



Navig8or Newsletter

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New Orleans, Haiti and the Psychopathic God



“The Relationship between the White American community and the African American community is that of folie ‘a deux, - a shared psychosis; a form of psychopathological “contagion” in which the Black American community inversely, and against its own interests , internalizes and incorporates into its own collective personality structure the racist delusions and other psychotic patterns of the White American community.”

Amos Wilson (1994: 67) – ‘Black on Black Violence – The Psychodynamics of Black Self-Annihilation in Service of White Domination’

“Religion is the Deification of a People’s Culture”

Professor Yosef ben-Jochannan

Introduction

Welcome to the latest issue of the Navig8or newsletter. In this issue we are going to explore how some Afrikans with deep religious convictions have embraced a psychopathic God who they will defend at all costs, even if it means blaming the poorest people in the world for any terrible tragedy that befalls them. The blood of innocent women, children and men is used to wash away blame from this cold blooded killer. The first quote at the top of this

newsletter; by our great ancestor Amos Wilson, clearly describes how many Afrikans (not only in the US) have incorporated the "...psychotic patterns of the White American community" and this includes their murderous and psychopathic God.

I generally try to keep away from discussions of religion for the simple reason that they tend to generate a lot more heat than light. Since faith does not require evidence, and in many cases questioning religious doctrines can lead the enquiring believer to be condemned as a 'doubting Thomas' or facing the comment 'oh ye of little faith', within most religions there is actually a premium placed on demonstrating unquestioning, blind faith. Equally since we know that emotion is a more powerful motivator than reason, I tend not to bother with religious debates unless dealing with a person who can accept the questioning of their deeply held beliefs or unless I am severely provoked by an ardent and persistent evangelist!

Nonetheless the recent tragic events in Haiti, compounded by the tragic events when Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans have forced my hand and I am going to deal with this Mass Murderer who demands to be worshipped.

Haitians - "cursed" by a "pact to the devil"

There follows excerpts from an article that appeared on the Huffington Post website and which captures the heart of the 'disaster as punishment for sin theology'.

Televangelist Pat Robertson said Wednesday that earthquake-ravaged Haiti has been "cursed" by a "pact to the devil."

"Something happened a long time ago in Haiti, and people might not want to talk about it," he said on Christian Broadcasting Network's "The 700 Club." "They were under the heel of the French. You know, Napoleon III, or whatever. And they got together and swore a pact to the devil. They said, we will serve you if you'll get us free from the French. True story. And so, the devil said, okay it's a deal."

Robertson said that "ever since, they have been cursed by one thing after the other" and he contrasted Haiti with its neighbor, the Dominican Republic.

"That island of Hispaniola is one island. It is cut down the middle; on the one side is Haiti on the other is the Dominican Republic," he said. "Dominican Republic is prosperous, healthy, full of resorts, etc. Haiti is in desperate poverty. Same island. They need to have and we need to pray for them a great turning to god and out of this tragedy I'm optimistic something good may come. But right now we are helping the suffering people and the suffering is unimaginable."

Later that evening, Raymond Joseph, Haitian Ambassador to the U.S., began his appearance on MSNBC's *Rachel Maddow Show* by shaming Robertson and pointing out that Haiti's freedom led to freedom across Latin America. And they weren't they only beneficiaries from

those historic events. "The U.S. was able to gain the Louisiana Territory for \$15 million," Joseph added. "That's three cents an acre. That's 13 states west of the Mississippi that the Haitian slaves' revolt in Haiti provided America."

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/01/13/pat-robertson-haiti-curse_n_422099.html

Now, whilst there were a lot of condemnations of Robertson, with emails flying around talking about how evil he is, there was much less discussion of the fact that there are plenty of Afrikans who hold exactly the same views as Robertson in relation to the meaning and cause of the Haitian earthquake. These same views were expressed in relation to the devastation wrought on New Orleans by Hurricane Katrina. I have personally recently encountered two Afrikan women openly expressing these views to justify why their perfect God kills so many seemingly innocent people. These women are on the face of it 'good' people. They love their family members, show caring and compassion to others in their daily interactions, go to church regularly etc. So how could they share such horribly cruel sentiments as those expressed by Robertson?

The Bloodthirsty Psychopathic White God

The answer to the foregoing question is reasonably straightforward and yet chilling in its implications. These women worship the same God as Pat Robertson. By the same God I mean that their notion of God, what 'he' (always male in the European/Arab or Europeanised/Arabised mind) is and what 'he' demands is born out of the same cultural paradigm or asili (Ani: 1996) that has created all other aspects of European culture.

As Professor Yosef ben-Jochannan so rightly stated "Religion is the Deification of a People's Culture" and most Afrikans are, to a greater or lesser extent, born and raised prisoners of other people's culture.

Most Afrikan Christians practice what one might describe as 'Old Testament Christianity' and the God of the Old Testament is an anthropomorphised psychopath. That is to say 'he' is given human characteristics and emotions which tell you more about the people who created the bible stories than about the creative force in the Universe. This is an angry, jealous God who like some insecure narcissist constantly demands to be worshiped and in Biblical stories even goes so far as demanding that a chosen follower show their willingness to sacrifice their son to prove their loyalty. Back in the day 'he' encouraged his 'chosen people' to commit genocide against others (as in Canaan) and rewarded them with the victim's land (sounds like Israel today). Of course the ancient Canaanites were Afrikans, but no matter!! The followers of the Killer God must do as their Master insists.

It is important to understand the theology that leads some Afrikan Christians to blame poor people around the world for their deaths due to a variety of natural and unnatural causes. The key religious beliefs that lead some of our people down this path are:

- The belief in original sin, which means that all people are born in sin and hence no one is innocent, including newborn babies. This means that all can be legitimately culled as part of collective punishment,
- An anthropomorphised God who possesses and acts on human emotions, e.g. wrath and jealousy, and has a 'history' of mass killings (e.g. stories of Noah and the Great flood, Sodom and Gomorrah, plagues etc.) to purge humanity of sin
- A belief in an interventionist God who actively controls events, hence the philosophical dilemma as to why God allows bad things to happen to good people, which can only be explained through the concepts of original sin and collective punishment
- Universalism. The belief that there is only one way to the Kingdom of Heaven (through Jesus Christ) and all non-believers are damned and will be condemned to an eternity of suffering in Hell
- A particular disdain and disrespect for religious/spiritual beliefs that are not part of the Judaeo/Christian/Islamic tradition.

Of course many Christians of all races reject the conclusions drawn from such beliefs even if in fact they embrace some of the aforementioned religious concepts. However one of the things that such 'religious exceptionalism' - as we particularly find in proselytising, universal religions - promotes is a strong tendency to overlook the 'sins' of co-religionists, especially as directed towards non-believers. Hence, I have never heard my aforementioned fundamentalist Christian associates, condemn Christian war criminals such as George W Bush and Tony Blair.

To highlight the extent of this religious madness, I recall one of the survivors of the Haitian earthquake; who had been injured and subjected to a partial amputation of her arm, telling reporters that she had survived due to her Christian faith – she was recently 'born again' – and that the earthquake was God's punishment! Let's work through the madness. She was saved because she is a Christian, therefore all those killed or who suffered worse injuries than her were being punished for either not being Christians or not being as good Christians as her. On the flip side all those who were less injured than her or not injured were obviously rewarded for their piety! Now since the poorest people living in the most poorly constructed houses were the people most likely to die during the earthquake due to the collapse of their dwellings we can surmise that her God loves rich people and the richer you are the more he loves you. There was an example on the news of a well constructed house which suffered minimal damage during the earthquake, surrounded by the rubble of collapsed houses; and once again, based upon this philosophy of stupidity we are to

conclude that the people in the standing building survived because they were good which is why God gave them the money to build their nice house.

Stick with me. If we take this logic further we can note that an earthquake of exactly the same magnitude as the one in Haiti; struck San Francisco in the late 1970's leading to the deaths of less than 100 people. So we must conclude that God loves San Franciscans far more than Haitians. The final step in working through this (il)logic chain is to consider that African people are disproportionately numbered amongst the world's poor and on average have significantly shorter life expectancies than other groups of people. Are we to conclude therefore that we are God's hated people and that all other groups in various increments of favour are more loved by this lunatic God?

Amos Wilson tells us that one of the characteristics of the psychopath is "a tendency to project blame onto others and to take no responsibility for failures" (Wilson 1991: 23) and we see that in effect this is what this young Haitian woman, Pat Robertson and his ilk do on behalf of their God. Their God is responsible for all the good in the world but none of the bad, which is blamed on the victim; who normally has been punished for no faith, insufficient faith or wrong faith. After all; the psychopath must have his pound of flesh!

Conclusion

Of course the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina and the Haitian earthquake had nothing to do with divine punishment, but rather were due to human wickedness. Without the breached levees Hurricane Katrina would have caused minimal damage to New Orleans and there is ample evidence that it was a deliberate policy of the federal government not to maintain the levees and significant evidence that the levees were deliberately damaged to allow the breach. Similarly, it is the 206 year military, economic, cultural and spiritual war waged against Haiti and Haitians (by their supposed contemporary French, US and British rescuers), as punishment for their temerity in overthrowing their Caucasian enslavers, that is the cause of the material poverty of that country and it is this material poverty that led to the massive number of deaths during the earthquake.

Religion is the single biggest barrier to a committed and purposeful Afrikan unity. It is the most powerful motivator known to humanity but can easily be misused and abused or lead people down group negating paths. Religion can lead to incredible acts of self-sacrifice, however it can also lead to the inculcation of a culture of profound stupidity and irrationality where everything has supernatural causes and if anything negative happens then the blame has to be heaped upon the victim in order to exonerate this bloodthirsty God.

Afrikans need to re-evaluate the role of religion in their lives and that of their people and where necessary undertake a process of reformation to create belief systems that work for

Afrikan people as a whole. To paraphrase Asa G Hilliard, 'to be culturally Afrikan or not to be culturally Afrikan, that is the question'. Now there is a question worth pondering over Easter and beyond!

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