

ABSTRACT

Theology as Wisdom: A Contribution to Teaching Living Theology in Brazil

This thesis examines the teaching of theology in the Brazilian context, and has as its focus the city of Londrina, Paraná State, Brazil.

The general objective of the present study is to propose a new way of teaching Reformed Theology in Brazil, in particular the teaching of systematic theology. It proposes a viable integration between theology and life, between its content and its context, and this the author calls “Theology as Wisdom.”

The thesis proposes itself as a challenge for the need to correct the current curricula in theological education and, at the same time, as a key toward the construction of new educational projects. The thesis initiates its quest from the theological *locus* of defining theology as a reflection that occurs within the faith community—a reflection about the original and present character of this faith in relation to the general *oikumene* (community of human beings), within the *missio Dei* in the world. Its aim is providing a perspective for building a viable curriculum that relates the sources of the Christian tradition to the dynamics of present day society with its needs and challenges, and by doing so also to contribute to bridging the gaps between different approaches and traditions of Christian communities and theologians in Brazil.

The current thesis is that Christian theology is above all wisdom from God and that the encounter between this concept and Christian education offers an evident enrichment to the task of theological education. The gracious fact of this enterprise is to understand Jesus Christ as *docta fidei, docta caritas, and docta spes* (Wisdom of Faith, Love and Hope). He is the Wisdom of God that is available to us so that the theological task may turn into a living enterprise.