

Opinion

THE ENEMY WITHIN

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The enemy "afar" has proven to be an exceptionally more simple act to overwhelm than those close by, or... **the Enemy Within!** This fact has now become overwhelmingly apparent with the President, and Advocates, substantially settling the Mideast debacle; and yet, unable to unbuckle the restraints which hinder our U.S. Government from opening and moving forward! This comes as no surprise, since all clear thinkers of "the path forward" has included the precautionary measures of aligning our own cooperatives with the script at hand. An unruly, impractical, unthinkable... and perhaps, illegal... shutdown of "the System" now exists... a shutdown that seems inextricable from all abnormal operations. At some point **IT HAS TO OPEN... SO, WHY NOT NOW?** A partial answer is that "we ourselves (Centerfold) are at fault! Troubles in our personal pockets are the most difficult to handle!

I think back to regions beyond yesterday; and, the innumerable circumstances that I, as Pastor of multiple congregations, was called upon to settle differences involving family squabbles. The solutions were essentially "off the charts!" I would much rather be involved in neutralizing hard feelings with a dozen strangers than with "one" pair of family members. I will not venture in listing all the reasons for such impairment, or the surrounding difficulties of reconciliation, I just know that fractured relationships with kindred members are near impossible to solve! I am reminded of those who were friends for years; but, who died years later as enemies... never forgiving or forgetting! Shame! Shame! Shame!

WE, as a Nation, have fought furious battles with Alien Forces, in far distant places, alternately winning and losing. Some of our most feared enemies have become our favored Allies! Consider Japan and Germany... the wars fought... and the relationships a half century later!

Contrast that same scenario with feelings and conditions with alternate political strains, or repulsive family members! Hopefully, our ruptured affiliations were not caused by a registered hypocrisy??? Think it through!!!

I wish that it were possible to present myself as the ultimate "role model for the soul model!" But, that is not in the script! I do not have all the answers! Nor do I set myself as judge of others! I have learned however, to confess, forgive, and repost! And, I am working on the "Forgetting!" If I have been that friend, or leader, who through neglect or by design, have "pitched my tent" with obstinate pegs; or, an unrelenting "tie down," I ask your forgiveness... and reconciliation!

**I never desire to be that Enemy... Within or Without...
...The rest is up to you!!!**



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