

Contemporary Theology Regarding Love for God and for our Fellow. Biblical Basis

Fr. PhD Prof. ALEXANDRU ISVORANU
Prof. EMILIAN DUMITRU PĂUNESCU,
University of Craiova,
alexandruisvoranu@yahoo.ro

Abstract

In the Old Testament the love of brother, our neighbor, works only in part. The cause of this feeling can be found in the extinction of the concept of “neighbor” is limited only for the Jewish people. On the other side, the fulfillment of this commandment is in the New Testament, which complete this feeling in the lives of all people, regardless of race and of the way of understanding Good the Creator.

The Saviour with His new religious teaching renders to the concept about man its real and noble content reintegrating the man in its human dignity and in his natural rights – because according to the christian teaching all men being created in Good’s image and similarity and having all the same nature, obviously, all have even equal moral value. Each of them is a moral person, a purpose in themselves and not an instrument, a thing or an ordinary animal. The human and moral dignity – anchoring in the spiritual, common nature of all men, without no exception – belongs to all of them; it is one and the same, equal for all men, without any kind of discrimination.

The equality of all under the aspect of the being’s essence and of the moral dignity is a recognized and preached truth by Christianity that addresses with its teaching to all without any kind of difference. Go into all the world, preach the Gospel to all people – orders the Saviour to His disciples.

All have the same rights in front of God, all are brethren in Christ who died for the sins of all. But the saint apostle Paul says: “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female for you are all one in Christ Jesus” (Gal. 3, 28) – signing with this the message of man’s releasing from the crushing system of the ancient social conceptions. In

contrast with the conceptions displayed up to its appearance, Christianity then brings a new concept about man; it brings the principle of liberty, of equality and fraternity on the basis of a new criterion for the evolution of man, the moral-religious criterion.

We know that the Saviour preached His new teaching but He achieved it even with the deed. Thus in His teaching, He gives to the concept about man its true content and noble and at the same time by His attitude in the daily relations with those around Him, respecting in each of them the man's dignity wishing to be for all a vivid model of social behavior.