Scholar’s Porch completed on November 18, 2023

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During my Bible reading for the 100 Day Assignment, I started to realize that there was a universal principle at work, in man and in “everything”, as I looked more closely at the “Tower of Babel” story (Genesis 11: 5-8). The story told is that God came down to investigate a massive construction project in which mankind had become absorbed. Even though such a project would ordinarily appear to the reader as something of a fool’s errand, the Bible says that God was concerned because man alone, among all the animals, having been made in God’s own image, possessed such a high level of “divine creativity” that if man decided to build a tower to haven that should be reason for concern.

According to the Bible, God’s assessment was that man is capable of accomplishing anything he sets his mind to if he had two things, a large enough group (obviously, to provide division of labor) and a “common language”. With that, I began to wonder whether “language”, in the broadest sense of the word, could very probably have been the “unitary principle” Einstein sought to identify in his last days.

Normally, we think of language as the medium by which ideas are transmitted, back and forth, among us, culturally. We see it as the bridge that gives us interconnectedness, either, on a one-to-one basis or across social or production lines (culture). But, while we recognize that language is at times misused as persiflage, whenever it is used properly, something is created, recreated, or transformed. In that fact, language is a catalyst. And that was exactly how the Bible said God spoke of the power of a “common language” when he surveyed man’s tower-project at Shinar.

Looking at Einstein’s E = MC2, we can see that it is nothing more than a specialized language that works in a catalytic way. If we were to translate the formula or equation from its highly specialized scientific frame into the cultural language of English, E = MC2 reads, “Energy is the product of the mass of a thing times the square of the speed of light.” What this says, then, is that a thing of “substance”, a rock, for example, can be transformed into live energy and *vice versa*—hence, the atomic bomb.

By that fact, then, man or any other living thing is really a script, written in specifically ordered protein syntaxes (DNA) that is constantly being read through the medium of mRNA, then transcribed back through tRNA (transcriber RNA). So, what we can say is that living things exist and repair themselves by means of the language of genetics.

Albert Einstein’s effort to use the language of mathematics, in particular, an offshoot of Reimann’s Hypothesis, to try to find the specific equation or expression that reduces the conversation between electromagnetism and gravitation into a symbolic form (language) was futile. The hope was that if he was able to comprehend what is being said in the conversation that is constantly going on between the giant magnetometer and gravity, he would have been able to leave behind the specific statement of how the creation and recreation of “everything” occurs.

In similar fashion, my 100 Day Assignment illustrates the power of language, and how missionaries from one culture could bridge the gap to other very different culturals through language. When that happens, there is social adjustment, and hence, social change.

What do you think?