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CS501: People as Social and Cultural Beings (NA/NLS)

Essay #2

Rynkiewich Chapter 4: Self, Society, and Behavior

Anthropology what is the true meaning of this word? According to the Wikipedia the definition of anthropology is the scientific study of humanity, which involves the study of a person's persona, their ecology, beliefs, organizations, and linguistics. It also includes the study of humans past species, and their present and past life. Alternatively, on the other hand social anthropology can be a study of a individual's patterns of behavior, while cultural anthropology studies literary meaning, including the norms and values which is the sole purpose of this interaction paper.

According to Mr. Michael Rynkiewich in chapter 4 in his Manuel called Soul, Self, and Society, Mr. Rynkiewich explains that anthropology comes in many different faucets. He further expresses that anthropology has a way in finding true meaning of the way society lives out their life. As I borrow a quotation from pg. 64 in his book Mr. Rynkiewich explains that "there are a number of ways of observing and explaining people's lives." This quotation speaks volume to my life. Because the simple fact is that you cannot really tell too much about a person because they act a different way than you do, are speak and dress differently than you, or even have a different culture than you do, because at the end of the day we all belong to God. You must do an intense study of the person to truly get to know them mentally, physically, and spiritually as a person, who has a soul, with feelings, that has a livelihood just as you do but differently. You must learn about them wholly, without judgement from your viewpoint but with a clean slate.

Moving on with Mr. Rynkiewicz and his elaboration on observing one life, you must get in the trenches and learn what makes that person or family tick. Why do they respond the way they do to any given situation. Is it their upbringing or is it their environment? Maybe even their culture the way they were taught. There are many answers to this question, however Mr. Rynkiewicz has taken the time and effort to explain how the construction of persons, their ascription of status, and the nature of role relationship (multiplex and simplex) make to missionary. (Pg.71)

The Great Commission given by Jesus to the disciples is to "Go, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:19-20) However, there is a bump in the road these missionaries must smooth out to be an effective witness for Christ. The society that they must deal with is experiencing something called honor and shame. This means that the way this society lives they did not really understand what it really meant to obtain Salvation giving my opinion. They really have no real understanding of the redemption that was offered to them through Jesus Christ. Being stuck in their own tradition and culture. They needed and a real awakening by the Holy Spirit.

In conclusion these missionaries have failed in their mission to give these people hope in Christ, because the simple fact is they should explain that once they receive Christ their sins are forgiven and that there is no condemnation in Christ. That Christ washes away all their sin and shame. (Romans 8:1-6) Says now there is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but

those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. And then again **1** John 1:7 says, "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin." I firmly believed that there is hope for the hopeless in Christ and that the missionaries must never give up on any Soul, but with much prayer and fasting this society can and will accept the New Life offered to them when they receive a revelation on what Christ really did for them.

