

Daily Meditation 09-18-23

Finding the Nobility Inside, continued

Good morning.

In today's meditation, we are continuing our reflections on what the sacred masculine would look like, and finding our nobility. And another phrase for finding our nobility is my phrase, "Original Blessing."

In my book on Original Blessing, I cite Herbert Haag, who is the former president of the Catholic Bible Association in Germany. A scholar of the scriptures. And he wrote a book called "Is Original Sin in the Scripture?" [1969]

Here's some things that he says:

The doctrine of original sin is not found in any of the writings of the Old Testament. They're certainly not in chapters 1 to 3 of Genesis. This ought to be recognized today, not only by Old Testament scholars, but also by dogmatic theologians.

And I might say, by those who run the congregation of doctrinal faith, who blew the top of their heads off when they saw my book on Original Blessing.

Professor Haag also says,

The idea that Adam's descendants are automatically sinners, because of the sin of their ancestor, and that they are already sinners when they entered the world, is foreign to Holy Scripture.

Foreign to Holy Scripture.

It comes, as I pointed out, with Augustine in the fourth century, the very century when the Church inherited the [Roman] Empire, by the way. That has tremendous consequences. Original Sin helps if you're running an empire, keeps people in their place.

And again, Professor Haag:

No person enters the world a sinner. As a creature in the image of God, he is from his first hour surrounded by God's fatherly love. Consequently, he is not at birth, as is often maintained, an enemy of God, or a child of God's wrath. A person becomes a sinner only through their own individual, irresponsible action.

Now to translate that to history, and politics. Here's an observation from Frederick Turner, who wrote the important book "Beyond Geography," which is a history of America from the point of view of the Native Americans.

To those who followed Columbus and Cortez, the New World truly seemed incredible. Because of the natural endowments, land often announced itself with a heavy scent, miles out into the ocean. Giovanni da Verrazzano in 1524 smelled the cedars of the East Coast, 100 leagues out. The men of Henry Hudson's Half Moon, were temporarily disarmed by the fragrance of the New Jersey shore, while ships running farther up the coast, occasionally swam through large beds of floating flowers. Wherever they came inland, they find a rich riot of color and sound, of game and luxuriant vegetation. Had they been other than they were, they might have written a new mythology here. As it was, they took inventory.

The new mythology would be, of course, a mythology of grace and gratitude, with reverence and respect for Creation, for those who honor it, including indigenous peoples, in the 16th century.

If they had recognized that as Original Blessing, and saw themselves as Original Blessing, perhaps they would not have projected so much violence and hatred upon indigenous people, and upon Mother Earth.

Thank you. We'll see you next week.