. You have gotten rid of your old way of life and its habits. You have started living a new life. Your knowledge of how that life should have the Creator's likeness is being made new.

(Colossians 3:5-10, NIRV)



# CHRISTENING

Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

(Colossians 3:12-14)





# CITY OF GOD

- ❑ 5<sup>th</sup> Century Book by Augustine of Hippo
- ❑ Augustine lived from AD 354 to 430
- ❑ Theologian and Bishop of Hippo (396-430)
- ❑ City of God addresses the difference between that “city” and the “city” of this world.



# BAPTISMAL COVENANT

- ❑ Continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers
- ❑ Persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord
- ❑ Proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ
- ❑ Seek-and-Serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself
- ❑ Strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being



“Christian life is *not* primarily the following of a moral code. It is, most fundamentally, *living as* adopted sons and daughters of God. This new life is made possible by the redemptive activity of Jesus. It essentially involves *participating in God’s own life*, in living freely in ways that God’s grace makes possible. This grace is God’s altogether free gift.”

# TABLE DISCUSSION #1

The moral life is part of our response to the saving mystery we encounter in baptism.

In your view, what difference does baptism make for how we actually live our lives? What kind of difference should it make?

## TABLE DISCUSSION #2

Anglicans\* have no standard rule book or official compendium of moral teachings.

Where do you find dependable moral principles with which to shape your lives and respond to moral issues?

*(Episcopalians, included)*



## On our walk from the Font...

Take from [Christ] what ye will give him,  
Of his fullness grace for grace;  
Strive to think him, speak him, live him,  
Till you find him face to face.



# LOOKING AHEAD

**SUMMER 2023**

**June 25 to July 30 at 9:00am**

**Bible Study in the Vestry Room**

We will discuss the Sunday lectionary, focusing on the pericopes from Paul's Letter to the Romans.

*Off in August*

# LOOKING *FALL-THER* AHEAD

- ▶ C.S. Lewis Series
- ▶ In-Depth look at *Church's Teaching Series* (i.e. History, Ethics, Early Church, Prayer, Social Witness, Theology, etc.)
- ▶ Other ideas??



**THANKS FOR ANOTHER  
GREAT SEASON OF  
LEARNING**