

TH604 - Dr. Louis A. Decaro
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Chapter 7 5-3-1

5 Quiz Questions:

- 1) How do some Christians who believe the Bible is a book of moral codes approach decision-making?
- 2) What are some issues with approaching decision-making this way?
- 3) What is casuistic law?
- 4) What is important to distinguish in relating the Old Testament to Christian ethics?
- 5) What are five key hermeneutical issues confronted when using the Bible in ethical decisions?

Answers:

- 1) "They look to the Bible for specific direction in every specific situation (Rae 150)."
- 2) The Bible contains some ethical principles but may not literally address issues we face today.
- 3) "The most specific form of direction in the Bible, these laws mandate explicit behavior for specific situations (162-163)."
- 4) "The social structures and cultural practices of biblical times from their primary intent (159).
- 5) The Bible does not address many contemporary issues, issues addressed in Scripture are not always identical to today, moving from the Old Testament to the New Testament, The relationship between particularity of the text and universality, and The handling go complex issues with multiple Biblical principles and paradigms (153- 162).

3 Terms:

- 1) Compendium: "a collection of concise but detailed information about a particular subject, especially in a book or other publication (Oxford)."
- 2) Hermeneutics: "the branch of knowledge that deals with interpretation, especially of the Bible or literary texts (Oxford)."
- 3) Exegesis: "critical explanation or interpretation of a text, especially of scripture (Oxford)."

1 Summary Paragraph:

The Bible is not simply a book of codes of ethics to be used to rationalize decisions (152). Taking the time to dissect and exegete Biblical text is important so that we may rightly divide the Word of Truth and apply its principles to our lives today. Furthermore, the Old Testament versus the New Testament addresses some differences and relationships between the two portions of the Bible and should be carefully studied so as to not take ethical principles out of context, and to understand the progressive revelation each has to offer (159). Overall, according to 2 Timothy 3:16, the Bible "is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness (173), and should be used comprehensively.