

TH604 - Dr. Louis A. Decaro  
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February 15th, 2023  
Chapter 3 5-3-1

5 Quiz Questions:

- 1) What is modernity as defined by Anthony Giddens?
- 2) In the intellectual theory of knowledge, what is the difference between empiricism and rationalism?
- 3) Name some ethical issues faced with technological/industrial components of modernity.
- 4) What is the result of differentiation on the sociological component of modernity?
- 5) What is the difference between secularism and secularization?

Answers:

- 1) "Modes of social life or organization which emerged in Europe from about the seventeenth century onwards and which subsequently became more or less worldwide in their influence (90)."
- 2) Empiricism says that all knowledge is based on experiences and senses, while rationalism says that reason alone is sufficient to know all there is to discern about the world and life (90-91).
- 3) The use of these advancements to control human life and death, and the genetic structure of human beings (95).
- 4) "The world comes to us in pieces, in fragments, lacking an overall pattern (99)." Thus it becomes difficult to come to an agreement on one form of accepted ethics.
- 5) "Secularism is a set of beliefs and practices committed to the abolition of religion in society, while secularization is a process occurring within societies and cultures whereby religion no longer plays the dominant role in shaping major social institutions (100)."

3 Terms:

- 1) Ideological: Based on or relating to a system of ideas and ideals, especially concerning economic or political theory and policy (Oxford dictionary).
- 2) Epistemology: The theory of knowledge, especially with regard to its methods, validity, and scope. The investigation of what distinguishes justified belief from opinion (Oxford dictionary)."
- 3) Pluralism: a condition or system in which two or more states, groups, principles, and sources of authority, coexist (Oxford dictionary).

1 Summary Paragraph:

Modernity in Christian ethics has three primary components and includes intellectual, industrial/technological, and sociological (90). These differ widely based on their origin and play a role in distinguishing challenges in both secular and Christian ethics. The farther we advance in each, self-control and submitting to the will of God become increasingly important, as it can be detrimental to human existence to rely too heavily on any one component. Still, modernity itself created many advantages for the human race (103) and can be a valuable asset if stewarded properly.