



Montage: Pasteure Fr. Mési, Bourg-en-Bresse

Biblical and theological elements in a digitally shaped life

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three steps

- about God
- about human being
- about christian life

At each step the theological affirmations shall either help to underline

- **opportunities**

or

- **critical distance**

from christian point of view

From the book of Psalms

Ps. 139 God's Complete Knowledge and Care

¹LORD, you have examined me and you know me.

²You know everything I do;

from far away you understand all my thoughts.

³You see me, whether I am working or resting;
you know all my actions.

⁴Even before I speak,
you already know what I will say.

⁵You are all round me on every side;
you protect me with your power.

⁶Your knowledge of me is too deep;
it is beyond my understanding.

⁷**Where could I go to escape from you?**

Where could I get away from your presence?

⁸**If I went up to heaven, you would be there;**

if I lay down in the world of the dead, you would be there.

⁹If I flew away beyond the east or lived in the farthest place in the west,
¹⁰**you would be there to lead me, you would be there to help me.**

¹¹I could ask the darkness to hide me
or the light round me to turn into night,
¹²but even darkness is not dark for you,
and the night is as bright as the day.

Darkness and light are the same to you.

¹⁷O God, how difficult I find your thoughts;
how many of them there are!

¹⁸**If I counted them, they would be more than the grains of sand.**
When I awake, I am still with you.

אַסְפִּירָם מִחֹל יִרְבּוּן הַקִּיצֹתִי וְעוֹדִי עִמָּךְ:

²³Examine me, O God, and know my mind;
test me, and discover my thoughts.

²⁴Find out if there is any evil in me
and guide me in the everlasting way.

about God

I

- God is creator of everything – out of nothing

Genesis 1

- God knows everything - wellspring of all wisdom

Col 2³[Christ] is the key that opens all the hidden treasures of God's wisdom and knowledge.

- God is with us in all steps / stages of our live

Ps 139

- God created time

Genesis 1

night / day – working days / sabbat or holidays
(all creation needs this alternance: action / rest)

*Remember the the idea of the „decadi“ in french revolution:
Have a Resting day after nine days of work failed be introduced!)*

- **God as the Other** (*altérité*)
in Dialogue and **relation** with human being
and the whole creation

about God

II

- God **is** communication in himself:
The Mystery of Trinity
giving and receiving
Father - Son - Holy Spirit
- **God wants Human being
to join in / become part of
to Gods own communication**

*This can be understood as a model
for all communication*



about human being

- created by God *and*
- part of the dialogue with God
- this relation is the (only) foundation of identity
- face to face - personal contact
are essential to full human life
*while digital life is dissociating
time and place*
- called to be co-creating with God
God gave wisdom to human being to create,
also digital worlds!

How technique helps to spread the gospel:

WWW.HANDWERK.DE

**Mit Hammer und Nagel
ließ sich schon immer
Großes erreichen.**

500 Jahre Martin Luther und die Reformation
– undenkbar ohne das Handwerk.

DAS HANDWERK
DIE WIRTSCHAFTSMACHT. VON NEBENAN.

With hammer and nail
since ever
a big outcome is possible.

500 years – Martin Luther and Reformation
inimaginable without us craftsmen

On the other hand: Critical distance towards technical development by faith



Arma Christi
cross, 1980ies
nearby Leutkirch
© A. Knoch

about christian life

I

- Individually
called to new life in freedom
and
- Called to new life in solidarity
- Justification by grace is the foundation of
- Sanctification (answering to Gods love through love)
or:
perfection is the fruit of Gods Grace not of self-optimization as suggested in the digital world, where „Lifelong learning“ is required.
Lifelong growing and the experience of forgiveness has some similarity to this concept, but is not the same as it has a spiritual and a human dimension,
but is has not to be „traded“ with.

about christian life

II

How we get in contact with God

- Media / supports always were used
narratives – manuscripts / letters – printed – radio – TV – digitalized...
illumination – conversion
but: ApActs (Philippus) –
personal **witnessing makes the „difference“**
- **communication can help create communion**

actual debate: can we or not receive communion at a TV service?

Digital supports:

*They risk to distract,
they keep on working, while we are searching for rest
(How to concentrate?)*

Examples:

- „Godspot“ (Protestant Church of Berlin)
- Partenia (see next slide)



godspot

Das freie WLAN der Evangelischen Kirche

Partenia

En bref

Actualité

Carnet de route

La Bible

Rétrospective

Histoire de Partenia

**Biographie
de Jacques Gaillot**

Rencontre avec le Pape

Bibliographie

Archives

Recherche

Liens

Impressum



**Partenia est un espace de liberté
où l'on peut entrer en dialogue
avec tous les peuples de la terre
Jacques Gaillot**

**Partenia
is a space of
liberty
to dialogue
with all peoples
of this world**

www.partenia.org

about christian life

III

How we get in contact with the others

Ecclesiology

- Church as the body of Christ and its members

see 1 Cor 12

Reformation: Priesthood of the baptized

cloud intelligence

*In agile teams, creativity can circulate, each one has something to say
no subordination, diversity is needed*

- Church(es) as network

Pauls letters create and support communion,
there was no central authority, but interconnectivity as in the wor(l)dwideweb

- The different charismas of the church traditions can be interrelated

See:

*Gemeinsamer Glaube mit Zukunft: Progressive Vernetzung der Charismen. Eine protestantische Vision Hans-Martin Barth MD
4/2015*

- *Practical church life*

What means resurrection of the flesh ?

Speaking about - resurrection of the flesh –
not without our whole person
not as a newly formatted hard disc,
but including and transcending our experience
and put together by God to a new life
(as in a mosaic/collage)

See artistic work of Anne Merkelbach (next slide)

Wie wollen wir arbeiten?



Kreative schaffen selbst-
bestimmt. Aber das müssen
sie sich leisten können

11

Teilzeit, das klingt so toll.
Aber ist es das auch?

20-22

Erfolg durch Arbeit:
Eisschnellläuferin Gunda
Niemann-Stirnemann im
Gespräch

26-27

- Pour ou contre?
- Comment uti
Me pas se laisser faire / mais
- Technik- und Erfolgsfreundlichkeit der
Gesellschaft / auch des Protestantismus und
die Rechtfertigungslehre stehen im
Widerspruch,
Das protestantische Paradox (Thiede,
Pfarrerblatt)