

Summary

Meeting of the Gospel message with the culture of Japan in the context of the changing missionary method

The message of the Gospel was proclaimed to the Japanese nation in the 16th century, the missionaries came to this country with a different culture than in Europe, where the work of evangelization took place, therefore the title of this work is: *Meeting of the Gospel Message with the culture of Japan in the context of the changing mission method*. The meeting of Christianity with the Far East culture has lasted for several centuries to understand today's situation of Christianity, it is necessary to recall the beginning of the mission, analyze the next stages, come to our times.

The word *gospel* means *good news* it is a special good news from a particular source and concerning a particular topic. This is a message that God commanded to proclaim to all mankind. We want to open our hearts to the voice of the Gospel. Let us ask Christ for courage to go with the message of the Gospel to the meeting of the modern world, the world of Asia.

The periphery for Christian Europe in the sixteenth century was Japan, there was also a meeting of the Gospel with the culture of Japan. The Church, wanting to fulfill her mission in the best possible way, was adapting to changing social and political conditions.

Great events that took place in the world. The result of reflection, missionary practice, will be new methods of missionary, pastoral and evangelizing work.

The Japanese church is a very small community, but it plays an important social role. Christians make up one percent of society. About half of them are Catholics. There are over 500,000 people in a population of 125 million people in Japan. You must add foreigners to it. There are several Catholic universities, including famous universities in Tokyo and Nagoya. There are many kindergartens and primary schools and high schools run by church entities. They belong to very good schools. Dominican and Salesian schools are known.

When it comes to the activities of the Catholic Church in Japan, it is generally possible to divide it into four fields: education, charity, mass media and direct pastoral work in parish churches. Presenting the current situation of the Church very generally, it can be stated that the results of the work of evangelization are not impressive, a meeting of the gospel with the culture of Japan has been going on since the sixteenth century and you can look for the past, present and future. Undoubtedly, one could see many reasons for the non-proliferation of Christianity in Japan, such as materialism, consumerism, hedonism, a large rift between spiritual and technical culture, but I think that the most important reasons can be found in the Church itself.

Every new Christian is a huge gift for the Church, but also for the Japanese society. Every adult baptized person has their own personal motivation to receive baptism or their own history of coming to faith. Each of them is certainly different, although it is not always fully expressed in words. It is simply a grace that everyone received personally from the Lord.

When I am fortunate to accompany such a person in this process of developing faith, it is always an experience of the enormous Mystery, an experience of one of the greatest miracles you can experience. For sure it will be a great impoverishment, shallowing, but I will try to give some examples of tangible motivations with which I personally met. Many people are baptized because of or under the influence of their spouse or other family members.

