

Igor Bondar

Focus

Focus

Our world is incredible in its scale. This also applies to geography - we are surrounded by hundreds of seas and countries. And if you look up at the night sky, you can see thousands of stars, each of which is larger than the Earth. This also applies to history – life on Earth is many thousands of years old and it had many different forms and manifestations. The history of human himself is not so ancient but it is full of many important events. Our world is large-scale in spiritual and philosophical terms. Hundreds and even thousands of wonderful philosophers, sages and saints lived on Earth and left behind a very deep mark. A person can plunge into the depths of priceless wisdom, learn the secrets of the universe and the divine by studying their heritage. Our world is incredible in the abundance of everything it may offer to humans.

All this has to do with the possibility of people's development and education. However, if someone wants to control a person and manage him then all of the above, on the contrary, becomes unnecessary and even harmful for him. You don't need broad knowledge in order to manage a person, but targeted focus or fragmentation. A focus, and also a lie. It is difficult and sometimes even impossible, to manage a person with extensive education and deep knowledge. However, if his education or worldview was in advance deliberately focused on certain events or facts only, with the use of “useful” lies in addition then such a

person received a partially false or biased worldview. And this, in essence, is some form of programming.

Let's explain this with a simple example. Let's say a person has done fifty good deeds and five hundred bad ones in his life. So, by focusing, that is, seeing only good events from his life (quite real), we get a portrait of a very good person. By focusing only on his bad experiences, we get the image of a very bad guy. However, we will see the real picture only when we look at his deeds as a whole and see the balance of good and bad.

So, even a simple targeted focus on real, but selective events, can have a serious effect. And if you add lies here - invent various false events, non-existent facts, an unreal story - then a person who does not double-check all this and does not see the lies can be programmed to do a lot.

It is sad, but in recent years this kind of programming has become one of the most popular, profitable and highly effective business models in humanity. After all, a programmed person is invaluable to his programmer. He votes only for those who are profitable to the programmer. He buys what he is told through advertising. He goes where he is told and behaves as he was told. This is a kind of ideal living machine, which can also be convinced that it is as free as possible. This is what can be achieved by targeted focusing of attention and lies - an important building material for creating a controlled personality.

All this reminds us of a film studio a little. A kind of unreal reality is also created there with the help of various focusing of video cameras, scenery and actors portraying other people. However, in this case, all people know about it. Moreover, with

the good quality of the film, the acting and the interesting plot, people even like to consider it real for a while. Many manipulators on Earth, with the help of purposeful focusing of attention, fragmentation and lies, in fact, also create non-existent realities. However, so many people don't even suspect about it.

Honesty

Our sometimes very unhealthy world is increasingly teaching people to perceive reality without its binding to morality and decency. We are becoming more and more accustomed to the fact that politicians, businessmen and even ordinary people can first say or promise one thing, then something completely different, and as a result do a third thing instead. So, year after year this is presented to people more and more as the norm.

However, this is not normal, and there is no such thing in the main and eternal world of God. There, what they say, think or do is always the same. And that is called honesty. Moreover, the Creator told people what is good and right, told them about the importance of honesty for a person two thousand years ago. He also told everyone about the father of any dishonesty, or in other words, lies. Therefore, people have long known that any lie comes from the devil.

It is extremely unwise to forget the words of God. Serious problems also await all those who try to distort the words of the

Lord, cancel His commandments, or even erase knowledge about the Creator from the life of His creatures (that is, lie again). Such a deed causes the most harm to the one who commits it - God also said this a long time ago. In addition, this action is always doomed to failure in the end - is it possible to talk about the confrontation between the Creator of the world and individual sinful people seriously? It's like with fish - how can those of them who decide to fight the current of the river look smart?

Contradictions

It is easy to notice that, in recent times, new contradictions have begun to appear on the planet and in some places old contradictions have deepened in societies on a variety of issues. Supporters of all kinds of freedoms criticize the adherents of conservative views. Supporters of traditional family relations condemn lovers of sexual open spaces. Adherents of ordinary two-gender humanity do not accept the newfangled multi-gender view of the world and much, much more. In addition, there are also contradictions between people who remember the history and draw conclusions from it, and those who claim that the past no longer matters much.

Divisions sometimes occur within the sexes as well. Thus, for example, some of the women of Earth today want to be in no way inferior to men and another part of them tries to completely exclude themselves from the objects of male desires. It is unlikely

that men are happy about all this. And as for the employees of museums and art galleries, these days they look with horror at the possible fate of their exhibits. After all, a good half of all the works of art of humankind for the entire period of its existence is dedicated (oh God!) to the beauty of the female body.

The attitude to such contradictions in various places of the world is different. Some more conservative countries today are trying to protect traditional views from the newfangled influence. To the best of their ability, they preserve the time-tested information field, where religions exist, universally recognized centuries-old philosophy, various good and moral books, fairy tales and films. All this has helped more than one generation in those countries to grow up in normal families as honest, kind and moral citizens.

Whereas those countries where vast newfangled freedoms have already become widespread behave in a different way. There, as a rule, traditional religion, philosophy, moral books, fairy tales and films are gradually being replaced with some new information products. And they have completely different views, rules and criteria. If we try to give them a brief definition from the standpoint of the former world, then the words sin, immorality, welter and absurdity are quite suitable for this purpose. The age of that newfangled culture is quite miserable by historical standards - just a couple of decades. However, it seems that the countries that have embarked on this path are not at all afraid of this fact.

Does everything like this happens in the world by chance? This question can definitely be answered – no. It does not take

any special ability to see that all these new changes are purposeful, consistent and planned. And their main goal is the destruction of morality and decency in people.

This period of development of events in humankind was told to people by God two thousand years ago, during His coming to Earth. Therefore, there is nothing particularly surprising in what is happening today. By the way, this is precisely why many of the newfangled changes, if you look closely at them, have another very specific goal - the maximum withdrawal of people from God, from His words, from His commandments.

However, the reality of our world - the world of God - is such that a departure from the rules of the Lord is always a turn towards dead-end directions from the point of view of evolution. Supporters of such newfangled ideas, far from the Commandments, will eventually leave the information space for a variety of reasons. And this will inevitably happen, because these ideas themselves are not viable. Whereas traditional human families will continue their journey throughout the earth and pass on a much healthier morality, decency and culture to their children. As, in principle, it has always been.

The life created by God is wise and, figuratively speaking, it has a certain ability to cleanse itself of some delusions. And no one can do anything about it - these are the laws of the Creator of the world and people. Well, if someone does not like a highly moral and decent, kind and loving, honest and caring God and His commandments, then this is definitely not a God's problem.

God and science

It is quite funny to observe the attitude of the scientific world in some countries to the manifestations of the divine on Earth. Science, which always relies on evidence to substantiate a particular law, clearly makes an exception here. For some reason, it completely refuses to accept miracles as evidence of the existence of God. But those miracles, that is the indisputable facts of the superiority of God over the physical laws of the world, there are many, many thousands. Many tens of thousands of people witnessed those miracles.

Why is this happening? After all, if objects fall to the ground, then the law of universal gravitation appears. However, science does not turn God's numerous superiority of the laws of the physical world, His healing and even resurrection of people into its law. And it seems that scientists don't even really care how many thousands of miracles-confirmations of this there are on Earth.

However, one can try to find an explanation for this unusual phenomenon in science. All physical laws do not require a person to change his behavior: they do not require him to adhere to high moral principles, they do not tell him about the importance of honesty, kindness and love. But God's law recommends that people to do all this. It is well known that people (including scientists) usually do not really like to change the behavior they got used to. Perhaps this is why there is not much enthusiasm among scientists about recognizing the existence of God.

Horizon of consciousness

One of the main tasks of a person in this life is to see the existing world as broadly as possible – and therefore more correctly. It is precisely this vision and understanding of the world that inevitably sets more correct goals, priorities and desires in life. Let's clarify this thought.

For example, a small child is digging in the sandbox. At this stage, the whole world for him mostly consists of his home, his parents and some familiar places, including this sandbox. Some new toy is his maximum desire at this age. And of course, this child's desire is absolutely logical and understandable at this level of vision of the world.

The next important stage in a child's life is the process of obtaining an education. As he learns, he begins to see the existing world more and more broadly. In addition, he is already trying to find his place in the world. Children's toys are gradually being replaced by various technology and electronics. His first plans about how he can achieve something in this life are born.

As the child grows up, his understanding of the world expands further. He gains new knowledge about the laws of the country and the world, an understanding of the different religions on Earth, philosophy, and culture appears. Thanks to this new understanding a person chooses his place in life even more accurately. Today, the most common goals at this stage in the world are usually money, career, various pleasures, success and the like.

In itself, the growth of a person's consciousness and education is somewhat similar to raising him above the ground. The greater the height at which a person is, the more space he is able to cover in his field of vision. It is also worth noting here that as a person's vision changes, their past goals from earlier stages of life usually begin to look different. So for an adult, his childhood desire for toys or school dreams are just funny memories.

A person is designed in such a way that everything he feels and understands at any stage seems correct and sufficient to him. However, of course, this is not the case. Although objectively, within the framework of only the material idea of the world, his consciousness does not have much space to grow indeed.

But if a person begins to cognize the divine on earth (which is absolutely scientific, since it is based on many thousands of facts and evidence), then his further inner growth can continue at a good pace. Because in this case, he begins to study a world that is immeasurably superior to the Earthly one. And moreover, a world that determines and regulates all processes on Earth.

Therefore, it is not surprising that the consciousness of such a person continues to expand further, and the horizon of his vision sometimes goes beyond the purely Earthly world. Like any other knowledge, the knowledge of some divine laws also begins to become an integral part of a person over time. The undisputed, most interesting and useful part of him.

Two worlds

Our world has changed inconceivably in recent decades. So much so in some ways that perhaps the former world and today's world already are two completely different worlds. How are these changes expressed? If we leave emotional assessments and turn to facts, then in the new world lies have grown a lot in some places, tremendously even. Approximately in the same proportion the immorality and sinfulness of people have grown in many countries. Also, cynicism, greed, hypocrisy and manipulation of people has greatly increased. Furthermore, the manifestations of absurdity and unreasonableness have increasingly multiplied in the world as well.

What has decreased in the world? Honesty, nobility, decency, morality and responsibility at times has also decreased in many countries. Romanticism, pursuit of beauty and harmony has decreased. Even more, faith in God has greatly decreased on Earth.

Why is the new world - a different world? It is just like a house - if you just change the wallpaper or furniture inside, then this is a refurbishment or a change in the interior design of an old house. While if you change the foundation, walls and roof, then in fact this is the construction of a completely new, different house. The changes that have taken place in many countries of the world in recent decades are so massive that they are comparable in their significance to the change in walls, foundation and roof of a house.

The old world was created by God and was guided by Him for thousands of years. Its aim is to educate good, honest and moral people on Earth on the basis of the rules-commandments given to people by God. However, the new world was already completely "built" by the people themselves. Yes, in fact, like everything else in this world, the new world belongs to God. But in its essence, in some places already it is infinitely far from Him.

Does God need such a new world? The exact answer to this question, of course, can only be known to God. However, it can be assumed that, possibly, if this world can still return to some significant extent to the fulfillment of its main purpose - the education of kind, honest and decent people. But God hardly needs the world for the "education" of egoists, liars, hypocrites, immoral people and other sinners.

The upbringing

For an oak to grow, one must plant a seed or seedling from an oak. For a pine to grow, one must plant a seed or seedling from a pine. By throwing grass seeds on earth, it is absurd to expect that trees to grow from them. The formation and development of anything in nature has its own logic, sequence and result.

Something genuine, high and kind in the sphere of human qualities does not also come from nothing or develop by itself. So, as an example, for a person to become noble qualities, from an early childhood he must hear about noble examples, read

books and watch movies about it, and listen to his parent's or teacher's stories about the beauty of being noble. All of this together can be considered a seed or seedling of this high human quality. Without all of these events, how can a person discover the value of being noble? Similar situation appears with the other beautiful human qualities - honesty, loyalty, dedication, kindness and so on.

People, one way or the other, openly or in secret expect in their souls high and kind deeds from other people. However, one must realise that these deeds - are not an accident, but valuable "fruits" of the upbringing. Simple expectation them, without understanding the basics of that process - is naivety, which only leads to disappointment in people. Yet, people are not always at fault here. The fault lies more on those who 'simplified' or abolished the process of proper and serious upbringing of these people in the past.

Is it possible to recuperate the process of such upbringing on Earth today? Maybe. Of course, in our age of mass 'consumer culture' in almost all countries of the world, to a varied degree, most of the things have been lost in the past decades. Nevertheless, not a small number of teachers and other carriers of the more moral upbringing exist in the world. Also, hundreds and even thousands of books and movies remain that carry the right ideas and thoughts. These could also play a positive, educational role.

However, the main thing - words of God. His Commandments are still available to people all over the world. There, it is stated in detail about what a person can become and how he can reach it. This is the standard of education from the Creator of our world and man himself. With it, it is impossible to go astray.

Reality and its perception

There is always exists a reality, and there is always exists our perception of it. That said, our perception of reality may be very different - from being close and accurate to being far removed from reality. In order for us to figuratively imagine it, let us consider a photographer who takes pictures of nature, for example. Depending on the quality of his camera, the pictures may have poor quality, black and white or a good quality that would accurately depict the landscape.

Similarly, people may perceive reality differently. Only the role of perception instrument plays what we generally call to be our consciousness or formed personality, instead of the camera.

The consciousness of any person is in essence a result of a choice and acceptance of the particular part of the information he considered correct and necessary. So, this information we always receive: from the first days it comes from parents, later it comes from different teachers, but also from the screens of the TV and the internet, radio and many other places. As a result, a stable system of perceptions and beliefs is eventually formed within us, through which we look at the world, at the events in it. This is a sort of our 'personal camera', with which we reflect the reality within ourselves.

It should be noted that a person is largely responsible for the consciousness he develops in his life. Of course, the place of his residence and the surrounding has some meaning. However today, in the age of total information availability, anyone willing can find out anything he would desire, anywhere. So, the precise field of interest of the specific person depends mainly on himself.

The principles themselves for the formation of human consciousness are not so complicated. So, if a person strives to be kind, honest and decent in his thoughts and deeds, a quite high consciousness will be formed within him in time. Or, in other words, his inner 'camera' appraisal of reality will gain a higher quality. After all this, the perception of reality by this person will not be far from actuality. And vice versa.

Is there any confirmation of all this mentioned above in the world? Of course, there is. It is enough to remember the One Who once created all of reality and ourselves. Naturally, it is God whose existence on Earth is proven by the many thousands of miracles. It was He who gave people the main 'instruction' for the correct human behavior - the Commandments. The value of all kind and moral qualities in a person is stated there, along with the benefit of it to a person. Hence, it is logical that by striving for kind and moral life, people always experience the most positive changes.

The loss of love

Love is necessary for a human, so we always worry a lot should it leave our life. This is a very relevant topic, especially in our time as the durability of our families on Earth is declining. The sad statistics indicate that in certain countries the number of divorces per year is approaching the number of new marriages.

For humans, it is always painful to lose love. A significant part of human creativity - songs, books, poems - dedicated to this

topic. This is another proof of the fact that this particular topic is concerned by many.

Partially this is because almost every human in the world to some degree touched upon real love. Much a lot of people know what a wonderful feeling this is and how high it can elevate us above the ground. So, as a beautiful love leaves, people start to get upset - without love they become very sad and feeling empty.

The most creative personalities then compose different works on this topic, philosophers attempt to consider the reasons for appearance and disappearance of love, psychologists think about how to help people cope with consequences and so on. The situation is indeed unusual as, first and foremost, love cannot be grasped physically. Secondly, real love most certainly happens as we sometimes are willing to overcome the mountains for another. Thirdly, it can definitely disappear somewhere.

Not surprising that many people puzzle over this, and at times even write something down. Let us join the latter, but at the same time try to think more about how the Creator of all people, and of love too, looks at this question?

Without any doubt, in love, particularly the first love, each person strives to become better, each is being filled by that very love. Everything else seems not so important in comparison. On this stage of being in love, many idolise their chosen other half, consider that person to be the best and are willing to boil the ocean for them. We are always eager to trust the person we love and think that this feeling is in us forever. Often, such love happens on both sides at the same time.

However, this situation seems somewhat different in actuality. Indeed, love actually simply elevates a person for a certain

amount of time. Yet, in life, every person in love is almost always a regular person with his own passions. Love only for time extinguishes these passions with its mighty power. Once love leaves, a completely different picture appears. Similarly, as a once beautiful lake after shallowing could become a not so beautiful bottom.

So, many then start to realise that a person they once loved and literally idolised is different in reality. Sometimes, that person's actions do not fit the definition of love or beautiful relationships. It is not surprising that as the result of each such action the feeling of love in the relationships begins to wither away. In a life together, these actions usually happen from both sides. We are simply good at seeing the faults in others, as for ourselves, we are often not much better.

Of course, it is God who gives us love and other high feelings that exist in human relationships. But the passions that the evil one throws us, and which we voluntarily accept, are already our "acquisition". It is these passions that start to erode our love. This process can go very far. According to statistics, many of the most hateful people to each other are those whom we once loved. Thus, human relationships may grow from a huge plus side into a big minus side.

Those passions that "helped" to destroy their relationships tend not to stop there. It is not rare for these passions to try and bother the former lovers by invoking the feeling of mutual hostility and sometimes even vengeance. Unfortunately, there are numerous examples of this.

God gives us the feeling of happiness provided by true love, in our first and sometimes other relationships down the line. For us to remember this feeling and seek it. Is it possible to love each

other always and not lose such a high love? Of course, that is how Paradise lives - everyone always loves each other there. On Earth as well, there are plenty of couples that manage to preserve the high and the beautiful love throughout all of their lives.

Here, the secret is that in a relationship between two people passions must not appear. Yet, that result cannot be achieved without the process of constant diminishing of one's passions. For that, we need to often look at ourselves critically, always apologize when we have done something wrong, to forgive the mistakes of others. It is vital to always and in all things be sincere and honest when it comes to relationships. So, in essence, one need to approach life according to the Commandments of the Creator of the world and people.

Then we shall always be able to recover our relationships to the original state of beautiful form and even develop it further. However, if we do not do this work, then, taking into account the passions inside us, it will be impossible to keep a high relationship for a long time. At most, the relationship can then be kept in a very truncated format, far from the desired outcome. But this looks more like an agreement to live together. In such a relationship, people often quarrel, sometimes they make up and they are not always honest with one another. There is no point comparing this with high love, where people are ready to do a lot for the sake of another, and where all of the feelings are much more pure and beautiful.

The numerous poems, songs and other works on this topic in humanity indicate to how painful it is for people to lose real and beautiful feelings. It is important for people - high love provides us with happiness in life, fullness and adds new meanings.

So, this love in our life is achievable if we begin to resist our passions. If both in a couple will properly understand the reasons for the improvement or degradation of their relationship well, and begin to fight for them, they will succeed. Then, beautiful and high love can stay with them for long, for any amount of time. Not only on Earth, but beyond. As the fight with passions not simply preserves love, but it also pulls each person closer to the door of the eternal world of the Creator.

Progress and development

Nowadays there is a lot of talk about progress. Yet, what is actual progress? Examining the definition, we find that progress is a process of development and advancement in certain areas of life. It can concern technological, cultural and social development of societies. The progress is also often understood as a movement from less perfect to more perfect.

However, the Creator of world and people, of course, also has His own opinion about what real progress is for people. And this opinion is the most accurate one. Because it is stupid to argue with the fact that the Creator of people is always immeasurably higher than His creations. And He knows precisely what is the most important development for these creations.

Therefore, to understand how in actuality the situation with the progress on Earth looks, let us consider this issue not from the usual human point of view, but from the point which God told us about.

Obviously, a lot is happening nowadays in the world in the sphere of human development. For example, scientific and technological direction is developing rapidly. Over the past few decades, humanity has progressed in this area perhaps even further than in its entire previous history. The quality of life increased for the people, many conveniences appeared, the level of communication and information sharing increased and so on. However, does the Creator consider it to be an actual progress for humanity and has the human himself developed?

It is obvious, that where previously a person did two tasks a day, now thanks to new technologies, he can do 20 or even 200 tasks a day. However, can this fact be considered a progress in itself? And here a lot depends on the answer to the question - what do people spend their cleared up time on? Maybe they ponder more often about the real purpose of life searching for reasons of happiness and unhappiness? Perhaps, with the help of new technologies, they achieve deep and important understandings in life? Gaining faith, for example, realizing the importance of goodness, honesty and morality. And, of course, discovering the most important thing as the result - the opportunity to gain immortal life and the path to achieving it.

Unfortunately, the reality indicates that the majority of people spend almost all of their now freed time on a completely different things - earning even larger sums of money, various leisure activities and pleasures and so on. Very few people direct their interest into spiritual direction. And in vain.

Because the achievement of the eternal life by a person - is, of course, a pinnacle of his true development. What kind of other human achievements during the short few decades of his life on

Earth can be compared with the opportunity of his achieving an eternal life in the best place? None, of course.

In general, when discussing such important topics, it is often useful to make some clear analogies or comparisons. Although the existence of God has long proven on Earth by the many thousands of miracles, it is still not easy for people to constantly remember the most important things. Hence, simple and appropriate comparisons and analogies can be of great help here. Let's try to offer something that, in our opinion, is quite suitable.

My friends and I have been scuba diving for many years. We have special equipment needed for this - oxygen tanks, breathing regulators, inflatable jackets, fins, diving masks, etc. Thanks to all this equipment, we are able to swim in the underwater world. Nevertheless, the time of our stay at depth is always limited - when the air tanks get low, we always need to surface.

Our life on Earth is perhaps somewhat similar to some kind of underwater diving. Human soul also puts on some 'equipment' for staying on Earth - our body - after that it 'dives' into the Earthly life for 70-90 years. However, just like it is with diving - after the air runs out in the tank, human must come back to the surface, and so it is on Earth - our soul, after spending the resources of our body, must leave it behind along and this Earthly world.

Diving equipment is only useful underwater - on land it becomes absolutely unnecessary. Same as our body along with all the skills we acquired on Earth - be it the ability to driving a car, speaking a foreign language, running a business or something else - becomes absolutely useless in the world where we will come to after this Earthly life.

That is, all our earthly professions and knowledge mean nothing in the main world of God - everything is different there. Therefore, no matter how far would humanity develop on Earth in a technological sphere - we must realize that this is simply the improvement of the people's 'diving equipment', which they soon will have to leave behind.

The technological progress on Earth does not constitute a progress for God. All the technologies and discoveries of people – are just a drop of what always exists in Heaven. Of course, God takes care of the people and helps them on Earth with the 'discoveries' to improve their quality of life. With great hope that technological progress will help them free up time and make it easier to find things that are really important.

So, what constitutes the main progress of human on Earth? In fact, the Creator of the world has already given us the detailed answer to this question long ago through His Son two thousand years ago. The Commandments of God contain the detailed description of what the person should focus his energy on to actually develop in this life. And as a result of this work, gaining something that is actually valid beyond Earthly life - in the main world of God.

These gains - the most important human qualities: faith, honesty, morality, kindness, forgiveness and others known among people as virtues. Gaining these, constitutes for a person a progress of all progresses. In addition, in this direction a person can develop very far.

The process of this most important development for a person has nothing to do with education or scientific-technological discoveries in the world. This process started in the moment when God gave the Commandments to people and it continues to this

day. People who kept the Commandments came to God even then, two thousand years ago, lacking any complicated skills or often even just education. Nevertheless, those people are valued by God just as much as those coming to Him nowadays with their skills and education.

The reason for this is that spiritual development - is a labor in a separate sphere. Same as in the distant past, same as today, a person must accomplish a very similar, enormous work on himself before he can get rid of passions and reach virtues. Everything else plays a secondary role for God.

However, let everything else remain - technologies, comforts, education and others as well. All of this is not in the way, absolutely not, unless we forget about the most important thing. God gave everything to people for their comfort and happy life on Earth. But people themselves must ensure the scientific and technological progress does not obscure their actual progress and development.

(to be continued)

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A collection of the author's reflections on various significant issues. Today the world is changing incredibly fast, but what can be changed in it, and what is important to keep unchanged? What makes people successful and what makes them happy? The author attempts to dive into these and other issues from the standpoint of religion, philosophy and history.