

*Instructions:* Choose any **two** of the following three questions. Read the questions carefully and answer all parts of the two selected questions for full credit. (Note: each question has a part a and a part b.) Be sure to support your claims with specific facts, details, and references from the articles, lectures, and class discussion. Good luck.

1. “For the religious moralist there are only two options. By one, God becomes irrelevant; by the other, God becomes irrational.”

(a) Comment on this argument from Kai Nielsen (“Religious and Secular Morality”) by means of a discussion of the theories of Immanuel Kant (*Groundwork to the Metaphysics of Morals*) and Soren Kierkegaard (*Fear and Trembling*).

(b) Now, and in just a couple of sentences, discuss how the ethical approach of Stanley Hauerwas (“Christian Ethics in a Violent and Fragmented World,” “A Qualified Ethic,” and “The Moral Authority of Scripture”) fits or fails to fit into Nielsen’s schema.

2. “For a mother to kill her crying baby because it is exposing her expedition to an attacker is barbaric and immoral.”

(a) Discuss how the following authors **each** would comment on this quotation: Joseph Fletcher (“Love Justifies Its Means”), Elizabeth Anscombe (“Mr. Truman’s Degree”), Michael Walzer (“Supreme Emergency”), and Mohandes Gandhi (“Anaskti Yoga,” “The Gita and Satyagraha”). Be sure to explain *why* each author would respond in the manner predicted.

(b) Could the mother in question be a Kierkegaardian “Knight of Faith” for her act? Why or why not?

3. “By viewing their sacred texts as narratives rather than as series of isolated episodes or moral rule-books, commentators from an number of religious traditions find non-violence as a more compelling option than the prescription to kill.”

Discuss this quotation by means of a commentary on any **two** of the following authors: Stanley Hauerwas (“The Peaceable Kingdom”), Charis Waddy (“The Spread of Islam”, you may also use Fathi Osman as an ally if you wish) and Mohandes Gandhi (“Anasakti Yoga” and “The Gita and Satyagraha”). For each author selected, you should: (a) discuss the pro-violence reading of the sacred text in question and its non-narrative basis; and (b) explain the author’s alternative reading of the text on the issue of violence

3. Assume the perspective of Elizabeth Anscombe. How would she assess the morality of recent United States diplomatic/military actions in response to the attacks of September 11? Be sure to use both the *jus ad bellum* and the *jus in bello* criteria in constructing your answer.

Now, discuss how Stanley Hauerwas ("Jesus and the Peaceable Kingdom") would comment on the recent U.S. actions. Explain.