

Daily Meditation 07-03-23

Justice, Holiness, Racism, History and the Supreme Court

Good morning.

Last week we began our meditations on holiness and the dimension of justice, working for justice being integral to the meaning of holiness in our time.

And quite by synchronicity, the Supreme Court released its serious decisions for the year, this past week also. And I was not impressed by the amount of justice therein.

We're trying to understand more of where the history of injustice, and racism has played out, how it has played out over the centuries. Repealing the relief of debt for college students, of which there are 43 million in America, and a great percentage of that are students of color.

Very white justices living very comfortable lifestyles, some of them hobnobbing with very well-endowed billionaires, and not reporting it on their income taxes, all the freebies that they got that way, obviously sharing political ideology. And at least one of these billionaires has had 10 or 12 trials before the Supreme Court.

So the circle of corruption is obvious for anyone to see, except perhaps for people who are in it on the Supreme Court. These are the people passing judgment on limiting the access to advanced higher education.

There are statistics that tell what will be heading our way. The National Student Clearinghouse reported that enrollment has declined for black students by nearly 7% at 9.4% of public colleges and universities since 2020. In other words, much of it due to the pandemic, so things got worse, not better, since Affirmative Action was put into place a couple of decades ago.

And California passed Proposition 209 in 1996, which barred public colleges and universities from using Affirmative Action in admissions. What happened was, black enrollment at UCLA and UC Berkeley drops from 7% to 3%. So a 4% drop. Roughly 10,000 Black and Latino students disappeared from the university, following that law that banned race as a partial, certainly not a complete aspect, to applying from the university.

So a Supreme Court judge, Justice Ketanji Brown-Jackson wrote,

Gulf-sized race-based gaps exist, with respect to the health and wealth and well being of American citizens. They're created in the past, but have indisputably been passed down to the present day, through the generations. Every moment these gaps persist, is a moment in which this great country falls short of actualizing one of its foundational principles, namely, the self-evident truth, that all of us are created equal.

So much for justice in our time.

Thank you. We'll see you tomorrow.