

# Morality after God: Living in a Secular Post-Christian Culture

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*Abstract:* The Western culture is coming to recognize that its morality and the authority of its political institutions have no anchor in being or in a canonical moral rationality, or even in a defining sense of the politically reasonable. This paper reviews why, absent a God's-eye perspective, there cannot be a sound rational argument to establish a canonical moral account or a canonical understanding of the politically reasonable. As a consequence, morality becomes politics, and appeals to a common morality or consensus are best understood as rhetorical devices engaged to shore up the stability of the state as a *modus vivendi*. The essay ends with addressing the question of governance once one is locked within the horizon of the finite and the immanent, while confronting irresolvable moral and metaphysical disputes.

*Keywords:* Western moral culture, After God, Morality, Politics.

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