

Aneesha Jacko Interaction Paper #2 on Winter

Ralph D. Winter was a well-known missiologist and U.S. Center for World Mission founder. In the article "The Structures of God's Redemptive Mission," Winter shares two models for understanding God's redemptive mission in the world.

The first model Winter, describes the "horizontal" or "cultural mandate" model, which is based on the idea that God's mission involves redeeming culture and society. This model emphasizes the importance of Christians engaging in various spheres of culture, such as politics, education, and the arts, to bring about positive change in society.

The second model winter describes there is the vertical" or "evangelistic mandate" model, which is based on the idea that God's mission involves saving individuals from sin and beginning them into a right relationship with God. This model emphasizes the importance of evangelism and discipleship in sharing the gospel with people and making new converts.

Winter argues that both of these models are necessary for a comprehensive understanding of God's redemptive mission; he notes that the horizontal model can sometimes be neglected in favor of the vertical model, which can lead to a lack of engagement in cultural and social issues. On the other hand, focusing too much on the horizontal model can lead to a neglect of the importance of individual salvation and the need for evangelism.

In conclusion, Winter suggests that the two models can be complementary and that a balanced approach to God's redemptive mission should involve engaging in cultural transformation and sharing the gospel with individuals. He emphasizes the importance of maintaining a holistic view of God's mission and avoiding an overly narrow focus on either model. The evolving worship was interesting with “the more “congregational” pattern of the independent synagogue became pervasively replaced by a “connectional” Roman pattern the new Christian parish church still preserved the basic constituency of the synagogue, namely, the combination of old and young, male and female—that is, a biologically perpetuating organism.”