

Daily Meditation 6-15-26

A Time For Interference from the Mystical/Prophetic

Body of Christ

Good morning.

In today's meditation, we are going over some of the recent news, which is not particularly edifying, such as the emergence of the first trillionaire in human history, and what kind of person he is, and how it was American government—that is, us taxpayers—who helped bolster him, both with the Tesla company, and with SpaceX. And how in the year 2018, he paid zero income taxes, and much more. In tomorrow's meditation, I'll be dealing directly with the gladiator event that is due to happen this evening. I'm recording this on Sunday morning, and that too has profound implications, I think, for the embarrassing America that we're all undergoing at this time in history.

But today I'd like to focus on my essay for tomorrow. It is called "The Distractions, Gladiators, and Corruption on the White House Lawns." The distractions, gladiators, and corruption on the White House lawns. I'd like to share with you an essay by Robert Reich, former Labor Secretary under Obama, whose work I very much respect, and this came out today. It's called "Sunday Thought: The Horrifying Truth About Trump's Cage Matches." And I also want to go in the last chapter, I called it an appendix, for my book on the MAGA Movement and Trump as Antichrist. The last chapter, that appendix, is called "MAGA's Precarious Manhood versus Authentic Masculinity," because this is one of the big points that that Robert Reich makes in his presentation.

So, first, let me share a few some highlights in his presentation. He says, *This will be a bloody gladiator fight taking place inside a 600-ton skeletal structure called the Claw, which is painted red, white, and blue. And it will feature punching, kicking, wrestling, choking, and the use of jujitsu on men, to the point that each of them will be either unconscious or verbally concedes, or a referee steps up and judges that there's too much damage to absorb any more violence. It'll be a money-making operation for the UFC, which is offering Access-VIP packages for \$1 million, as well as for Trump buddy David Ellison of Paramount, which will livestream it if you buy a subscription. It'll also be a moneymaker for Crypto.com, and for Ram, and the National Golf Club at Potomac, Virginia.*

He says, *What does the match on the White House lawn have to do with America's anniversary? That Trump and his regime are seeking to project an America like the winner of a cage match. He's everything and everyone in terms of dominance, and he's hell-bent on dominance.* And then he quotes from a speech from January 21: "You'll never take back our country if you show weakness. You have to show strength, and you have to be strong." So this was his clarion call to those who ended up invading the Capitol on January 6th. Over 1,500 of them convicted of crimes, and all of them pardoned by Trump on his first day in office in 2024. And he says,

Trump sees America as locked in a zero-sum match with the rest of the world. And there's no limit to our violence. As he told Iran, "The whole civilization will die tonight and never come back again." Trump's entire manosphere is obsessed with force and violence, such as is pronounced by the Secretary of War (that name alone was made up by them, Pete Hegseth), who promised "no quarter, no mercy to any enemies, and maximum violence to the enemy." And when he was told there were some survivors to an American bombing of a boat, Hegseth said to the commander, "Kill them all."

Trump's whole circle, says Reich, including Elon Musk, Mark Zuckerberg, and Vance, glorify male prowess and power. Musk even said he was quote "up for a cage fight" unquote, with Zuckerberg. And he points out that much of the Republican party, certainly in Texas, is focusing on male virility as the dividing line between their candidate for governor, Ken Paxton, and Talarico, whom they call "low-T," low testosterone.

And then Reich comments: Part of this comes directly from the fascist playbook: organizers of strong men touting male dominance. In that playbook, war is thought of as a means of strengthening society by culling the weak and giving birth to heroic warriors. A lot of the neo-fascist strongman rhetoric, he thinks, is appealing to those who feel powerless in our society today, which has left them behind. And young men, in particular, feel economically emasculated. Most of them who feel this way lack a college degree, and even with a degree, there's trouble getting work today. As he points out, now 60% of undergraduates in American colleges are women — 60%, only 40% are men — and 67%, that's two-thirds of those in graduate school, are women. It certainly did not used to be that way.

But he says, The cage match today on the White House lawn is no laughing matter. It's deeply serious and deeply troubling. And there is no connection, he says, with that and the Declaration of Independence that we are celebrating its 250th anniversary in July.

Now, I'd like to point out again some insight from my appendix, the last chapter, and a short one. It is called "MAGA's Precarious Manhood versus Authentic Masculinity," because I think it matches very synergistically with Robert Reich's observations. I say,

Harold Mayerson talked about the Republican Party as a party of precarious manhood. That's where I got the title for the chapter, A Party of Precarious Manhood. Donald Trump's admiration of Hungary's Victor Orbán — who has, as you know, recently been evicted from office — Trump lauds him "as a very tough man," and he lauds him because "everybody was afraid of him." And the same is true of his adulation of Putin, and even North Korea's Kim Jong Un. The MAGA movement, says Mayerson, is reliant on the cult of toughness and hyper-masculinity. And yet it has not contributed to making new blue-collar jobs, whereas in fact Biden's presidency did. He reminds us that at the Republican convention that elected and nominated, if you will, Donald Trump, entertainer and wrestler Hulk Hogan played a major role. And I remember him mightily working to rip his shirt off during his talk. And Donna White, president of UFC, Ultimate Fighting Championship, was featured as well, and talked about "the real men who are real Americans," and referred to Hulk Hogan as an example. Now, right on cue, Hulk Hogan threatened to "body-slam" Vice President Kamala Harris, who was, of course, Trump's opponent. And he made a racist comment about her at a public bar on the first night of the Democratic convention in Chicago.

All this is certainly a masculinity issue, and I contrast that with the 10 archetypes that I lay out in my book on *The Hidden Spirituality of Men*, about what really constitutes authentic masculinity. It's not violence, it's not subjugation of others, it is not power-over, but power-with. Cooperation, not competition carried to extremes.

Thank you. We'll see you next week.