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METROPOLITAN ANDREY SHEPTYTSKY'S VIEWS ON THE CHRISTIAN UPBRINGING OF YOUTH

The article analyzes Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky's views on the Christian upbringing of youth. It examines "Metropolitan Andrey's Decree: On Upbringing, and the Regulations for the Decree 'On the Upbringing of Youth. «Three main elements (factors) of upbringing are considered, namely: suggestion, instruction, and the Christian atmosphere. It is shown that the key guarantee of successfully achieving the decree's goals is attaining "harmony in families». The Metropolitan placed the primary responsibility for implementing the decree's ideas on the clergy.

The importance of cultivating high ideals in youth based on Christian values is substantiated. According to the Metropolitan, an important condition of Christian upbringing is teaching children to pray.

An axiological parallel is drawn between «Sheptytsky and the present day». The relevance of Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky's upbringing-related ideas for the contemporary educational space is demonstrated.

Aim: To analyze Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky's views on the Christian upbringing of youth. Issues of upbringing are always at the center of society's attention. The problem of the moral and ideological upbringing of youth is particularly relevant today. In Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky's views, moral and ideological upbringing is an organic component of Christian upbringing. According to the Metropolitan, the establishment and development of a civil society are impossible without a well-brought-up and well-prepared new generation of society – its young people.

Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky's views on the Christian upbringing of youth have been studied by O. Kekosh, O. Ohirko, L. Tsiupa, M. Kosmii, and others.

According to O. Kekosh, «there existed in Ukraine a distinctive Christian view of the upbringing of children and youth, which can be traced in the pastoral letters of Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky. In them, he set out his understanding of the upbringing of children and devoted much effort and energy to addressing this issue, which remains relevant to this day» (Kekosh, 2018, p. 49).

O. Ohirko argues that «the spiritual legacy of the great Metropolitan, through spiritual and moral upbringing, directs our youth toward higher ideals, toward striving to become as useful as possible to society and the family, and toward working to enrich their own spiritual and moral outlook» (Ohirko, 2020, p. 218).

L. Tsiupa concludes that «the Christian dimension of life is not something added to a person's daily life, but rather the dimension that pervades their entire existence. This vision of

the unity of the process of upbringing is an essential element of Metropolitan Andrey's teaching» (Tsiupa, 2016, p. 256).

A comprehensive analysis of Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky's views on the Christian upbringing of youth demonstrates that this problem still remains insufficiently studied and requires further scholarly investigation.

Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky looked at the upbringing of youth first and foremost through the eyes of a priest and theologian, taking the Christian upbringing of children as his foundation. Although he was not professionally engaged in pedagogy, he had a good understanding of it. His views also did not contradict generally accepted pedagogical principles.

The Metropolitan placed great responsibility for the upbringing of youth on the clergy. He believed that pastors must possess the appropriate knowledge and competencies for this. «Every pastor must be an educator; everyone must work to acquire the qualities of a good educator. Our clergy must work on this with particular diligence, if only for the reason that a great many of them must raise their own children and give the community not only good advice and instruction, but also an example of upbringing» (Sheptytsky, 2010, p. 515).

Metropolitan Andrey was aware of how important the matter of the upbringing of children and youth is for society. In 1942, the Archeparchial Council addressed the clergy on this issue, «presenting the main principles of Christian upbringing and calling for these principles to be put into practice everywhere and in every way possible» (Sheptytsky, 2010, p. 514).

According to the Metropolitan, the first and most important factor of upbringing is suggestion. The Metropolitan defines suggestion as «the whole influence of the surroundings on the child in which he or she lives» (Sheptytsky, 2010, p. 515). A person becomes like their surroundings. This, in his view, is also confirmed by social experience.

The second factor of upbringing, the Metropolitan believes, is instruction, «which children receive from relatives and teachers, and which they also arrive at on their own through reading» (Sheptytsky, 2010, p. 515). Christian instruction, the Metropolitan believed, is always practical in its application to life. It is important that the knowledge those being brought up acquire have not only practical but also formative significance for young people. Alongside instruction, «the will and the heart of a person» must also stand and develop (Sheptytsky, 2010, p. 515).

The third key factor of upbringing for the Metropolitan is the Christian atmosphere. In his view, «The Christian atmosphere in which a child grows up has a predominant influence on their development. Therefore, the pastor must pay close attention to ensuring that Christian families provide their children with such a Christian atmosphere, and must do everything they can to support and preserve the family's Christian culture against all forms of corruption» (Sheptytsky, 2010, p. 518).

An important task of upbringing, the thinker believed, is the process of the self-upbringing of the individual. It should be viewed both as a result and as a continuation of the process of upbringing.

A study of Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky's views on the Christian upbringing of youth gives grounds to assert that they remain relevant today, since they resonate with many

present-day tasks, above all in the sphere of the moral and ideological upbringing of youth. Upbringing must rest on pedagogical and Christian principles, taking into account all factors that may influence the young generation.

The key factors of upbringing are suggestion, instruction, and the Christian atmosphere. Each of them must be approached consciously and purposefully, reinforcing positive and neutralizing negative elements of influence. The key goal of Christian upbringing should be the formation of all the virtues of Christian life.

We consider a holistic rethinking of the upbringing-related content of Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky's pastoral messages to be a promising direction for further research.