

## Questions

1. What is the truth dilemma of pluralism?
  - a. The dilemma of truth in pluralism is that truth becomes relative which contradicts the Christian belief of one truth.
2. What is one issue in the privatization of Christianity?
  - a. As a response to pluralism, one issue that arises is making Christianity inaccessible to the public sector going against the message of the gospel.
3. What is one issue with a theocratic approach?
  - a. A theocratic approach would encourage favoritism and governed privilege thus allowing racism and prejudice against minorities.
4. What is the civil religion response?
  - a. The civil religion response would address pluralism through creating a generalized higher form of religion to govern above all religions or ideas.
5. What is one challenge that Christians may face when attempting to influence within pluralism?
  - a. One challenge for Christians may be having to navigate or translate their moral beliefs from their religious ideas to influence in a pluralistic society.

## Terms

Pluralism: a system where various ideas, concepts, and religions can coexist

Privatization: the act of making religion or ideas or concepts transferred to a sector

Theocratic approach: an approach which centers its entire society on a religion.

## Summary

The chapter delves into the rising phenomena of pluralism and how it affects Christian ethics. Hollinger points out the truth and social dilemma of pluralism which places Christian views on truth and society at odds with the relativism that comes with pluralism. There are a variety of options to respond to pluralism including privatization, a theocratic approach, a civil religion response, and a Christian influence. Privatization would entail making Christianity private and separating the Church from larger society presenting an issue of going against the gospel message. A theocratic approach has roots in the Old Testament theocracy system, but defenders of this approach fail to see the risks of privilege and prejudice occurring going against the principle of equality in the imago Dei. A civil religion response although seemingly good in its approach to generalization presents dangers of idolatry by meshing a system of government with religion. Lastly, Hollinger implores the church to instead take an approach of influencing within a pluralistic system by still staying true to their values and also accepting that it is not going to be seen as truth to all.