## **Maximising Redemption: Problem of Empty House**

My dwelling place will be with them; I will be their God, and they will be my people.

Ezekiel 37:27

## The Problem of the Empty House

One of Jesus' key strategies was to cleanse people of their sin, including exorcising demons, and then exhort them to sin no more. However, even in his incarnation, Jesus warned of the problem with unoccupied houses in Luke 11:24-25:

"When an evil spirit comes out of a man, it goes through arid places seeking rest and does not find it. Then it says, 'I will return to the house I left.' When it arrives, it finds the house swept clean and put in order. Then it goes and takes seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that man is worse than the first."

## And also:

"When an evil spirit comes out of a man, it goes through arid places seeking rest and does not find it. Then it says, 'I will return to the house I left.' When it arrives, it finds the house unoccupied, swept clean and put in order. Then it goes and takes with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that man is worse than the first. That is how it will be with this wicked generation." (Matthew 12:43-45)

My assessment is this is still a major problem because the deceiver's minions keep re-infecting those who have been cleansed by Jesus' forgiveness. For example, there seems to be a significant portion of the community who can admit they have made a mistake, and state the words of repentance. However, they will repeated go on to make the same or similar mistakes again. It is as though the house were cleansed, only to again be re-infected again. My suggestion is there needs to be some way to sanctify the temples so that they are filled with God's grace and the deceiver can not weave his way back into peoples' consciousness.

This needs God's divine wisdom and intervention because we are not just dealing with isolated instances. There are collusive groups who seem to deliberately reengage people into sinful activities e.g. street hoodlums, criminal gangs, lovers of violence, prostitutes, or arrogant cliques. This is exacerbated by the deceiver using very subtle infections so that vulnerable souls don't even realize they have a problem.

The Gnostic traditions are helpful for those who wish to separate themselves from sin through celibacy, but this is not practical for the majority of humanity. Repressive misogyny has not solved problems of the worlds' sins and actually seems to make things worse. The models that seem to offer hope for the majority of humanity who wish to function as godly individuals whilst living ordinary lives seem to be found in the earliest books of the bible. Thus we turn to Judaism and look at their early cultural dynamics which demonstrate more understanding and respect for the

feminine aspects of God's creation. I pray the Jesus might bring raise up some of his people's early cultural models that would help restore respect for the feminine and foster models that are sustainable beyond celibate monasteries and temples. (Maybe through such a model the keys to alleviate the dichotomy between the celibate holy ones and the unprotected humanity can be found).

It is my belief that deceiver especially hates women and the Jews because such a model would be profoundly useful. The deceiver would have the Jews believe they are alone and unsupported. The deceiver would incite hatred against the Jews, because your people hold the knowledge of these essential keys. Even so, people can only model and demonstrate the next cultural and spiritual paradigm if they rise above the tricks and paradigms of the deceiver and come back into a proper, obedient relationship with God e.g. <a href="http://www.algemeiner.com/generic.asp?cat=1">http://www.algemeiner.com/generic.asp?cat=1</a>, includes:

Samach-Vav's initial premise (as discussed in the <u>previous segments</u> of this series) is that the purpose of existence is to transform the material universe into a Divine home; to draw into the finite parameters of the world the transcendent Divine energy (beyond existence), and beyond that – a new unprecedented energy that expresses "the innermost aspect and essence of the Infinite Light," the essence of the Divine "supra-conscious."

Yes, there is a level of inspiration that inspires and lifts us for the moment; an epiphany that awakens us sporadically at auspicious times. But that inspiration remains distant and detached from personal experience, and it quickly dissipates. The greatest inspiration of all is possible only <u>after</u> our exertions, and then it becomes <u>integrated</u> into our experience.

Two forces are at work every moment of our lives: One voice that calls us to take care of our own needs. A second voice that insists we live up to a higher calling. One force is called the "animal soul" – driven by survival and self-sustenance, even at the expense of others. The second force is the "divine soul" or "divine spark" that yearns toward transcendence.

For grace to ripple beyond the Jewish people it must first abide within the Jewish people. (That does not let everyone else off the hook; it is their job to embrace the next wave that Jesus will explain if and when he is ready). However, all peoples should take comfort that God does has a plan to redeem all of humanity, using the Jewish cultural history as a reservoir of knowledge that others can incorporate into their existing religious structures. (And before everyone stresses out about proselytizing, remember I'm exhorting the Jews to relearn humility, appreciate karmic consequence, and grasp the difference between "can" and "should" - choosing to eschew rewards and vengeance in this world for the greater reward of a proper relationship with a God who metes out true justice and compassion).

For this to succeed all of creation needs to be in awe of God. Any and all of God's creation need to be subject to God's discipline <u>Job 15:14-16</u>. <u>Ezekiel 28:11-19</u>, <u>Isaiah 2:12-17</u>, <u>Isaiah 22:17-25</u>, <u>Isaiah 37:26-35</u>, or <u>Amos 6:1-7</u>. God clearly has a long-term reconciliation plan towards an inclusive Israel and restoration of the temple e.g. <u>Ezekiel 43:6-12</u>, <u>Isaiah 49</u>.

There is a passage in <u>Isaiah 33:7-22</u>, where God paints a picture that all will appear to be lost. The envoys of peace weep bitterly, no one is respected. Yet it is precisely in that period of absolute despair "Now will I arise," says the LORD. "Now will I be exalted; now will I be lifted up. (Isaiah 33:10) and at one level humanity is filled with an overwhelming fear, but God tells us there is one who can dwell within his burning fire: He who walks righteously and speaks what is right, who rejects gain from extortion and keeps his hand from accepting bribes, who stops his ears against plots of murder and shuts his eyes against contemplating evil—this is the man who will dwell on the heights, whose refuge will be the mountain fortress. His bread will be supplied, and water will not fail him. (Isaiah 33:15-15) This messianic vision of God's ambassador and Zion is then imparted to the rest of humanity Your eyes will see the king in his beauty and view a land that stretches afar. (Isaiah 33:17)

The fruits of God fulfilling this vision as described in Isaiah 33:18-22 will leave us to ...ponder the former terror: "Where is that chief officer? Where is the one who took the revenue? Where is the officer in charge of the towers?" You will see those arrogant people no more, those people of an obscure speech, with their strange, incomprehensible tongue. Look upon Zion, the city of our festivals; your eyes will see Jerusalem, a peaceful abode, a tent that will not be moved; its stakes will never be pulled up, nor any of its ropes broken. There the LORD will be our Mighty One. It will be like a place of broad rivers and streams. No galley with oars will ride them, no mighty ship will sail them. For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king; it is he who will save us

In the bible, God promises He will send a herald before any messianic period. John the Baptist prepared the way before Jesus, which fulfilled God's promise from Malachi 4:1-6, especially:

"See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse." (Malachi 4:5-6)

While we might not agree on the authority of Jesus' first incarnation, Buddha's or Mohammad; there are grounds for a general agreement that the Ultimate Creator has promised a Messiah that is universally acknowledged by all the faiths e.g. <u>Isaiah 42:1-9</u>, <u>Ezekiel 37:24-28</u>, which concludes:

" 'My servant David will be king over them, and they will all have one shepherd. They will follow my laws and be careful to keep my decrees. They will live in the land I gave to my servant Jacob, the land where your fathers lived. They and their children and their children's children will live there forever, and David my servant will be their prince forever. I will make a covenant of peace with them; it will be an everlasting covenant. I will establish them and increase their numbers, and I will put my sanctuary among them forever. My dwelling place will be with them; I will be their God, and they will be my people. Then the nations will know that I the LORD make Israel holy, when my sanctuary is among them forever. '"

I pray God touches souls to look beyond the superficial to the deeper meanings within these writings. May this be one of those periods in history where God sends Jesus and his holy ones to raise humanity's consciousness to overcome the current

tribulations. May God also grant souls the wisdom, hope and faith to contribute to a sustainable and diverse global community that fully honors God and His creation.