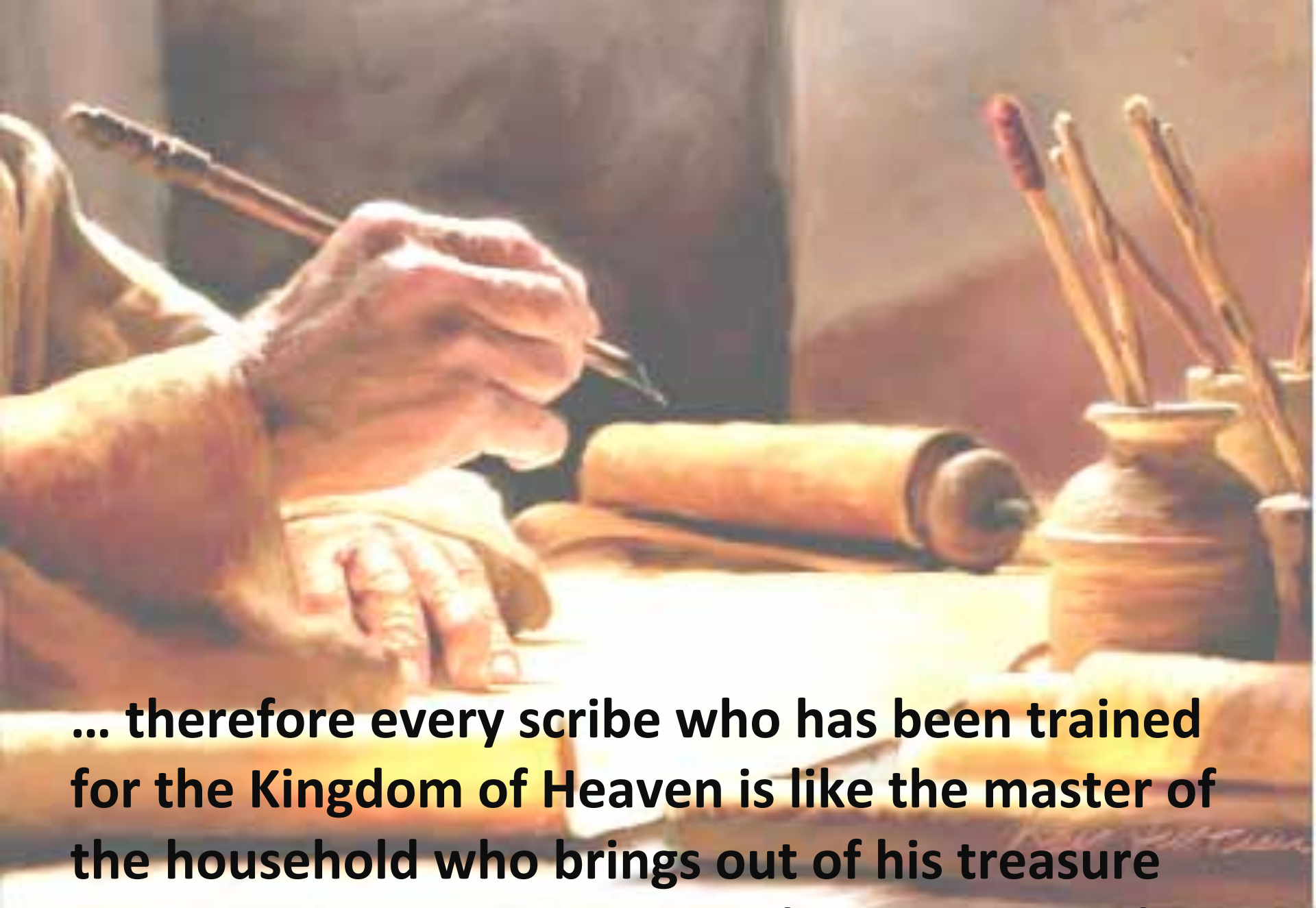




Leading for Mission:

**Educational Challenges
Fifty Years on from Vatican II**

Therese D'Orsa



... therefore every scribe who has been trained for the Kingdom of Heaven is like the master of the household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old. (Matt 13:52-53)

God's Missiological Adventure of Kingdom-building in Our World

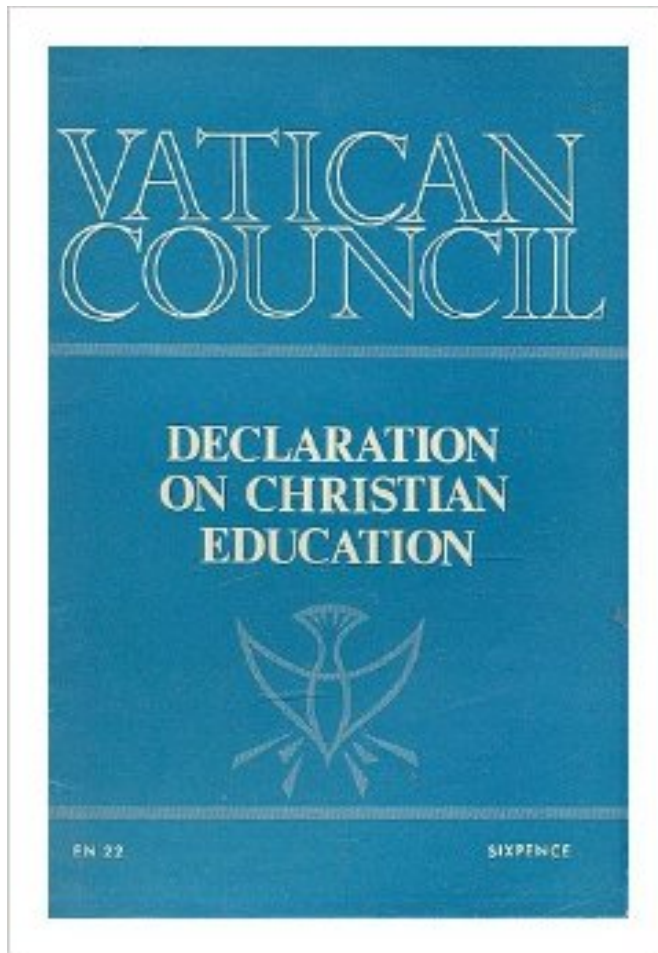
Pope Francis



My mission (the Christian's) of being in the heart of the people is not just a part of my life or a badge I can take off; it is not an "extra" or just another moment in life. Instead, it is something I cannot uproot from my being without destroying my very self. I am a mission on this earth; that is the reason why I am here in this world...

(Evangelii Gaudium #273)

Declaration on Christian Education



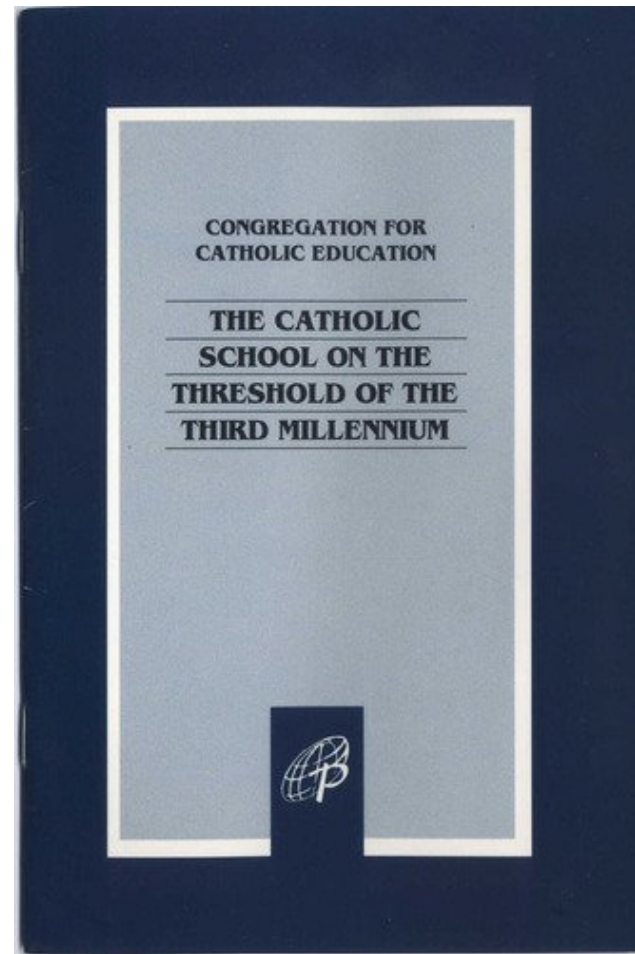
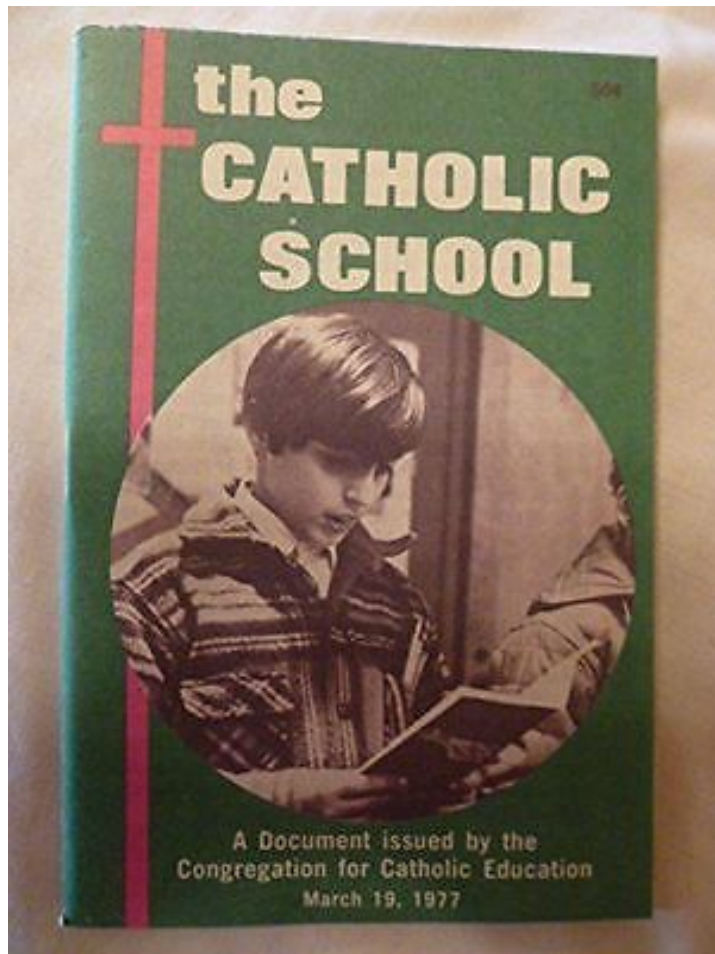
- Not what had been anticipated viz. a document on the Catholic School
- 12 Principles guiding the Church's role as educator

Education: an Affirmation of Human Dignity



- Education as a basic human right
- Response to the high percentage of young people who receive no education
- The Catholic School to be treated more fully post-Vatican II

Documents Dealing with Identity



Walking with a Young Person in Developing a Worldview

- Developing understandings, feelings and values that are hope-filled and engender commitment
- Able to sustain relationships with God, their fellow humans, and the natural world.
- Creating an horizon of hope.



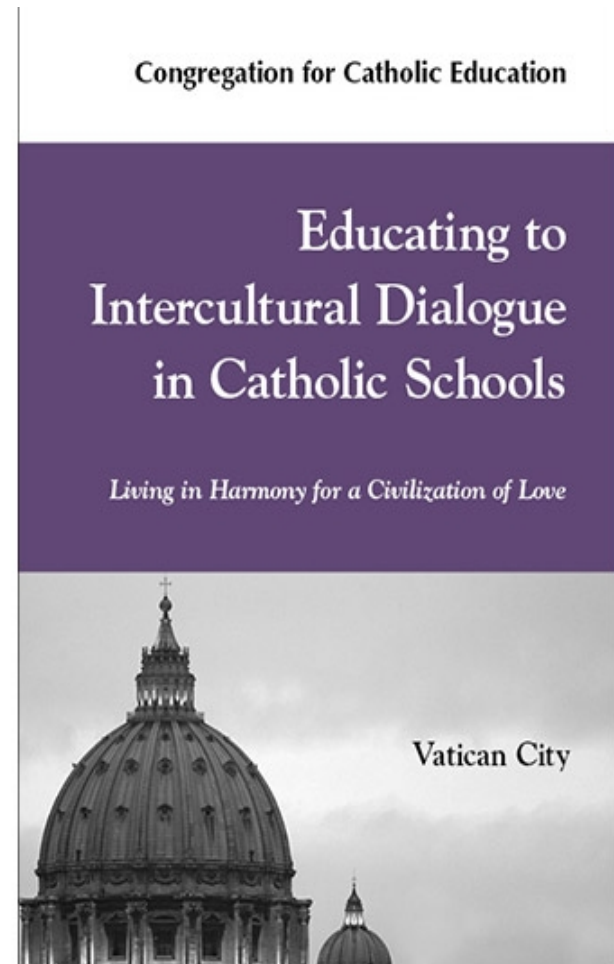
Guiding Questions for Leaders

- In what ways does Catholic education participate in God's missiological adventure?
- How does the contemporary context re-shape the mission of Catholic schooling?)



Catholic Education's Core Project

- Integration of a young person's
- **life** (human experience),
- **culture** (way of being human),
- **with faith** (their own and that of their sponsoring faith community).
- *The Catholic School 1977 #37.*



Ecology of Human Growth

Pope John Paul II

Means of education are inter-related

- Relationships
- Curriculum
- Pedagogy



Mission – New Understanding

- Coherent and Developing Body of teaching
- Recognizes that mission takes many forms
- Mission and identity are two sides of the one coin
- Frames all of Catholic education
- Puts the spotlight on curriculum and pedagogy in schools
- Provides coherence to the whole of theological education

The chain of memory links past and present together



- Forging new links

Distinct Eras in the Recent Narrative of Catholic Education

1970-2000

Catholic Education in the Post Vatican II, pre-Global world

- Deep societal and religious change
- Decline in numbers of religious and securing of government funding



Catholic Education in a Post-Vatican II, Pre-global World

- Catholic Edn Office
- Regional colleges
- Massive programs of in-service – Religious Education
- Impact of postmodernism
- Culture wars
- Partnerships in staffing and leadership between religious congregations and lay staff
- Wider recognition of Vatican II's universal call to holiness

New Stage - 2000....

Catholic education in the globalised, post-modern world

- Previous agendas persist
- Impact of change deepens
- New mission challenges emerge



Role of Leader in Meaning- making and Worldview Formation

New Mission Agenda Defines the Era

- Radical new context - new globalism, pluralism and secularity - educating for mission in the public square
- Earth as system
- Knowledge construction and the intentional integration of life, culture and faith

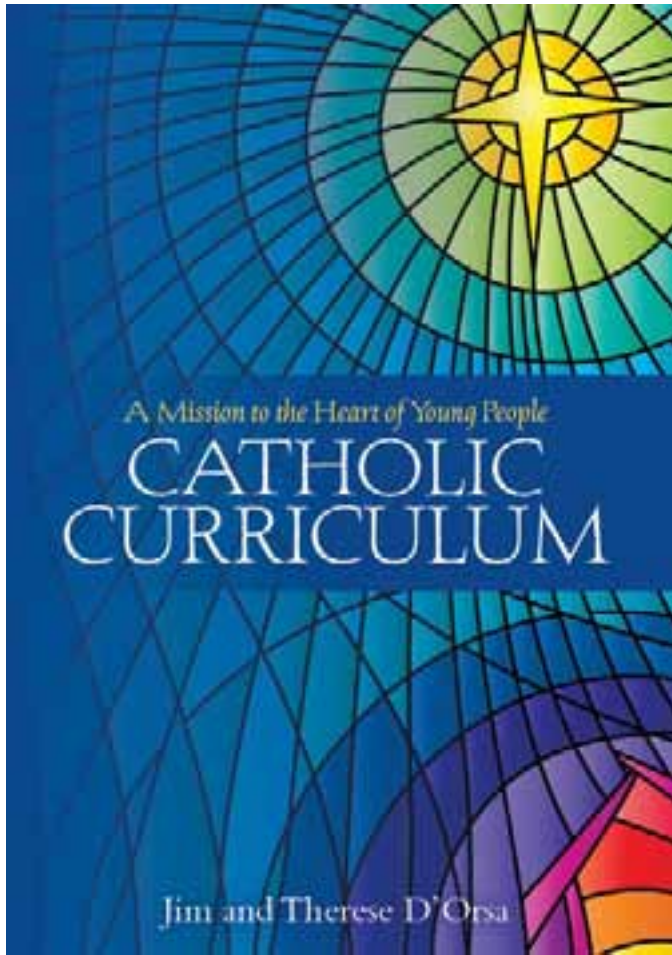


“New” Mission Agenda



“New” Mission Era

Knowledge Construction as Faith Project



- Knowledge Construction as a focus of mission in Catholic school
- Discernment about methods
- Posing the Biblical questions
- Prophetic role of Catholic teachers within their disciplines

Religious Education

- The law of unintended consequences
- Further separation faith from life??
- R.E. Should not and cannot carry the whole burden
- Issue for Bishops
- Intentional Rebuilding of whole educating community – everyone has a role



The Catholic School as “Community for the Kingdom”

(The Catholic School 1977)

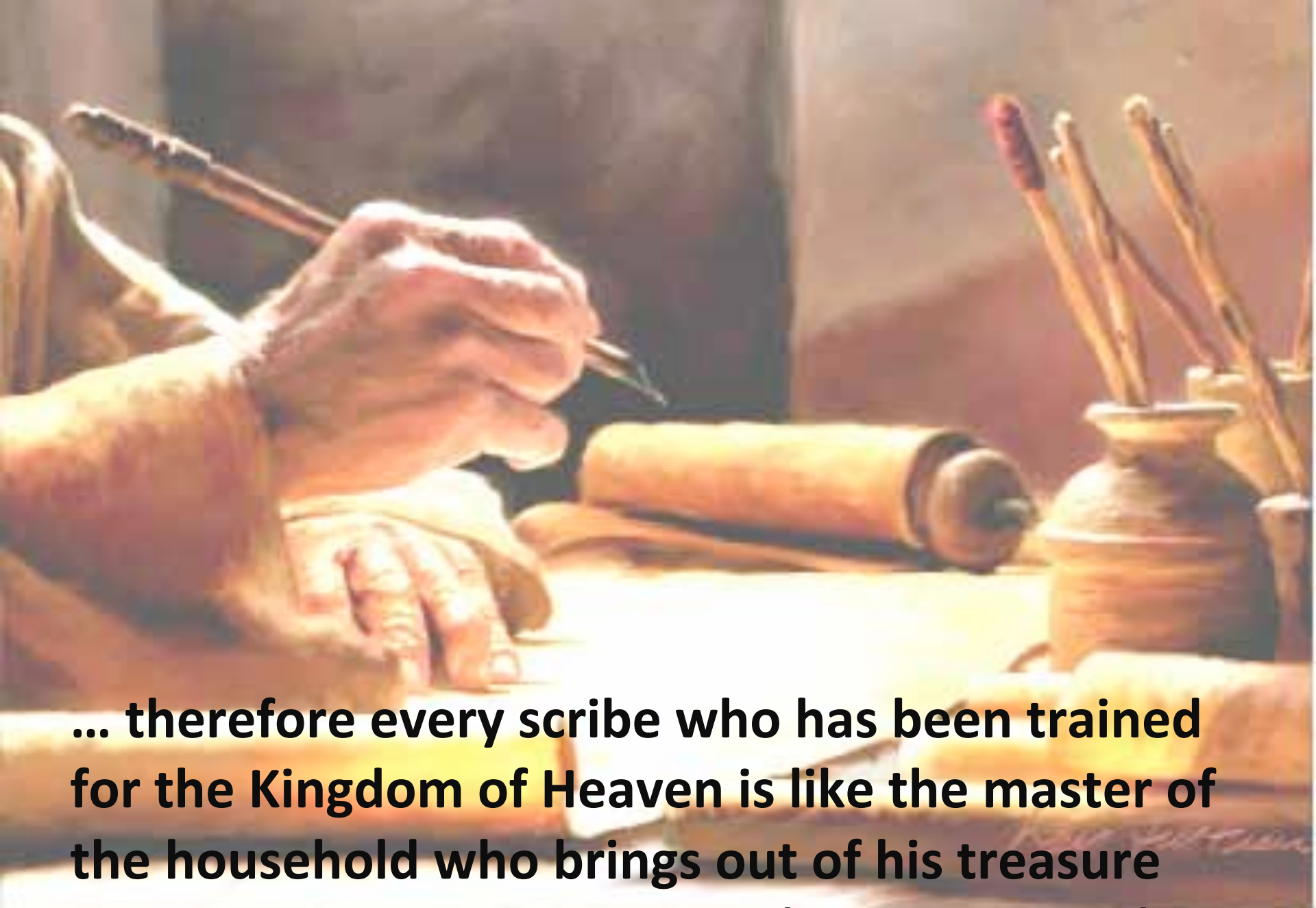
Issue of formation

spiritual

intellectual

- Discerning “the wheat from among the weeds” (Matt 13:24-30)
- “Bring out what is new and what is old.”





... therefore every scribe who has been trained for the Kingdom of Heaven is like the master of the household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old. (Matt 13:52-53)



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