

Envisioning Our Future

In recent years, Artificial Intelligence (AI) has stepped out of science-fiction movies and walked through the front door of our homes: it's on our phones, in navigation apps, on social media, in work platforms, and even in children's classrooms. Because of this, many questions arise: Is AI going to kill human intelligence? Are we going to stop thinking? And where do God and the Bible fit in the midst of so much technology?

This article does not intend to give final answers, but to offer a path for reflection to those who are concerned about the future of our humanity, and especially to those who believe in God.

1. AI does not “think” like we do – and that’s important to remember

The first thing we need to understand is that AI, as impressive as it may seem, is not a “human brain.” It is a set of algorithms created by human beings, fed with enormous amounts of data, capable of recognizing patterns and generating responses or decisions very quickly.

In other words: AI has no consciousness, no soul, and no intrinsic values. It does not love, it does not suffer, it does not worship, it does not repent. It simulates intelligent answers, but it is not a person.

The one who thinks, feels, chooses, and is responsible before God is still the human being.

The danger, therefore, is not in AI itself, but in how we, as human beings, are going to use it:

- As a tool to support work, research, and healthcare?
- Or as a substitute for our responsibility, our reflection, our relationship with others and with God?

2. The threat is not “losing intelligence,” but becoming too lazy to think

Many people ask: “If AI can write essays, answer questions, create projects, will people stop reasoning?”

The truth is that every technology has brought this concern. The calculator did not “kill” mathematics, but it changed the way we deal with calculations. The internet did not end books, but it forced us to digitize information.

The real risk is something else: accommodation.

- When we let apps decide everything for us.
- When we accept any ready-made answer without checking, comparing, or evaluating.
- When we trade the effort of studying and reflecting for a simple “copy and paste.”

AI can become a crutch for a lazy mind. But it can also be a microscope in the hands of someone who wants to learn. The difference lies in the user.

That is why the essential question is not:
“Is AI going to kill human intelligence?”

But rather:

“Are we going to give up our ability to think?”

God has given us a gift that no machine possesses: the ability to reason, discern, choose what is good, seek the truth, and love. To renounce that is to waste a divine gift.

3. Where does God fit in an increasingly digital world?

Some people fear that as science and technology advance, God will “disappear” from people’s lives. But historically, every time humanity has advanced in knowledge, new questions have also arisen about meaning, purpose, and morality.

AI can answer many “how?” questions, but none of the “why?” questions.

It can calculate routes, but it cannot tell us which is the right path for our life. It can analyze statistics about suffering, but it cannot comfort a broken heart. It can suggest routines for a family, but it cannot teach forgiveness, reconciliation, and sacrificial love.

This is where God and the Bible remain absolutely up to date:

- The Bible is not a technical manual, but a book of wisdom and revelation, which tells us who God is, who we are, and how we should live.
- God does not compete with technology; He is the Creator of everything, including the human mind that invents technologies.

If AI impresses us, what can we say about a God who created the human brain, intelligence, and the capacity to imagine, program, and build?

4. Ethics, responsibility, and the big question: “Who is in charge of whom?”

Another legitimate concern is: “What if AI is used to manipulate people, control information, increase injustice, and monitor everything and everyone?”

This is a serious discussion. Without values, technology can serve profit at any cost, large-scale lies, and the control of some over others. That is why, more than ever, we need to talk about:

- Ethics
- Responsibility
- Justice
- Human dignity

These are not “trendy” topics; they are deeply biblical themes.

The key question is:

Who is in charge of whom?

Will AI serve human beings, or will human beings become servants of technology?

The Christian faith reminds us that human beings were created in the image of God. This means that no machine, however advanced, can replace the value of a person. Human life is not just data; it is a miracle. It cannot be reduced to numbers and algorithms.

5. The Bible and AI: enemies or allies?

Some imagine an inevitable conflict: on one side, faith; on the other, technology. But that view is very mistaken.

The same technology that can be used to spread fear and misinformation can also be used to:

- Translate the Bible into languages that still do not have it.
- Take messages of hope to distant places.
- Offer psychological and spiritual support online.
- Facilitate teaching, discipleship, and counseling.

Just as radio, television, and the internet have been used for both evil and good, AI will also be a moral battlefield. It can be an instrument of grace or of destruction, depending on who uses it and with what values.

For those who believe, the question is not “Can we use AI?” but: “How can we use AI in a way that honors God and respects our neighbor?”

6. And what about our future?

The future is not “in the hands of AI.”

The future is in the hands of God, and He remains sovereign, even in a world of chips, clouds, and algorithms.

This does not mean folding our arms and doing nothing, but living responsibly:

- **Study:** understand at least the basics of what AI is, so as not to be deceived either by fear or by naivety.
- **Discern:** do not hand over the direction of your spiritual, family, or emotional life to any digital application.
- **Educate:** teach children and young people to use technology wisely, without abandoning reading, thinking, dialogue, and prayer.
- **Trust:** remember that no technological innovation can replace the presence of God, the power of prayer, and the truth of the Word.

The great tragedy would not be to live in a world with advanced AI.

The great tragedy would be to live in a world without love, without values, without responsibility, and without God.

Conclusion: smart machines, responsible people

Artificial intelligence does not have to eliminate human intelligence; instead, it exposes how willing we are to give up the act of thinking.

It will not take God off the throne, but it can take the central place in our attention if we let it.

It will not erase the Bible, but it can distract us so much that we stop opening it.

The challenge of this new time is simple and profound:

To allow technology to advance without allowing our hearts to drift away from God.

To use increasingly intelligent machines without losing our capacity to love, think, discern, and believe.

The future arrives every day, little by little. The question is:

When it comes, will we simply be surrounded by smart machines, or will we still be rational and wise people?

“I am part of a generation that taught the machine; today the machine also teaches me, but never will the machine be superior to my Creator!”

Pr. Paul Rech