

Daily Meditation 02/21/2023

The godlessness of Fox News: A Spiritual Crisis

Good morning.

We're talking today about the godlessness of a certain news agency on television that reaches many millions of people.

And I call it a spiritual crisis because clearly we're talking about the bottom falling out of an important profession we call journalism. If there is no value in preferring truth over lies and illusions, then we're all in trouble. And society will be the worse for sure. And already we've seen on our television sets the results of this misinformation, which is putting it mildly, the results of January 6, and the results of many, many laws being passed in our country to make voting more difficult for many, especially the poor, and minorities.

All this happens when truth is ignored.

And the tradition is, not just in the West but in religions around the world, that one of the Divine Names is truth. Gandhi says that truth is his God. All the traditions talk about the importance of truth.

So we're up against something very powerful here. Powerful, because it's the opposite of the images of the Divine that people around the world have been taught to respect.

It's a powerful tool, because there are forces of economics and poll ratings, and people with immense power, who lord over the media, whether in Australia, or in the UK or in America, unchecked, unchecked by the truth.

And as the commentator said, on my site, that "this is flagrant journalistic malpractice," to do what's been done in the name of journalism, following the 2020 election. That's strong language, but who's enforcing anything like journalistic good practice versus journalistic malpractice? And if the whole goal is simply to make money and nothing else, nothing like rendering authentic information to the public -- if that is not the goal of big journalism (we're talking about big journalism), then poison is being spread into the minds and the hearts and the emotions, the passions of people. And we've seen what that results in.

And so the simple teaching of the mystics that truth is integral to our grasp of the Divine is something to keep in mind.

As a theologian, David Hart writes,

In God lies at once the deepest truth of mind, and the most universal truth of existence. And for this reason, the world can truly be known by us, as it is our capacity for truth that allows the truth of the world into our minds and hearts.

And to put stones in there instead, or made-up stories, or illusions, obviously, this is not good for the system: the system of the human heart, the human mind, the search for truth, and the system of our politics, economics and media, that are all birthed by human beings.

Thank you. We'll see you tomorrow.