AI and a Theology of Technology

Faith Reformed Church Sunday School October 1, 2023

I. Review of Previous Weeks

II. Opening Prayer

*See further Tony Reinke, *God*, *Technology*, *and the Christian Life* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2022). For B.J.'s notes on this book, you can e-mail bhilbelink@gmail.com

III. A <u>Definition</u> of Technology: What is technology?

<u>Technology</u> = a God-given, man-made tool or technique that enables human beings to gain dominion over the earth and lessen the effects of the curse.

- A. Genesis 1:28 technology for the purpose of *dominion*
- B. Genesis 3:16-19 technology for the purpose of *relieving the curse*
- C. The Limitations of Technology

IV. The Development of Technology: Where does technology come from?

- A. Genesis 4 Technology as *Man-Made*
- B. Isaiah 28:23-29 Technology as *God-Given*

V. The <u>Deployment</u> of Technology: *How* have humans wielded technology?

- A. Genesis 6 The Use of Tar for Great Good
- B. Genesis 11 The Use of Tar for Great Evil

VII. Closing Prayer

Twelve Myths about Technology that Christians Commonly Believe¹

Myth 1: Human innovation is an inorganic imposition forced onto the created order.

Myth 2: Humans set the technological limits and possibilities over creation.

Myth 3: Human innovation is autonomous, unlimited, and unchecked.

Myth 4: God is unrelated to the improvements of human innovation.

Myth 5: Non-Christian inventors cannot fulfill the will of God.

Myth 6: God will send the most beneficial innovations through Christians.

Myth 7: Humans can unleash techno-powers beyond the control of God.

Myth 8: Innovations are good as long as they are pragmatically useful.

Myth 9: God governs only virtuous technologies.

Myth 10: God didn't have the iPhone in mind when he created the world.

Myth 11: Our discovery of atomic power was a mistake that God never intended.

Myth 12: Christian flourishing hinges on my adoption or rejection of the technium [i.e., the vast web of technology in which we are enmeshed].

¹ Tony Reinke, God, Technology, and the Christian Life (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2022), 28-29.