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5-3-1 Quiz – Pluralism and Christian Ethics
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Fill in the blanks:

1. Pluralism does not primarily refer to differing _____, _____, _____, and _____ living side by side within a given community or society.
2. The Christian moral framework arises from _____ and _____.
3. Constantinianism ultimately favors one religious tradition over others in public life, thereby not only raising _____ issues but _____ and _____ in the process.
4. Amid pluralist societies, Christians sometimes feel like _____?
5. Christians will need to learn to be bilingual at times speaking the language of _____ and _____.

Answers:

1. Races, ethnic groups, nationalities, and cultures.
2. Specific commitments and beliefs.
3. Constitutional issues but endangering hostility and conflict
4. Beleaguered minority
5. Zion and a broader language that is not dependent on the particulars of the biblical faith.

Definitions:

1. Pluralism: Sociocultural reality of discrepant worldviews, ideologies, and ethical frameworks existing side by side.
2. Social Dilemma: Involved two issues: how a religiously informed ethic can relate to the pluralistic milieu, and how society itself can exist given the broad mix of worldviews and moral outlooks.
3. Truth Dilemma: The wide variation of worldviews and moral frameworks tends to create a climate in which people are suspicious of assertions about the truthfulness of one religion or ethical system. Claims to truth of an ultimate nature are called into question and deemed to be merely preferences, not unlike one's personal aesthetic tastes.

Summary:

Chapter 11 in Hollinger's book discusses Pluralism and Christian Ethics by dissecting the prescriptive dimensions and the relationship between a Christian ethic and a pluralistic ethic. Hollinger highlights two dilemmas, the truth dilemma and social dilemma, for Christians who are seeking to be faithful to their calling as followers of Christ. He argues that Christians should strive to be an influence and stay committed to the truth of the gospel, deep convictions, and consistent living and by commending other to the good life that flows from God. Hollinger concludes that yes is challenging but a great opportunity to witness to the world.