

INTENTIONAL SYMBIOSIS: the Alternative to Violence

Conflicts and differences will always be; they can never be successfully resolved by violence, but they can be mitigated by intentional symbiosis. The difference between symbiosis and violence is the difference between hope and despair. Intentional symbiosis seeks the resolution of conflicts by way of accommodation and consideration of self interests. Aggression roots in ignorance, arrogance and uncompromising self-affirmation, which cannot accommodate resolutions that work in common interests.

Ideological rigidity and cultural dogmatism exacerbate differences and instigate violence, which perpetuates violence and compounds the wasting of the human person and the natural order of provision. True Christianity, true religion, pursues authentic humanity by imitating the natural/ divine pattern of intentional symbiosis (Christian Humanism).

In world affairs, governments should have policies that are sensitive to the human/ divine paradigm of intentional symbiosis, and should exercise international policies of creative dialog by which differences can be understood and conflicts anticipated; the common means of mitigating animosities and of avoiding violence should become global in public policies. Paradigmatic nature, in the strategy of symbiosis, advances the reflective, intentional, universal wisdom by which willful aggression and mutual wasting can be anticipated and avoided.

The history of wars, in cause and effect, prove the value of intentional symbiosis as the better alternative to conflicts and differences. In fact, humankind has reached a point of crisis in global waste from intentional violence which is undoing the best laid patterns of natural symbioses. Intentional symbiosis is the change humankind needs in the common interests of eco-social survival. The time for such world change is now—and it begins with each of us personally in our daily relationships with nature and each other.

“It has become my belief that our cosmic ignorance, and our arrogance of refusing to inform ourselves in cosmic self knowledge, is a slap in God's face. The arrogance of locking ourselves into willful ignorance is nothing less than idolatry, blasphemy, for we own the means (cortical intelligence) to get beyond the self-obsessive fixes of arrogance and ignorance.

“Arrogance and ignorance violate faith and hope, and when faith and hope are violated, so is love. "Civility" is the natural faith/ hope/ love expression of human relationships—what Christians believe exemplify the presence of God in Creation. The cult of incivility is rooted in three deadly social sins which directly defeat the civil virtues of faith, hope and love. These sins devastate personal and communal life; they fly directly in the face of Christian Trinity and must, therefore, be considered as blasphemy by Christians. These sins can be expressed in the manner of the seven deadly social sins of Mohandas K. Gandhi. They are: words *without* work, procreation *without* provision, and civitas *without* civilitas.

“**Words without Work.** The fraud of word-only spirituality is that it justifies itself without accountability for its connection to the working of natural necessity. God's Word is self-bound in natural Work. True Sacrament embodies in work its consciousness of word, unlike word-only rite and ritual. True word raises consciousness by its efficiency in doing in secular (material) reality what it says. The reliable embodiment of word is the fact-basis of faith; empty words are fruitless for they lack the faith-inspiration of work's

embodiment. The pretense of words at odds with work puts God to the test and trashes Natural Order.

“Procreation without Provision. Hope is consciously engendered in the experience of Nature's reliable provisioning of life. Hope is defeated when the providence of life is desecrated. Excessive human numbers and appetites are viciously wasting network life. True worship of God holds Providence sacred and sustains the largesse of network life for future generations. Where humans settle, history shows a mindless absence of foresight and the mindless waste of life. The conscienceless destruction of natural providence is a hope-destroying act that unmasks the lie of pretentious belief in God's Providence — a fearsome mockery of God.

“Civitas without Civilitas. The collective breaches of faith and hope ultimately work their devastation on love. Without love for one another people obsess in egoism and neglect confessional living that acknowledges the debt responsibility of bearing one another's burdens and sharing life's gifts. Individual life and its giftedness is a gratuity of previous life that belongs also to future generations. The violation of communal love is a violation of conscience. Without civility, without lived faith/ hope/ love, there can be no City of God, no harmonious community. The defeat of love is the ultimate sin against God who is Love.

TEN NEW GENESIS COMMANDMENTS (Mandated by Informed Conscience)

1. Thou shalt prove your words with work;
2. Thou shalt provision for new life before you procreate new life;
3. Thou shalt in all things live by the civil virtues of faith, hope and love;
4. Thou shalt safeguard the civil virtues in all forums of personal and social conduct;
5. Thou shalt use all accruals of wealth for local and global wellbeing;
6. Thou shalt subject your commerce to the constraints of personal authenticity and public reverence;
7. Thou shalt enjoy the fruits of life but not at the expense of life;
8. Thou shalt exemplify and teach the graces of heart: altruism, reverence and service to the sustaining necessities of life;
9. Thou shalt engage learning for your lifetime and use it for the wellbeing of all; and,
10. Thou shalt worship God by the selflessness of your living.

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