

Indian religion

Joseph Daniel Teo, 708 South Tieton Ave., Wapato, Wash. (1963)

What impelling motive make one write about a noble and often exploited race of people? In order to answer this one must search the past.

It is obviously clear to most historians that the Pilgrims could have been slaughtered on the beaches since they were without food and exhausted. The Pilgrims told the Americans that they were looking for a new home, that their own people were persecuting them for their belief in God.

Seeing their distress the American Indians gave them food and land, and taught them how to raise corn etc. But the Pilgrims were soon to repay the Indians for their kindness...In an endless stream they came a bible in one hand a sword in the other. We might say here that the Pilgrims might have been shocked at some of the new immigrants whose only philosophy was the end justifies the means, and their aim was two fold, wealth and power, no matter who had to suffer. But if the Pilgrims were shocked the American Indians were doubly shocked. These strange people claimed the exclusive right to the one true God. They loved to talk and preach--preach and talk, while at the same time they acted opposite their preaching, which probably explains their namby pamby religion of today. It is almost a comedy to watch the life of a space age Christian while the old Saints braved new lands against tremendous odds with no swords or soldiers to protect them they preached boldly...the ~~Nam~~ word of God...But what kind of a saint do we have today? Why he acts ashamed of his religion, he's even scared to preach to his own neighbors, and if this shocks the Christian people, I mean it to, because I believe it is time for the Christians to put up or shut up.

Most people who know history readily admit the American Indian was the only that defended their lands against the U.S. and came out behind.

Take for example the Japanese, why they killed more Americans than all the Indian wars combined, yet the U.S. gave them access to the Tongas Forest in Alaska, even a pulp mill in Ketchikan Alaska, not to mention the millings of dollars poured into that country...and west Germany, I won't even talk about...

Seeing the distress of the early immigrants the American Indians gave them food, water and clothing, also sitting aside land for them. Soon more and more came from Europe, naturally they demanded more land, the Indians became alarmed but too late. Pandora's Box was already open, and the flood gates of human immigrants was not to cease until the last Indian chief Joseph, was run down. The effect upon the Indians was tremendous to say the least, only the Indian himself can feel the full burden of frustration

Deserted by their own Great Spirit, unable to comprehend the white man's religion, boxed in on worthless land, diseases or starved. Tormented by such phrases as the Vanishing Race, Lo the Poor Indian, the only Good Indian is a Dead Indian. Whole tribes vanished from disease, worse still alcohol seemed the only escape from reality of a broken society.

Here I can't help but feel frustration over this one word, "propaganda," a universal word meaning what? Well in the Indians case it meant simply this to the civilized European mind, the Indian is a ^{sic} savage, cruel animal who is better dead than alive, or the Indians should be beaten into submission and be christianized, to accomplish this his source of food was slaughtered, he was herded on reservations, get rid of the Indian factor was the cry of the speculators, land seeker, gold seekers, economists etc. Her Goebles of the Third Reich couldn't equal the harm done to these American Indians in starvation, disease, whiskey and war! All this brought about by one word, "propaganda!"

But why propaganda? Simply this among all races of people ^{sic} there is that something called conscience, the few exploiters knew they had to rally the support of real sincere Christians to get rid of the Indian factor.

Well then, what does all this mean? Only this, when one family is fighting another it is at peace with itself, likewise a state, a nation, etc. But as soon as they are thru fighting with the enemy, for almost no reason at all, they fight among themselves, also and likewise the Germans hate the English, the English hate the French, the French hate the Germans, and on and on and back to the Indians. They were guilty as the Europeans in this respect since the Blackfeet fought the Nez Perce, the Sioux fought the Crow etc.

So now all this from pride and prejudice, who art thou oh man? One only has to go to the book of Job to find the answer to this great question. And like some one said life is like a chess game, after the game is over ~~the~~ from the King to the Pawn all are thrown in the same place together, so it is with man, both great and small go to the grave together when life is over.

Then again the cry of a baby sounds the same the world over.

I have said all this just to say this, all mankind must now strive to get along with one another, and the only key I know of is forgiveness, to me this one word is the same as love. I know it sounds like an old record when I say we are on the verge of self annihilation

Most laymen know it ~~would~~ would only take forty hydrogen bombs wrapped in cobalt to destroy all flesh, on the other hand their has been talk on a clean bomb, if there is such a thing, although forty bombs wrapped in steel would do less damage. May be Peter wasn't far from wrong when he mentions in the New Testament the elements shall melt with ~~fiend~~ feverent heat.

I honestly believe that if the majority of Americans heard more of the Indians' side of the story, we would never have lost in Olympia over jurisdiction, or on anything, also the majority I feel believe this is why bother the Indians any more? We have their land, our tables are full, our children grew up, safe, or we should care more about Japanese

fishing and Russian trawlers, Canadian fishing or dams and industries . Why blame the Indian, he's been here longer than anyone and there was always plenty of fish, or have we discriminated against a minority people, --yes. Why we should be more concerned about money going overseas never to come back, why not pay the Indian? at least it would be spent in America, but the Indians fell because of a smear campaign, ie propaganda! The few excited the wrath of the majority, the plan is old, it has been used often in the past, make it look like it's for the Indians own good, white people haven't solved their own social problems. How are they going to solve ours?

Now I confess I shouldn't even mention white man, red man, black man , or yellow man, I should have confined it simply man?

Back to the Christian Lin Mutang sez in his book, "the entire Christian religion hangs on the existence of an apple! When Adam and Eve were on their honey moon they ate an apple, and for that little offence God caused their posterity to suffer from generation to generation, but when that same posterity murdered that same God 's only son, God was so delighted he forgave them all! No matter how people explain and argue I cannot get over that great contradiction. How come he got so angry over the apple? And why did He get so happy when they crucified His son. Actually I like what Mahatma Ghandi said, "Their (sic) are many roads to God, what difference does it make if we take different roads so long as we get to the same place, in reality there (sic) are many religions as individuals . True many Christians will refute this, but how do they explain away denominations? And more over all the members of even one denomination don't agree. I even heard of one fellowship meeting where two ministers got in a fist fight right on the platform! I've seen more hatred, jealousy, back biting and unforgiveness in church than in taverns, it must really make the sincere Christians heart ache to witness all this in the church.

Indeed the church today is more concerned with beautiful churches, higher salaries, comfort etc. What Apostle was buried in riches, such as the Peopes are today?

Some will say, how come this Indian talks so much? Well because if I'm an Indian an I feel this way how does the Chinese feel, or the African, South American or even the Russian,--the hypecry of it all. I know their will be a lot of criticism , but it will come from those that read history with their prejudice, and not with their eyes--why even George Washington hated slaves!

Well then some m ght say," Just where do you stand? I think I stand where everyone should stand, world peace, secondly justice. The colored people are in a struggle for theirs, like wise the American Indian, and as a Yakima I cannot stand by unconcerned while our Treaty Rights are invaded nor look in silence upon public robbery of these rights, but I must exert every endeavor to repeal the aggressor and drag the thief to justice and who ever else that partakes of their plunder.

I'll cite one example and close, in Lucullus McWhorter 's book "Crimes Against the Yakimas" he sez this according to the treaty a mill was to be built for the Yakimas to supply themwith lumber for their homes However this mill mysteriously burned down, whereupon a letter was sent back to Washington asking them to replace this mill, Washington answered back stating that the mill will be replaced at the earliest possible date--and that was over fifty years ago! When is the earliest possible date any how? Any how some might argue" we done thax too much already for the Indian. But thenhow do you repay the landlord? Our Land has been a refugee for the world, your sons and daughters are privileged sons and daughters, you have escaped two world wars, why Yakima alone is third only to C_hicago and New Yrk in shipping of fruits and vegetable cars, 17,000 a year. What more could the American Indian give the world?

All we ask is thatthe U.S. honor their treaty, keep their word if not then we should have the privilege to take the Treaty to the United Nations and tear it to pieces before the world.

When you consider the U.S . grosses 500 billion dollars annually
you begin to realize after all it is not the white man giving to the
Indian, but the Indian giving to the world.

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