



# What Does the Lord Require?: Meditations on Major Moral and Social Issues

*James L. Killen*

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Contemporary life is filled with a host of contentious moral and social issues. There are many thorny topics, both personal and political, which bring out a cacophony of opinions that can overwhelm us. While we are inundated with questions, there often seem to be no clear answers. So how should we respond? As Christians, we must constantly ask ourselves, What does the Lord require of me?

In this outstanding collection of meditations, James Killen examines many of today's hot-button issues with an eye toward helping readers think through their beliefs and responsibilities. Mindful of our call to live in faithfulness to God's purpose, each essay draws on the Bible and the Christian faith to discern how God would have us respond to the emerging situations of our world's history.

*What Does The Lord Require?* is topical, inspiring reading -- and with thoughtful discussion questions at the end of each meditation, it's an excellent resource for adult classes or study groups, as well as for a sermon series that is sure to connect with congregations.

Among the issues addressed are:

- \* religious pluralism
- \* economic justice
- \* materialism
- \* environmental stewardship
- \* gender roles
- \* suicide
- \* abortion
- \* personal integrity
- \* homosexuality
- \* AIDS
- \* race relations
- \* war

*The timid pulpit is too often the platform of pastors who choose not to unsettle their parishioners. As a result, words that address the critical social and moral issues of our day go unspoken. The messages of this book inspire the reader to new heights of courage as these difficult issues are presented with clear, forthright challenges. You will be informed and motivated as the cost of discipleship awakens your Christian journey in the 21st century.*

Joe A. Wilson

United Methodist bishop

*James Killen does a remarkable job of reminding us that being a Christian is more than individual religiosity. Rather, it encompasses every facet of our existence, personal and corporate. These meditations explore issues that Christians cannot afford to ignore. A must read!*

Brig. Gen. Hiram Jones, USAF (retired)

Former Deputy Chief, Air Force Chaplain Service

**James L. Killen** has pastored a variety of congregations during a 45-year career in the ministry, ranging from a small open country parish in northeast Texas to Trinity United Methodist Church in Beaumont, Texas, a 2,000-member church with a television ministry serving all of southeast Texas and southwestern Louisiana. A graduate of the University of Houston and Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University, Killen's work has appeared in several publications, including *Preaching*, *Pulpit Digest*, *Circuit Rider*, *The Upper Room*, and the *Abingdon Preaching Annual*. He is also the author of *Who Do You Say That I Am?*

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