

### 5-3-1 Assignment / Herve Talom

#### Chapter 6 Three Motifs For Making Ethical Decisions Hollinger, Dennis, March 1st, 2023

#### QUESTIONS

1. What are the three main ways (or motifs) of formulating ethical norms and making moral decisions?
2. What is the deliberative motif?
3. How should we assess the deliberative approach in its various forms?
4. How does John Calvin view ethics?
5. What shapes the approach in relational ethics?

#### ANSWERS

1. *Deliberative motifs, prescriptive motifs, and relational motifs.*
2. *The deliberative motif assumes that reason can be a moral guide because God has implanted a natural law within human consciousness that all can comprehend. First, we must note the Bible's affirmation that God's designs can be known by nature. A second positive aspect of the deliberative approach is that it rings true to people's experiences throughout history.*
3. *Calvin saw no contradiction between the Old Testament law and the law of Christ, for both points to how obedience to God is expressed.*
4. *"In relational ethics, the direction of action is shaped by the sense of excitement or gratitude which arises from a live, dynamic, and compelling encounter with the source of moral guidance."*

#### TERMS

**Bribes:** to influence the judgment or conduct of (someone) with money or favor

**Theological Ethics:** The grand ideas or foundational constructs people use to explain reality and bring coherence to the world.

**Moral decision:** The act or process of making the right choices.

#### SUMMARY:

This chapter introduced the three motifs for ethical decisions: *Deliberative motifs, prescriptive motifs, and relational motifs*; characterizing the post-modern world and the various responses to the problem of making ethical decision. The chapter started with an illustrative story of Bernard Adeney about making a moral decision from a Christian perspective.

Historically, believers have made moral decisions through deliberation, prescription, and relational impulses. Hollinger, (p. 147)