**Chapter Summary**

*Ethical Choices*, Third Edition

Richard Burnor and Yvonne Raley

Chapter 9: Deontology

The opening story in Chapter 9 raises doubts about the adequacy of a purely consequentialist ethics, suggesting that actions and motives are also important. Aspects of the deontological approach are then illustrated by Ross’s ethics (optional §II), with its duties normally holding regardless of their effects. Ross’s prima facie duties, actual duties, and intuitionism are also discussed. Kant’s anti-consequentialist notion of the Good Will takes up §III. Since the Good Will doesn’t tell us what ismorally right, we need to refer to Kant’s categorical imperative. That is presented first as the more intuitive principle of ends: never treat anyone as a means only. Kant’s principle of universal law is then explicated in detail with several illustrations. Next, some advantages and problems with Kantian ethics are discussed. Finally, an optional section presents Kant’s principle of autonomy and his Kingdom of ends as further versions of the categorical imperative.