

LIGHT AND DARK MANIFESTATIONS

MOST OF US HAVE HAD GOOD EXPERIENCES IN BOTH DAY AND NIGHT BUT OFTEN WE TEND TO GENERALIZE THAT LIGHT PERSONIFIES THE GOOD WHEREAS DARK SUGGESTS EVIL. AS A CHILD WE HAD TO SLEEP WITH A LIGHT ON AND OFTEN HID UNDER THE COVERS TO HIDE FROM GHOSTS OR OGRES. ONE CAN RECALL THE SONG, “WHEN THE LIGHTS COME ON AGAIN ALL OVER THE WORLD, AND THE BOYS COME HOME AGAIN ALL OVER THE WORLD, THERE WILL BE PEACE, AND HAPPINESS.....”. THIS WAS WWII AND ALL OF ITS TERROR AND VIOLENCE, DAY AND NIGHT, OFTEN WAS RATIONALIZED WHEN DAYLIGHT APPEARED AND SPIRITS ROSE. LIGHT AND DARK MANIFESTATIONS ARE STILL WITH US.

ECONOMISTS REMIND THAT THE GREAT DEPRESSION BEGAN ON ‘BLACK THURSDAY’, OCT 29, 1929, WHEN THE NEW YORK STOCK MARKET COLLAPSED. AFTER SEVERAL INTERMEDIATE UPS AND DOWNS, THE MARKET ENDED UP IN 1933 AT ABOUT ONE-SIXTH THE DIZZYING LEVEL OF 1929. TODAY IT IS SAID WE ARE IN A RECESSION AND THE NEW REGIME OF OBAMA SEEMS TO THINK THE ECONOMY WILL GET WORSE BEFORE IT GETS BETTER. TOO, TO SOME WE ARE ENGAGED IN TWO WARS, ONE IN IRAQ AND THE OTHER IN AFGHANISTAN. AND DESPITE THE GOOD NEWS FROM IRAQ, THE UNCERTAIN NEWS IN AFGHANISTAN ARGUES FOR A CONTINUING EFFORT AGAINST MILITANT EXTREMISTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE TALIBAN INSURGENCY. MUMBAI, INDIA REMINDS THAT MILITANT ISLAM IS ALIVE AND WELL AND SUGGESTS A TIE TO AN AL-QAEDA FACTION IN PAKISTAN. A LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL DOES NOT EXIST.

EARLIER WE NOTED THAT THE TALIBAN WAS THE OFFSPRING OF PAKISTAN RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS(MADRASSAS)-AND SAUDI MONEY AND DOCTRINAL TIES TO WAHABBISM (EXTREME ISLAM)JUMP-STARTED BY THE SOVIET INVASION OF AFGHANISTAN. ULTIMATELY THEY PREVAILED UNTIL CHASED OUT BY THE UNITED STATES AFTER 9-11.

NOW A RECREATED TALIBAN EXISTS IN THE PLAINS AND MOUNTAINS BORDERING AFGHANISTAN-PAKISTAN –AND A VOICE OF AL-QAEDA WITH OR WITHOUT BIN-LADEN.

WE REMIND THAT THE FINANCIAL MARKET COLLAPSE, THE MALAISE OF THE ECONOMY GENERALLY TRUMPED ANY RECOURSE BY MCCAIN TO PLAY THE ‘ISLAMIC EXTREMIST’ CARD IN THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN, RATHER OBAMA AND MCCAIN CENTERED ARGUMENTS ON THE ECONOMY. ARGUABLY, THE OFTEN-EXPLOITED OPPORTUNITIES INHERENT TO CAPITALISM SEEMS OPPORTUNISTIC TO THOSE WHO WISH US TO IMplode, CREATING CRACKS IN THE SYSTEM, IE THE TERROR ASSAULT AT MUMBAI, THE CORE OF THE INDIAN ECONOMY...SEEN AS DECADENT WEST IN A FREEFALL AND RIPE FOR PICKING. A COMBINATION OF ECONOMIC COLLAPSE AND ENCROACHING MILITANT ISLAM IS THE DEFINING MOMENT OF OUR TIME.

MICHAEL SCHEUER, LONG-STANDING CIA EXPERT ON BIN-LADEN AND OTHERS VIOLENTLY ARGUES AGAINST THE GENERAL THEME OF ‘THEY HATE US AND ENVY WHAT WE HAVE’ –RATHER ‘IT IS THEIR FEAR THAT OUR POLICY IS DESIGNED TO ELIMINATE ISLAM’. SCHEUER SEES INTO THE DARKNESS OF ISLAM.

GEORGE WEIGEL REMINDS THAT, “THE FUTURE OF OUR CIVILIZATION DOES NOT REST ON THE ADVANCE OF MATERIAL WEALTH AND TECHNOLOGICAL PROWESS; THE FUTURE OF THE WEST TURNS ON THE QUESTION OF WHETHER OUR SPIRITUAL ASPIRATIONS ARE NOBLE OR BASE.”

CHRISTIANS WANDER AND WONDER IN THEIR ALMOST OBLIVIOUS HOPE FOR THE RETURN OF JESUS TO MAKE MORE INTENSE OR SHARP THE REVELATION MESSAGE OF THE PERFECT SOCIETY OF GOOD WITHOUT EVIL, PAIN OR PILLAGE –TO LOVE US, HONOR US AND PERPETUATE THE ESSENCE OF CHRISTIANITY.

TODAY OUR CHURCH CHOIR REMINDS OF THE REASON FOR THE SEASON, A SEARCH FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE BIRTH OF THE CHRIST CHILD AND SINGS APPROPRIATELY: “I HAVE SEEN THE LIGHT”.