Extremal points for the fourth order boundary value problem $u^{(4)}+q(t) u=0,0 \leq t \leq 1$, with three point boundary conditions $u(0)=u^{\prime}(p)=u^{\prime \prime}(b)=u^{\prime \prime \prime}(b)=0$ where $1-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} \leq p \leq b \leq 1$ are classified. These results are applied to show the existence of a positive solution to the nonlinear boundary value problem $u^{(4)}+f(t, u)=0,0 \leq t \leq 1$, with similar boundary conditions. (Received August 09, 2013)

