

DANIEL - Part X
"The BIG Test"
Reference: **Daniel 3:8-18**
Pastor Larry Webb

verses eight through **twelve** (see screen)

Accusations against Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego:

- The **first accusation** toward them was _____.
verse twelve (see screen)
- The **second accusation** toward them was _____.
verse twelve continued (see screen)
This second charge was **civil disobedience** and borderline **treason** and that charge was _____.

There are just three monotheistic religions: **Judaism**, Christianity and Islam.

From the beginning of Judaism the Jewish people have been monotheistic.

References: **Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Isaiah 43:10; Isaiah 44:6**
(see screen)

verses thirteen through **eighteen** (see screen)

These three men faced a serious **ethical decision**.

The first option - submit to _____
command and worship something other than God.

The second option - submit to _____ **command** and worship Him alone and in doing that refuse to worship Nebuchadnezzar's image.

This was a difficult situation. These men could have resorted to what we now understand as "_____."

Definition: Situational ethics teaches that the _____
_____ determines moral good and moral evil; the **situation** and **context** determine right and wrong.

Situational ethics is different from **ethical relativism**.

Definition: Ethical relativism teaches that moral good and moral evil is _____ to the norms of a particular people and culture; ethical relativism argues that **moral codes** are **subjective**.

Joseph Francis Fletcher was considered a pioneer in the field of **bioethics**. Although he was an ordained Episcopal priest, he was never a biblical Christian. He was a devout humanist and over time he identified as an atheist.

Three statements that illustrate Professor Joseph F. Fletcher's opinions:

- One - There is just one principle that has _____ **value** and that is **unconditional love**; therefore, a decision based on **unconditional love** is the right thing to do in all situations.
- Two - **Unconditional love** is _____ from rigid restrictions that determine our moral values.
- Three - In the end as long as **unconditional love** is our intention, the end _____ the means.

Definition: Pragmatism is the teaching that the rightness of an action is determined according to the _____ of that action.

Two statements to refute Fletcher and situational ethics:

ONE... _____ Himself (not man) **determines moral values**; meaning moral good and moral evil (i.e. right and wrong).

Reference: **Romans 3:4** (see screen)

TWO... Since **God determines moral values**, meaning moral good and moral evil (i.e. right and wrong), He cannot condone an ethical system (ethical relativism or situational ethics) that _____ Himself.

Problem: Situational ethics separates **divine** _____ from **divine** _____.

Reference: **I John 4:8** (see screen)