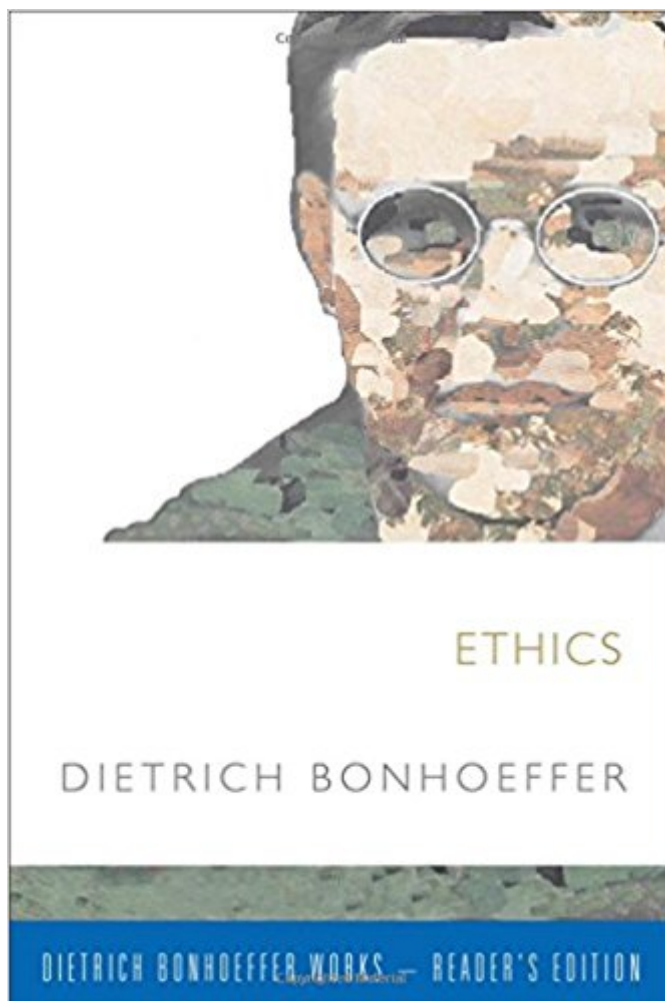


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Ethics (Dietrich Bonhoeffer-Reader's Edition)



Synopsis

Ethics is the culmination of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's theological and personal odyssey and one of the most important works of Christian ethics of the last century. Using the acclaimed DBWE translation, adapted to a more accessible format, this new edition features an insightful introduction by Clifford Green and supplemental material from Victoria J. Barnett. Written in the midst of the conspiracy to overthrow the Hitler regime, it is nonetheless chiefly concerned with ethics for the postwar time of reconstruction and peace. Though caught up in the vortex of momentous forces in the Nazi period, Bonhoeffer systematically envisioned a radically Christocentric, incarnational ethic for a postwar world, purposefully recasting Christians' relation to history, politics, and public life. Focused on Christ, the God who became human, and the vision of a world reconciled with God, Ethics shuns abstraction, seeks the will of God in concrete historical reality, and calls the church to be a transforming community in the world with a new responsibility to public life. This edition allows all readers to appreciate the cogency and relevance of Bonhoeffer's vision.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945), a German theologian, pastor, and ecumenist, studied in Berlin and at Union Theological Seminary in New York City. He played a central role in the Confessing Church during the Nazi period and became one of the most influential theologians of the twentieth century.

ALL ETHICS ORIGINATES IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL. Therefore, even our good is evil because we have become autonomous, like god but not God and it is the loss of God and the loss of knowing only the good, God's good, that impoverishes our soul and that of all men. This loss is a disunity with God, ourselves and our fellow man. Jesus Christ said that if the light that is in us is darkness, how great (there are degrees and magnitudes) is that darkness. This book destroys all presumptuous and evil assumptions of ethics and points us back to our origins before the fall of man when everything was in unity in God (Christ) and Christ is the center of our lives and we are in Christ and He in us. I can attest without any qualification that this book is one of the very best for the serious Christian who desires a closer and more fruitful fellowship with the Savior (The Bible being the one indispensable book above all others). If ever a book was needed for the 21 Century, this is the one. If Dr. Bonhoeffer can walk-the-walk in totalitarian evil Nazi Germany (and he did to the end) this book, with the Bible of course, arm the Christian for what lies just ahead, including persecution and possible martyrdom for Christ.

The Christian's unity with Christ frees the Christian from all considerations and judgments of personal good and evil (which is the common focus of ethics). The Christian is called to be single-mindedly devoted to the will of God and lose himself in Christ. ("Christ in us is our hope of glory.") (See Romans 6:1-14) Very thoughtful and original thinking about the realities of the Christian faith and the world that we live in. I am only a third of the way into the book and I have found my understanding of Christ, the history of the West, the French Revolution and the rise of secular humanism to be enriched.

This is a great work by Bonhoeffer that I purchased for a paper, but will likely dig into for pleasure reading soon. It has compelling arguments and keeps me thinking.

Great book by a superb writer and thinker. A must read for anyone who wants to do more than pretend to be a Christian.

Too heavy for my small intellect.

It is a bit of a hard read but it is well worth the time one must put into it.

What can you say - it's Bonhoeffer. It is a must read for clergy and anyone interested in Ethics - specifically Christian Ethics.

Written in the background of the autocracy of the Nazi government, Bonhoeffer writes this book about christian ethics. In a few parts of the book, Bonhoeffer alludes to Hitler and those that follow him without naming individuals. He gets rather into the nature of man and his disunion with God. and the natural results from that disunion. In my opinion, this is a good read for anyone who, is a christian and how to live in these times where the line of right and wrong is blurred.

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