

TWO GRAVES



This will not be my usual posting. I feel compelled to write this but you might find it unlike anything you are familiar with in my writings. Feel free to stop reading at any point.

Confucius has been credited with the saying: "Before embarking on a journey of revenge, first dig two graves". The message being that you will need two graves, one for the object of your revenge and the other for yourself.

To which I would add this corollary: Before embarking on a path of hatred, first dig two graves. One for yourself and the other for the people and things you loved which will be destroyed in the process of fueling your rage to destroy that which you hate.

Hate is a poison and a powerful emotion. It can destroy your logic, your reason, your compassion and your humanity. It is a cancer which can rapidly spread to consume every aspect of your life.

I once experienced such a hatred in my own life. A person whom I believed to be a friend double crossed me and destroyed me financially. I was faced with starting all over again. For more than a year I was consumed by my hatred for this person. I allowed it to nearly destroy me personally.

One day a light kind of came on inside me and I realized that when it says in the Bible to forgive your enemies, it is not maybe so much for their sake as it is for your own. I began practicing "letting go" of my anger and hate. It took a while but in the process I learned to forgive and not to hate individuals or groups of individuals.

I may strongly disagree with their words and deeds to the point I will speak out against what I see happening. I may be appalled at the destruction to lives that I witness due to their actions. I am willing to engage in logical verbal combat with them. By my actions I will peacefully and legally oppose those systems I deem destructive that they are attempting to put into place.

But.... I will not hate them individually. I will not call them Nazi's. I will not tell lies about them, I will not try to harm their families. I will not threaten their safety. I will not propose or use physical violence against them.

It grieves me to see what is happening in America, land of my birth and land that I love. We are split into what can only be called warring camps. One of those camps is so consumed by hatred that they will do literally anything to destroy the other side. Lies, unnamed sources, gossip, corruption of government agencies, distortions, "Spin", half truths (which are lies in lipstick), etc.

Stop Pulling the Wagon

Are You Tired Of Government Lies, Hypocrisy and Corruption?

etc.. They will call people they disagree with Nazi's, compare their opponents to some of the great monsters of history (Stalin, Hitler, etc.).

A growing, toxic and dangerous hate in America. Those who disagree with them must be destroyed by any means possible. There seems no words or actions they will not advocate resorting to in order to destroy their political enemies. They will propose surrounding their opponents children's schools to intimidate the children and their parents. (Tweet - Peter Fonda).

This group seems prepared to destroy our whole country and way of life if it will fulfill the goals of their political agenda.

I fear for the very survival of America as a nation.

In my writings here I do not often quote from the Bible* but, in the book of Mark, chapter 3 - verse 24, Jesus says that "If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand." History is littered with the carcasses of kingdoms and nations that demonstrate this to be true.

Can we learn to agree to disagree and find common ground to come together as a nation or are we condemned to a world of non-negotiable demands where the "other side" must be destroyed at all costs? Are we doomed to the fruits of hatred. Must America dig two graves?

Bob Bandy

Lord, Make me an instrument of you peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love... Prayer for Peace - St. Francis of Assisi

Bible - NIV - New International Version