

## Lecture 14 – The Resolution of Moral Conflicts (Part II)

### Case Study: The Village of Le-Chambon

“[They] were as candid, as truthful with the authorities as they could have been without betraying the refugees ... The spirit of Le Chambon in those years was a strange combination of candor and concealment, of a yearning for truth and of a commitment to secrecy. They were as open as love permits in a terrible time.” They did the right thing, but regarded the deception as something regrettably necessary rather than unqualifiedly good.

As quoted in Jones from Philip P. Hallie, *Lest Innocent Blood Be Shed: The Story of the Village of Le Chambon and How Goodness Happened There* (New York: Harper, 1979).

### Key Terms

Absolute, hierarchialism, ends & means, case analysis, *prima facia* duties

### Objectives

- \*Identify and briefly describe hierarchialism.
- \*Identify and briefly describe *prima facia* duties.
- \*Identify and briefly describe case analysis.
- \*State problems and strengths with each theory.

## The Resolution of Moral Conflicts (Part II)

### III. Hierarchialism

#### A. Definition of hierarchialism

1. When two moral duties clash, the believer is exempt from his duty to...

#### B. Example

1. Killing in self-defense

#### C. Three difficulties with hierarchialism

1. Imposition upon Scripture of a...
2. Insistence that all God's commands are...
3. It is so open-ended that there is little...

### IV. Prima Facia Duties

#### A. Our prima facia obligation may not be our...

#### B. Problems

1. It wants to say that our prima facia duty...

### V. Case Analysis—Casuistry

#### A. Definition of case analysis:

1. Circumstances alter cases, but...

#### B. Triperspectivalism (John Frame):

1. Existential perspective
2. Normative perspective
3. Situational perspective

#### C. Case analysis applied to the Le Chambon-sur-Lignon

1. Justice: required that they not convey information that...
2. Mercy: welcoming attitude toward...
3. Faithfulness: murderers have no right to expect...
4. Biblical precedents

- a. Concealment of truth from murderers: I Samuel

- b. Hebrew midwives: Exodus 1:15 ff.
  - c. Rahab: Joshua 2
- D. Other life situations
- 1. II Thessalonians 2:9 ff.