

Building a model Adventist Institution

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HANDOUT

The belief based on the existence of a great conflict is the starting point for understanding the times in which we live. Identified as postmodern, our current days are characterized by major challenges, such as:

- Technological and informational expansions;
- Exacerbation of modern humanist characteristics such as: iconoclasm; fragmentation of space and time; decadence of institutions (perception of their loss of credibility and legitimacy); hedonism; egolatry; exhibitionism; the lack of trust in the other; self-referenced ethical relativization.

Never has the remnant's message been so foreign to the spirit of current time. But the remnant's message was never needed as today. Adventist institutions are a means of influence and guidance for present-day generations, and their existence is not justified solely by their ability to provide education / training for society. Nor are they primarily justified by the marketing aspect as a way to generate revenue for the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Their existence is essentially justified as the visible part of the pillars of a much wider ministry, which is that of redemption.

The growing and notorious challenges in a society that demands our competence, diligence and excellence have exerted new (and unprecedented) pressures on Adventist institutions. For some of these, we have answers and experience, and yet for others we did not even have the knowledge of their existence until we were confronted by them. The motivational question for this presentation is: How much does our competence in overcoming these challenges affect our mission as "Adventist institutions" in the territory of the Inter-American Division?

Certain that there is a direct relationship between these issues and the realization that God expects us to "carry out His work with proficiency and accuracy, waiting to put the seal of His approval upon it," this presentation proposes the following pillars for a model Adventist institution.

Pillar 1: Philosophical Framework for Adventist Institutions

- A) Integration and its challenges
- B) Leadership and People Development

Pillar 2: Contemporary Scenarios

- A) Post-Modernity and Its Implications
- B) Biblical Values and Spirit of Prophecy for Adventist Institutions