

Daily Meditation 02/25/2023

Teresa of Avila on Truth; Murdoch, GOAT of Lying

Good morning.

We continue our meditations on truth. And of course, one way to approach a spiritual concept is to go to its opposite first. And there's a lot of the opposite of truth going on these days, and specifically in the media, which we've been talking about for several days, and specifically the revelations unfolding in the trial of Fox News.

Dominion, the company that's suing them for \$1.6 billion - that's billion - because of lies they told about important things such as elections in America, and the emails that are being revealed that tell us that the pooh-bahs at Fox News knew many of the untruths and even laughed about them in emails with one another behind the scenes while delivering their goods to the world and the nation, interviewing crackpots, who are talking about all kinds of conspiracies around the election and so forth.

So that's the opposite of truth. And one way to know what truth is, is to go to the opposite, go to those who are invested in lying. And, one fact that's come out is that two of the big shots at Fox News, Mr. Carlson and Mr. Hannity, not only knew all this, but they're getting paid \$45 million, one of them and \$35 million a year to spew falsity into our airwaves into our minds, poisoning the body politic of America. And all this led to the insurrection of January 6 and so forth.

So in today's essay we're not only meditating on untruth via Rupert Murdoch, who knew also that he was selling lies, but then in the second part of the meditation today we go to St. Teresa, and she says some wonderful things about the importance of truth. She brings up the story of Jesus at his trial being asked by Pilate, prefect of the empire, what is truth? What is truth?

And that's a good question for empire builders, including media empire moguls to wrestle with. But Teresa is not the only mystic on the scene who has things to tell us about truth and its importance.

bell hooks, now deceased, was a wonderful critic of culture and had a profound spiritual sense. She has this one short sentence that is so full of meaning and purpose: "The heart of justice is truth telling." The heart of justice is truth telling.

So if we cannot tell the truth to one another, and search for it together, we're advancing injustice. Justice and truth go together; justice is a kind of truth. The heart of justice is truth telling.

And you put this in relationship with a teaching from Thomas Aquinas, when he says, "The proper objects of the heart are truth and justice."

He and bell hooks are very much on the same page...very much on the same page.

bell hooks; "The heart of justice is truth telling."

Aquinas: "The proper objects of the heart are truth and justice."

Notice that both talk about justice and truth in the same sentence. They go together. And it means, then, that falsity and lies and untruths rupture justice, support injustice, give it wings, give it energy.

We can recognize that a lot of this is going on in our time, and on our airwaves that supposedly we all own.

Thank you. We'll see you tomorrow.