



Divine Command Theory

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The Euthyphro Dilemma



Modified Divine Command
Theory



Divine Command Ethics

Paul Rooney



Divine Command Ethics:

Divine Command Ethics Michael J. Harris, 2004-03-01 The central aim of this book is to attempt to determine the response of the classic texts of Jewish traditions to the famous dilemma posed in Plato's Euthyphro: Does God freely determine morality or is morality independent of God? The author argues that the picture that emerges from Jewish texts is significantly more complex and nuanced than most of the contemporary Jewish philosophical literature is prepared to concede. While providing an extensive discussion of the perspective of Jewish tradition on divine command ethics, this book develops a position that is distinct from and critical of other views that have recently been advanced in Jewish scholarship. At the same time, the book provides a substantial analysis of some Christian perspectives on divine command ethics. Relevant biblical, rabbinic, and later Jewish texts are discussed, as well as some of the relevant views that have been taken in philosophical literature and in Christian and Jewish thought.

Divine Commands and Morality Paul Helm, 1981 This collection of twelve papers covers the question of the relation between morality and religion. The contributors include William Frankena, Philip Quinn, Robert Merrihew Adams, Richard Swinburne, James Rachels, Nelson Pike, Peter Geach, Robert Young, Baruch Brody, and others.

Divine Command Morality Paul Rooney, 1996 This work is a philosophical defence of the tenability of divine command theory as an acceptable Christian account of morality. The theory states that morality is founded upon God's commands. It has been associated particularly with Duns Scotus and William of Ockham. What God commands, man has a moral duty to do; what He forbids, man ought to avoid, and man's duties arise only because God commands or forbids certain things. There are various ways of understanding what constitutes a divine command, and this work focuses on the claim that revealed scriptural commands are the foundation of morality.

[An Essay on Divine Command Ethics](#) Jeremy Alan Evans, 2010 Twentieth-century analytic philosophy ushered in a renewed interest in an ethical theory known as the Divine Command Theory of ethics (DC). Consequent to the work of G. E. Moore, philosophers have been involved in metaethics or how we may ground ethical terms such as "good" and "right". The traditional DC response is to argue that God is the source of good and best serves that role in that He is an "ideal observer" of all states of affairs. The question is how is God's will relevant to determining the moral status of actions? At this point, one may distinguish between what God wills and what God in fact commands. However, the contemporary debate is to determine whether it is God's will or God's commands that is primary in determining moral obligation. The most vivid portrait of this distinction is found in the binding of Isaac. There, we note that God commands Abraham to sacrifice Isaac, but it is not at all clear that God wills the actual death of Isaac. Thus, in this work, I will present and defend a coherent DC view of ethics whereby our moral obligations are derived from the commands of God. In chapter II, I will provide a brief history of philosophers who have endorsed DC. In chapter III, I will argue that the best ground for objective moral values is best defined by DC. Chapter IV will be devoted to my particular argument for DC. I will take up the task of defending the traditional command view of DC. Chapters V and VI will be devoted to

developing plausible responses to major objections to DC In chapter V I will attempt a resolution of the famous Euthyphro dilemma and in chapter VI I will argue that endorsing a DC view of ethics in no way negates the autonomy of the moral agent

Divine Commands and Moral Requirements Philip L. Quinn, Philip Lawrence Quinn, 1978 In this wide ranging study Quinn argues that human moral autonomy is compatible with unqualified obedience to divine commands He formulates several versions of the crucial assumptions of divine command ethics defending them against a battery of objections often expressed in the philosophical literature

Divine Command Morality, 1979 An anthology that provides new translations and makes available much of the relevant historical literature needed for an exploration of the view that morality is very literally created by God Contains 41 selections representing discussions of divine command morality in Ancient philosophy scholastic philosophical theology the Reformation tradition the British modern period and contemporary analytic philosophy This book includes a bibliography of Latin French English German and Italian sources on divine command morality

Questions on an Ethics of Divine Commands Andreas, 1997 This text covers the work of 14th century Franciscan Andrew of Neufchateau It presents a selection of arguments prevalent during the medieval period for and against an ethics of divine commands and Andrew's own theory of divine command voluntaristic in nature emphasizing divine liberty

Nature and Command J. Caleb Clanton, Kraig Martin, 2023-08-18 Since at least the time of Plato religious explanations of the metaphysical foundations of morality have typically fallen into one of two camps natural law theory according to which morality is fundamentally explained by facts about human nature facts that God is responsible for and divine command theory which holds that moral obligations arise directly from God's commands or some other prescriptive act of the divine will J Caleb Clanton and Kraig Martin offer an accessible analysis of these traditional views reconstruct the various arguments for and against them and offer an extended consideration of the historical emergence of the divide between these positions within the Christian tradition *Nature and Command* goes on to develop and defend a theory that combines these two views a metaethical approach that has not yet received the scholarly attention it deserves Along the way the authors make use of underexplored theological resources drawn from the Stone Campbell movement a nineteenth century restoration movement that culminated in one of the largest Protestant groups in America by the dawn of the twentieth century *Nature and Command* summons the resources of this particular Christian heritage its first principles call for unity and ecumenism to solve one of the great dilemmas of moral philosophy and theology dating back to Plato's Euthyphro This historically aware argumentatively rigorous and highly readable volume will serve as a valuable resource for moral philosophy and ethics as well as for mining the Stone Campbell Restoration tradition for historical and theological insights

God's Command John E. Hare, 2015-10-29 This work focuses on divine command and in particular the theory that what makes something obligatory is that God commands it and what makes something wrong is that God commands us not to do it Focusing on the Abrahamic faiths eminent scholar John E Hare explains that two experiences have had to be integrated The first is that God tells us to do

something or not to do something The second is that we have to work out ourselves what to do and what not to do The difficulty has come in establishing the proper relation between them In Christian reflection on this two main traditions have emerged divine command theory and natural law theory Hare successfully defends a version of divine command theory but also shows that there is considerable overlap with some versions of natural law theory He engages with a number of Christian theologians particularly Karl Barth and extends into a discussion of divine command within Judaism and Islam The work concludes by examining recent work in evolutionary psychology and argues that thinking of our moral obligations as produced by divine command offers us some help in seeing how a moral conscience could develop in a way that is evolutionarily stable [The Oxford Companion to Christian Thought](#) Adrian Hastings, Alistair Mason, Hugh S.

Pyper, 2000-12-21 Embracing the viewpoints of Catholic Protestant or Orthodox thinkers of conservatives liberals radicals and agnostics Christianity today is anything but monolithic or univocal In [The Oxford Companion to Christian Thought](#) general editor Adrian Hastings has tried to capture a sense of the great diversity of opinion that swirls about under the heading of Christian thought Indeed the 260 contributors who hail from twenty countries represent as wide a range of perspectives as possible Here is a comprehensive and authoritative though not dogmatic overview of the full spectrum of Christian thinking Within its 600 alphabetically arranged entries readers will find lengthy survey articles on the history of Christian thought on national and regional traditions and on various denominations from Anglican to Unitarian There is ample coverage of Eastern thought as well examining the Christian tradition in China Japan India and Africa The contributors examine major theological topics such as resurrection the Eucharist and grace as well as controversial issues such as homosexuality and abortion In addition short entries illuminate symbols such as water and wine and there are many profiles of leading theologians of non Christians who have deeply influenced Christian thinking including Aristotle and Plato and of literary figures such as Dante Milton and Tolstoy Most articles end with a list of suggested readings and the book features a large number of cross references [The Oxford Companion to Christian Thought](#) is an indispensable guide to one of the central strands of Western culture An essential volume for all Christians it is a thoughtful gift for the holidays **A Companion to**

Philosophy of Religion Charles Taliaferro, Paul Draper, Philip L. Quinn, 2010-04-12 In 85 new and updated essays this comprehensive volume provides an authoritative guide to the philosophy of religion Includes contributions from established philosophers and rising stars 22 new entries have now been added and all material from the previous edition has been updated and reorganized Broad coverage spans the areas of world religions theism atheism the problem of evil science and religion and ethics [Essays in the Philosophy of Religion](#) Philip L. Quinn, 2006-10-12 This volume presents a selection of essays by the late Philip Quinn one of the world's leading philosophers of religion Quinn left behind an influential body of work on a wide variety of topics He was the author of *Divine Commands and Moral Requirements* 1978 and of more than two hundred papers in philosophy Fourteen of his best and most influential contributions to the philosophy of religion are

gathered here The papers have been organized around the following topics religious epistemology religious ethics religion and tragic dilemmas religion and political liberalism topics in Christian philosophy and religious diversity Studies in Scholasticism Marcia L. Colish, 2006 The papers brought together in this volume reflect three of Professor Colish's interests as a historian of medieval scholastic thought The first group presents investigations into Peter Lombard d 1161 and his contemporaries the second looks at how Peter's theology became mainstream Paris theology in the period between the Lombard's death and the early 13th century The last two papers offer broader reflections on the story lines of high medieval intellectual history God's Call J. E. Hare, 2001 Featuring original moral theory and fresh interpretations of the thought of John Duns Scotus and Immanuel Kant God's Call develops a version of the divine command theory in ethics defending it against objections based on human autonomy and locating it within the broader context of contemporary moral thinking Hare's work is valuable not only for its overview of the history of moral debate but also for its construction of a sound Christian ethic for today Divine Command Ethics Fred Richard Jensen, 2003 Religion and Morality Professor William J Wainwright, 2013-05-28 Religion and Morality addresses central issues arising from religion's relation to morality Part I offers a sympathetic but critical appraisal of the claim that features of morality provide evidence for the truth of religious belief Part II examines divine command theories objections to them and positive arguments in their support Part III explores tensions between human morality as ordinarily understood and religious requirements by discussing such issues as the conflict between Buddhist and Christian pacifism and requirements of justice whether virtue without a love of God is really a vice whether the God of the Abrahamic religions could require us to do something that seems clearly immoral and the ambiguous relations between religious mysticism and moral behavior Covering a broad range of topics this book draws on both historical and contemporary literature and explores afresh central issues of morality and religion offering new insights for students academics and the general reader interested in philosophy and religion *The Otherness of God* Orrin F. Summerell, 1998 This volume offers essays on the nature of God and the fundamental tasks of philosophy and theology written by internationally recognized thinkers in the distinct fields of philosophy religious studies and theology The Otherness of God traces the lineage of its theme from Plato and Aristotle through Neoplatonic medieval and Renaissance expression and on through Reformation thought and German idealism to dialectical theology and deconstruction This provocative collection drawn primarily from an interdisciplinary conference at the University of Virginia should attract those interested in the philosophy of religion the history of philosophy and theology and the theological interpretation of secular culture *Kierkegaard's Ethic of Love* C. Stephen Evans, 2004-09-10 C Stephen Evans explains and defends Kierkegaard's account of moral obligations as rooted in God's commands the fundamental command being You shall love your neighbour as yourself The work will be of interest not only to those interested in Kierkegaard but also to those interested in the relation between ethics and religion especially questions about whether morality can or must have a religious foundation As well as

providing a comprehensive reading of Kierkegaard as an ethical thinker Evans puts him into conversation with contemporary moral theorists Kierkegaard's divine command theory is shown to be an account that safeguards human flourishing as well as protecting the proper relations between religion and state in a pluralistic society The Divine Imperative Emil Brunner, 2002 One of the major works of the great German theologian Emil Brunner The Divine Imperative deals with what we ought to do People are unconvinced that there is an inviolable moral obligation governing human life because they do not believe that the good can be precisely and clearly known Haven't some generations called bad what others have called good Aren't moral standards relative Doesn't religion lack uniform and practical moral guidance Brunner discusses the moral confusion we face He analyses the nature of the Good showing why the Christian faith as understood by the Protestant Reformers provides the only true approach and answer to the ethical problem Philosophical ethics whether ancient or modern cannot correctly define the Good because the Good is regarded either as too abstract and absolute or as too concrete and relative Christianity by contrast sees the moral problem as one of responsibility between humans who are created so as to respond to God He created men for responsive fellowship with Him establishing orderly ways of acting in the world Correct understanding of the nature of society family state economic life is needed to discern one's duty Because Brunner's analysis is at once fundamental and comprehensive this book remains a fresh and compelling treatment of the moral problem It offers a provocative discussion and solution of a perennial human problem **God and Moral Obligation** C. Stephen Evans, 2013-03-01 Is there a connection between religion and morality Ivan Karamazov in Dostoevsky's The Brothers Karamazov famously declares that if God does not exist then everything is permitted Most philosophers reject such a view and hold that moral truths do not depend on God C. Stephen Evans argues that the truth lies somewhere between these two claims It is not quite right to say that there would be nothing left of morality if God did not exist but moral obligations do depend on God ontologically Such obligations are best understood as God's commands or requirements communicated to humans in a variety of ways including conscience In God and Moral Obligation Evans also argues that two views often thought to be rivals to a divine command morality natural law ethics and virtue ethics are not rivals at all but provide necessary complementary elements of a comprehensive morality A number of objections to a divine command account of moral obligations are posed and answered In the concluding chapters Evans points out the advantages such an account has over secular rivals The authority and objectivity of moral obligations are best explained by seeing them as divine commands

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