

ABSTRAK

Surat merupakan sarana komunikasi untuk menyampaikan informasi tertulis dari suatu pihak kepada pihak lain. Surat dapat berfungsi sebagai sarana pemberitahuan, permintaan, buah pikiran, dan pedoman kerja. Surat-menyurat dipakai oleh sebagian penulis Perjanjian Baru dan Bapa-bapa Gereja untuk memberikan pengajaran iman dan memelihara kesatuan umat beriman. Mengingat nilai tersebut, surat pun dapat menjadi *locus theologicus* ilmu teologi mengenai Gereja.

Santo Ignatius Loyola dikenal sebagai pendiri dan pemimpin umum Serikat Yesus, penulis *Latihan Rohani*, dan tokoh Reformasi Gereja Katolik. Buah karya Ignatius tersebut memberi kontribusi penting bagi sejarah Gereja. Selama hidupnya, ia juga meninggalkan karya lain berupa surat-surat dan aneka instruksi. Salah satu tema surat yang menarik perhatian penulis ialah mengenai kesepahaman dengan Gereja. Reformasi Protestan dan Anglikan menimbulkan dampak besar bagi kesatuan Gereja Katolik Roma. Pada konteks itu, Ignatius Loyola menuliskan tiga surat kepada Yesuit yang diutus ke Irlandia, Konsili Trente, dan ke daerah misi. Penulis hendak menganalisis pemikiran Ignatius mengenai kesepahaman dengan Gereja berdasarkan surat-surat tersebut. Pemikiran tersebut berguna untuk membantu menemukan visi menggereja sesuai karisma Ignatius di dunia masa kini.

Untuk menjabarkan pemikiran Ignatius mengenai kesepahaman dengan Gereja, akan dipergunakan pendekatan hermeneutika Gadamer dan eklesiologi Dulles. Gadamer menaruh perhatian kepada kesadaran sejarah dan peranan aplikasi. Horizon pemahaman sangat dipengaruhi oleh fusi horizon pengarang dan penafsir. Untuk itu, akan dijabarkan terlebih dahulu latar belakang teks surat-surat tersebut. Selanjutnya, paparan dari tiga surat Ignatius akan dibaca dengan sudut pandang Avery Dulles, SJ, teolog kontemporer dari Amerika Serikat. Dulles menyatakan bahwa dengan mempergunakan analogi model, akan diperoleh pendalaman pemahaman mengenai Gereja.

Dua model yang muncul dalam penelitian tiga surat Ignatius Loyola adalah model institusi dan pewarta. Dua model ini menunjukkan bahwa Gereja Ignatius adalah Gereja yang mewartakan Kabar Gembira dalam kolaborasi dan kesatuan dengan institusi Gereja. Salah satu tantangan utama Gereja Indonesia ialah radikalisme agama. Model dari Gereja Ignatius diharapkan membantu memberikan arah menggereja secara cerdas, tangguh, misioner, dan dialogis mewujudkan peradaban kasih.

ABSTRACT

Letters is a means of communication to deliver written information from one person to other. Letters can be used to provide information, personal thoughts, guidelines, or requests. Correspondence via letters have mostly been used by the authors of the New Testament and the Church Fathers to provide catechism and to promote unity between the faithful during biblical times. In recent times, letters can be used to a promote *locus theologicus* with regards to the ecclesiology.

Saint Ignatius of Loyola, the founder and first Superior General of the Society of Jesus, who was also the author of the Spiritual Exercises, played a crucial role as a Reformer of the Church through his use of letters. An interesting theme within his writings is how he “thinks with the Church” in a time where the Protestant and Anglican Reformation greatly impacted unity of Catholics in Europe. In that situation, Saint Ignatius of Loyola wrote three letters to the Jesuits missionaries in Ireland, the Council of Trent, and those in foreign missions throughout the world. In this paper, the writer will analyze Saint Ignatius’ thought processes with regards to “thinking with the Church” that are found within his letters. By doing this, the writer hopes to discover a vision for the present-day Church in accordance to the charism of Saint Ignatius

In order to unveil Saint Ignatius’ thoughts with regards to the Church, the writer will use the methodology of Gadamer’s hermeneutics combined with theological perspectives of Avery Dulles. Gadamer pays special attention towards the awareness of history and the role of application. The horizon of understanding is deeply affected by the fusion of horizons from the author as well as the interpreter. In order to achieve this goal, the writer will first elaborate the historical context of Saint Ignatius’ letters. Then, the writer will analyze the findings using theological perspective of Avery Dulles SJ, an American Jesuit theologian. Dulles states that by using the analogy of models, we will be able to obtain a deeper understanding of the Church.

Two models that were found in the analysis of the letters are the Church as an Institution and the Church as a Herald. These two models show that the church of Ignatius is the Church that preachers the Gospel through collaboration and unity with institutions of the Church. One of the main challenges of the Indonesian Roman Catholic Church is religious fundamentalism. By using models of the Church of Saint Ignatius, we hope to enrich our approach towards an ecclesiology based on the civilization of love that is open-minded, resilient, courageous, and smart.