Mission and Pastoral Care Through Discipleship or Catechesis? History, Challenges and Solutions

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Abstract

In the Romanian Orthodox theology, the words *mission* and *pastoral care* are used very often in a mixed way. Nevertheless, there are some differences between them and we explain why. In the main part of our article, we demonstrate that the biblical verse regarding the great commandment for mission was translated in a wrong way and it gave a different paradigm for mission. In the second part, we speak about catechesis and catechumenate at the beginning of the Church and about the present situation regarding these activities. In the last part, we analyze what happens around the Holy Sacrament of Baptism when we speak about mission or pastoral care. In consequences, this article presents some conclusions which can be applied in the life and activity of the Romanian Orthodox Church