

SERMON **MAY** 6th 2017

TITLE: "KNOWLEDGE WILL BE INCREASING..."

Daniel 12: 4

INTRODUCTION

We live in a period where all is going fast. Sciences, technologies are improving so fast. Any generation before has acquired knowledge as fast as this generation. Scientists confirm that in a very short time, a 15 years old teen can acquire a bunch of knowledge an adult could have accumulated until his seventies. This is due to the development of media, modern TIC, mobiles, Internet, communication and networks. You might have noticed how skillful a four-year old child is in manipulating and playing with a mobile phone. Seeing that, some feel at the same time amazed and frightened whereas others are wondering to what extent people could go in development.

Another question comes to my mind: to what extent the church could go in exploiting technology and development?

1- Creation: God of communication

What surprises me in the bible is that God "speaks". Did it ever come to your mind that a so powerful God could have created the world differently? Yes, He could have created the world by using other means than words, but He chose to « SPEAK ».

No other god in this world has this power. « They have mouths but they do not speak, they have eyes but they do not see and they have ears but they do not hear ... ». This is how the Bible defines gods in psalm 115: 5, 6. Because: « their gods are made of silver and gold, they are handy made. »

But our Lord is a God who can SPEAK. He is a God of COMMUNICATION.

When He created the light and all things we need to be happy, God spoke. He spoke in order to create a perfect world to welcome Adam and Eve.

He has concerted before creation the man, the perfection of His creation. Yes, he had a conversation and the Holy Scripture says: « and God says: let us create men in our image ... » (Gen. 1: 26).

When the Bible says: « God saw all His creation» (Gen. 1: 31), He said it was perfect. This perfection does not only refer to His creatures, men, the earth and the heaven only; it refers as well to « WORD » and « CONVERSATION » He had while he was creating the universe. We could even say that this “WORD”

If we could have a glance in John 1, a chapter condensed with Genesis 1, we can see that John is showing us that this « WORD » is the center of creation. This “WORD” became flesh and dwelt among us. In other words, « He is willing to communicate with us », we see that meaning in « EMMANUEL », « God is with us! »

2- Communication in Eden

The first and second chapters of Genesis are full of conversation and communication between God and us. In the second chapter, He confirms that it is not good for the man to be alone. It is a way for God to value communication. Communication and Information are important.

God has given us a wonderful freedom. Just simply think that « God has come down from heaven to discuss with men ». He taught men how to communicate. He guided us to entertain a good communication.

From all creation, man is chosen by God to be equipped with the wonderful gift of communication. We can perfectly communicate to others. Men can communicate in different ways to express his needs.

- Men can use « words » to talk; in men’s speech are perfect structured words that go beyond any other structures’ skill.
- Men can « communicate without using words», by using body language, facial expressions, postures, appearances and so on. Each gesture, action, way of dressing can hide a meaning and a value.
- Yes, even home design and building structures can send a message to different culture and region. Tools, materials and structures can reveal its owner’s personality, identity, origin...
- Moreover, men can invent his own communication tools. He is the only one among all creation to have this skill. Painting, photos, writings are progressing so fast. Starting with wall scripture, wood graving, clay graving. Egyptians wrote on papyrus papers. Their writings are still stored in different museums of different countries. Later, men used letters brought by messengers. Then boats brought messages faster.

3- Salvation and communication

It is interesting that despite troubles provoked by Satan to drive men so far away, to be separated from God, He is all the time looking for them and is always willing to communicate with them. Being gifted means to develop communication, men have the opportunity to receive His message.

God uses all means, In the old time, mouth to ear communication, scripture on wood skin, clay, papyrus has been recorded to save humanity. Nowadays, the communication through computers, phones, messages, emails, internet connection and social media can be used and has been used to bring many souls to God through the years.

The prophecy is clear: “[last words] and you Daniel enroll the word, seal it until the end of the times; many will be searching, and the knowledge will be increasing. [Heb. communicating]. (Daniel 12: 4) Underline the words: SEARCH - COMMUNICATE. We cannot ignore communication in its entire dimension. Telecommunication is included in communication. We cannot prevent information to spread. We cannot ignore its use and its means. (We cannot say we are Christian and cannot take planes, cars or motors). Similarly, we cannot avoid using communication tools.

What are rules then?

Daniel says: « and the wise will be brightening like heaven; and those who bring many to the truth will be like a star for centuries and centuries. » (Dan.12: 3).

Evolution in technologies should not frighten us. On the contrary, we can use them to succeed For the Lord. “ USE THOSE TOOLS TO BRING MEN TO KNOW THE TRUTH. » (Jeremiah 23: 6, 33: 16).

Dear church, why not deciding to use those tools to bring more men and women to the Lord? I am making an appeal to young people to bring many more to know the truth – the Lord is our truth. Let us be right young stars for centuries and centuries. If this is your decision this morning, let us stand up and bring it to the Lord in prayer.

Pastor RAKOTONANDRASANA Rado Andrianoro
Director of IOUC Communication Department