

Daily Meditation 10/14/2022

Denial as Practicing Atheism (with apologies to atheists)

Politics and spirituality are doomed to intersect at times. Decisions we make around the community's welfare, or lack thereof, obviously impacts the lives of others. Therefore, we can do evil, as well as good, with the powers that one holds as a politician, or in a democracy or supposed democracy in our powers of voting.

And so, in today's meditation, I speak about denial as a practical atheism, insofar as Meister Eckhart says, "God is the denial of denial." And so that's another way of saying that God is truth. And if you're going to commit to denial, then you're committing to untruth. And sometimes that is very, very serious. Denying something like climate change, which was just demonstrated, once again, in the hurricane in Florida, its tremendous power, by upping the ante on hurricanes, because we're upping the ante on the warming of the oceans.

All this is not going to get less important in the years to come, it's going to be more frequent, as will be the wildfires and places like where I live and the droughts. Just this morning, I read an article on how a city in California--16,000 citizens, a small city--is going to be without water in a few months. No more water.

That's what's happening in the West, while the opposite is happening in Florida and other places, with the flooding, the excessive flooding and powerful rains and storms of hurricanes. But it's all about climate change. That's what's making it so severe and excessive.

And so I bring up the subject that I've written about before, and that is matricide, the killing of the mother. This seems to parallel patriarchy. Wherever we find patriarchy, whether its quest for empires and empire building, or the flight from wisdom in favor of just raw knowledge, which is raw power, or the flight from the common good, which takes place when we're into the power, the raw power of politics without caring about the common good. All these things are happening under our eyes today.

And the killing of Mother Earth is the killing of many other species besides our own. So matricide goes a long way on Mother Earth. It's a reason why indigenous peoples and all premodern peoples... Hildegard of Bingen, 12th century, talked about Mother Earth because the Earth does nurture us and make life possible, as does a mother.

And so I ask, Is matricide a crime? A crime against humanity and a crime against creation? And climate change, if chosen--and it is chosen if we're making decisions and our politicians are making decisions that bring it about or prevent it from being toned down.

It's a crime against humanity, a crime against creation itself. And matricide is, too. The killing of the mother. Not only the Mother Earth but the feminine powers of creativity and birthing of compassion and caring that are all of ours, that are found in women *and* men.

But when you build a society around patriarchy as the reigning motif, the mother elements, feminine elements are sidelined. And we get what we are getting.

So I think that the questions raised by Meister Eckhart when he tells us that God is denial of denial, are questions for all for us to meditate on and to act on. Especially at this time when we are choosing leaders

Thank you. We'll see you tomorrow