

TH604 - Dr. Louis A. Decaro
Jenny Valme
March 1st, 2023
Chapter 6 5-3-1

5 Quiz Questions:

- 1) What are the 3 main motifs of formulating ethical norms and making moral decisions? Describe.
- 2) What are some challenges to relying on the relational motif?
- 3) What are some challenges to relying on the prescriptive motif?
- 4) What are some challenges to relying on the deliberative motif?
- 5) Can all three motifs be used simultaneously to make an ethical moral decision? Why or why not?

Answers:

- 1) Appealing to reason known as the deliberative motif, relying on explicit statements in Scripture known as the prescriptive motif, and utilizing an immediate and direct leading of God known as the relational motif (128).
- 2) "It's propensity for being subjective and relative to the individual hearing the Word (146)."
- 3) Scripture can be taken out of context to fit an agenda, or too literal to be applied fairly to groups of people today.
- 4) Cultural aspects can alter reasoning, and therefore can't be used across the board to address similar situations.
- 5) Yes all three can be used simultaneously. When drawing on explicit statements in Scripture one usually needs to reason how the Scripture applies to the current situation by comparing the history of context, and understanding what that means is revealed through the divine revelation of the Holy Spirit.

3 Terms:

- 1) Neoorthodox: "of or relating to a 20th-century movement in Protestant theology characterized by a reaction against liberalism and emphasis on various scripturally based Reformation doctrines (Merriam Webster)."
- 2) Eternal Law: "Law founded in God's wisdom and very being (130)."
- 3) Injunction: "a writ granted by a court of equity whereby one is required to do or to refrain from doing a specified act (Merriam Webster)."

1 Summary Paragraph:

When making a moral decision one of three motifs (deliberative, prescriptive, and relational) can be used. Those who support the deliberative motif believe that "In human behavior, some habits as good and called virtues while others are bad called vices", and stand on the idea that virtues are wisdom (130). Those who support the prescriptive motif appeal to the life and teachings of Jesus and suggest that this serves as concrete guidance to ethical behavior (135). Lastly, those supporting the relational motif believe that guidance on the Word of the Holy Spirit is key to maintaining morality in an ethical Christian way (141). All 3 have been

used by Christians and are inherently interrelated, as one can not always separate these ideas when it comes to complex real-life issues (147).