

AI AND THE IMAGE OF GOD

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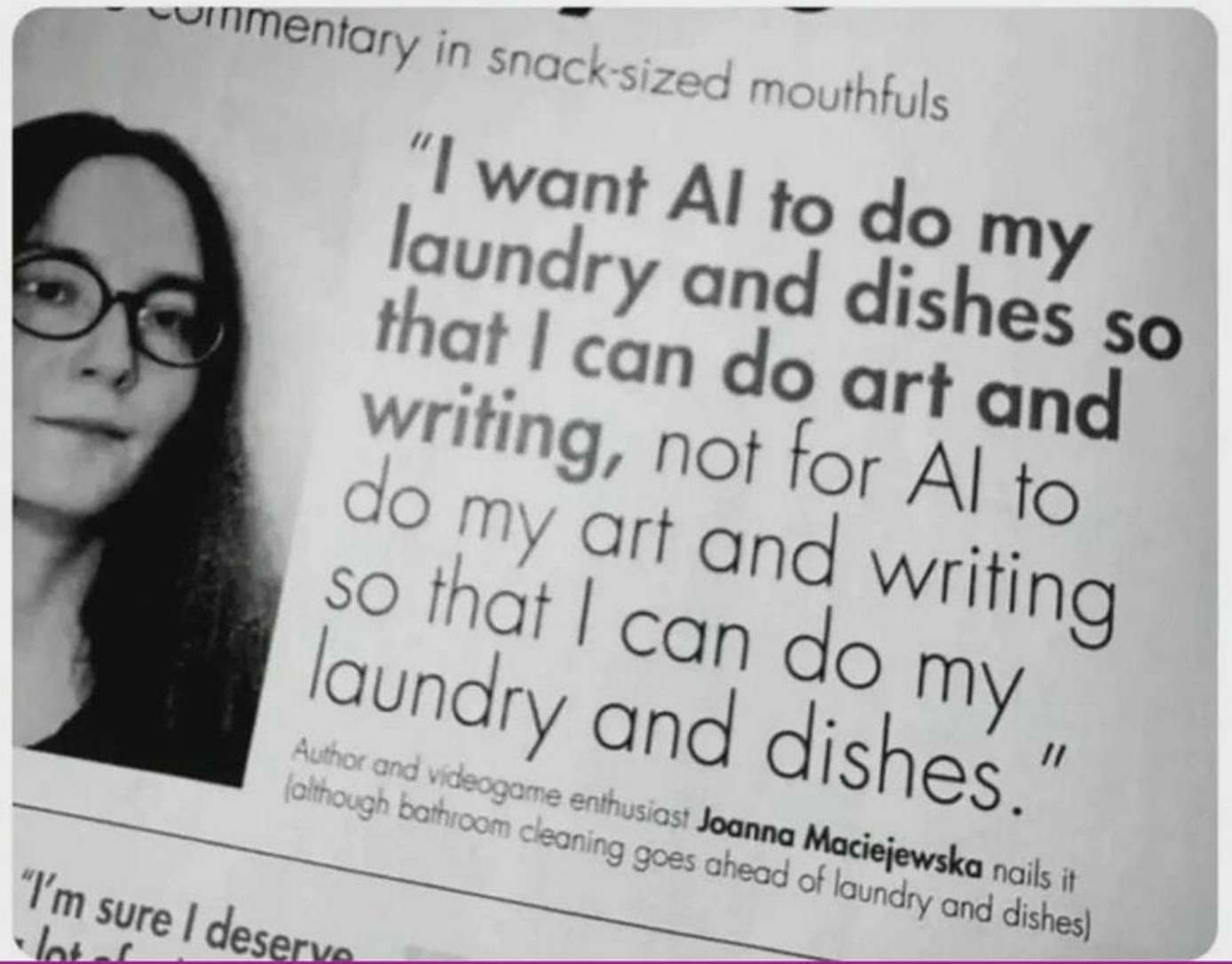
WHAT IS AI?

AI (Artificial Intelligence) is technology that enables computers to perform *tasks requiring human intelligence*, such as recognition, reasoning, and decision-making. AI is designed to analyse data, identify patterns, and can improve over time as it receives more data, often without direct human intervention. AI is used in voice assistants, recommendation systems, self-driving cars, and smart search engines.

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WHAT KIND OF TASKS....?

The only perspective on AI that matters



GENESIS 1:26-8

Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'

So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.'



POSSIBLE WAYS OF UNDERSTANDING THE IMAGE OF GOD

- Humans have particular skills/abilities that other creatures don't?
- Humans have particular rights/responsibilities that other creatures don't?
- Humans have a particular approach to relationship with God and others that other creatures don't?
- Humans reflect God in a way that others creatures don't?



AI AND THE IMAGE OF GOD

- What implications does AI have for our understanding of the image of God?
- If a given AI technology can pass the Turing Test, do we have to say, in effect, it is also in the image of God?
- What would that mean for theology, ministry, understandings of salvation etc. etc.?

AN OPINION...

- In my opinion, the truly ground-breaking conclusion from reflecting theologically on AI is that being like God does not necessarily mean being more intelligent. Christ's life and teaching show that what is most valuable about human nature are traits like empathy, forgiveness, and meekness, which are all eminently relational qualities. What enables such attributes is a kind of thinking rooted more in the irrational than in the rational parts of our minds. Perhaps this can shed new light on Saint Paul's choice to "boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses ... or whenever I am weak, then I am strong." *Marius Dorobantu*



PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

WHAT DOES IT MATTER IS DONE BY A HUMAN MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE?

- Sharing your faith?
- Writing a sermon?
- Preaching a sermon?
- Writing a prayer?
- Praying?
- Writing the Church Council minutes?
- Preparing the Church notices?
- Sharing faith-related social media content?
- Creating devotional images/art?