

Daily Meditation 06-04-22

Idolatry and Gun Culture

Good morning.

Today we are meditating on the topic of idolatry in gun culture. And I do think it's very appropriate to talk about idolatry in the context of gun culture in America today.

And it certainly relates to the idolatry of power. Why? Because so many politicians will not surrender their power to see that children are not massacred in grade school, or that grocery shoppers, all of whom were black, are not massacred, many of them being old, in Buffalo.

Why is this idolatry? Because the politicians involved are surrendering their conscience...surrendering their conscience...there to do nothing but remain a senator at any cost.

Senator at any cost? Yes, even the cost of innocent children, for innocent adults and elders in grocery stores. Obedience to the false god...what is that false god? NRA, the church of NRA and those clinging to this ideology. No gun should be limited. And that even 18-year-olds should have access to assault weapons.

Talk to soldiers who know these AR-15s and use them -- they get months of training. Very dangerous item to have in your hand.

But no -- our politicians are so in love with guns, setting guns themselves as idols, false idols. Don't want to hear that maybe we should put limits on who gets these guns: limits of age and also limits on the amount of bullets that these guns can shoot at once.

We did have such laws two decades ago, and they really worked. Then Republican President Bush did not push to renew the laws. Laws to prevent assault weapons from being on our streets. Murders rose 243%.

So we have to ask, what idols are we worshipping that smother the sacredness of children's lives, that tear apart communities, that serve the purposes of racism. And let's not forget, most of these children who were murdered in Texas, were brown children, Latino children. And most of the politicians of that little town were Caucasian. Most, not everyone. But one has to ask.

It's this gun culture. Who is this idolatry serving: is it serving racism as well as adultism? It certainly served it in Buffalo very efficiently. All ten of those killed in Buffalo were black and the killer tells us on his webpage that he sought out that community, that zip code, because it was so black. And that supermarket.

Idolatry is a serious thing. And it needs to be stood up to.

Can we replace idolatry with community? Is community the medicine for idolatry? One hopes so.

Thank you. We'll see you tomorrow.