

## Being Spiritual in Uncertain Times

We are being tested to the brink of sanity. There is no more reason or logic in our political, social and economic systems. Greed is the name of the day while unemployment, due to corrupt business principles and practices, skyrockets. And the picture being painted by our current U.S. administration, that "fair is foul, and foul is fair" (Shakespeare), has become fair game as they continue to instigate foul play in the name of fairness.

Many of us are overwhelmed by the inconsistencies in U.S. policies and in life, in general. We are seething with rage and yet we really cannot define the enemy. Is it the fault of the Muslims, the Zionists, our U.S. government or our own neighbors who immigrated to America over the last ten to 20 years? Is it the failing economy, the brazen destruction of our civil rights, or our own feelings of helplessness and inability to stay centered when all else is falling apart?

I am one of those individuals struggling with "all of the above". It would not surprise me if this administration declares a formal war on XMAS day as has been the trend during the course of U.S. administrations. Are they trying to make us depressed and pray more readily to God that we will triumph in the name of Christianity?

I am not planning anything formal for the holidays this year. I don't feel like getting sucked into thanking God on Thanksgiving that my family is safe as if other families who are not safe did not deserve it. I am not planning to thank God on XMAS day that my family is not on the battlefields, insinuating that I, above many, am being protected.

I do not feel thankful or protected. Being thankful for my own security and no one else's is no longer a viable option. The sinners are winning the battle at this time by convincing the masses that war is right and peace is wrong (and something to be detained over and thrown into jail for no less). It is the "time's plague when madmen lead the blind" (Shakespeare).

I've had to think long and hard in regard to what my expectations are for myself and the planet. I believe in peace, I believe in brotherhood, I believe in kindness, I believe in justice, I believe in mercy, I believe in wisdom, and I believe in compassion. These are concepts that I think are still in our dictionaries, if no longer in practice. The only thing that keeps me going is the certainty that in the end, all of these concepts will ultimately bear fruit. Unfortunately, it may take the destruction of the planet for the remaining masses to realize we didn't have to go in that direction if only we had come together sooner in unity. Coming together is inevitable. The question is "do we do it now, or do we do it later?"

Peace be in your heart and mind as you go about your daily business. It is the only road to spirituality but not the favored one as we approach the fork in the road. Only you can change the direction and it must come from within first and foremost.