

A379\_2017AbstractHillDaniel

## Abstract

Dietrich Bonhoeffer's intellectual history is a compelling and thought provoking wrestling match between convictions and morality. In light of historical pressures in the German churches, and the absence of a practicing Christian family, Bonhoeffer chose to enter into the field of ministry and study the discipline of theology. With increased political pressure on religious freedom from Hitler's Nazi regime, Bonhoeffer helped organize the Confessing Church in an effort to prevent Nazi manipulation of Christian doctrine. Later, Bonhoeffer used his contacts to aid the Valkyrie conspirators in an attempt to assassinate Hitler. In my paper, I analyze the mental transition Bonhoeffer endured to take each of these major steps in his life and how that influenced him to resist Hitler. Bonhoeffer serves as an extraordinary example of the common human dilemma: what do you do when there do not seem to be any good choices? In an effort to not compromise his belief in Biblical principles, yet still make a stand for Germany, Christianity, and persecuted Jews, Bonhoeffer attempted to navigate the challenges he faced with an increased reliance on Scripture, which he understood to be truth.

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