

GLOBAL WARMING?

Where is global warming when you need it? By asking that question, I do not mean to downplay the responsibility that we have to take care of our planet. However, with the deep freeze that has been coming from the Arctic these past several weeks, it is difficult to accept the claim that there is an unnatural warming trend taking place.

As a matter of fact, we have had all sorts of weather that has been creating havoc across our nation, if not around the world. Usually, we find it difficult to blame ourselves for anything. However, in the case of global warming, many would have us do just that, - blame ourselves. Could it just be that there are cycles, which take place regardless of us; - cycles that are natural and have taken place before? Perhaps, our area of the world is getting colder rather than warmer. After all, much of the United States was under ice once upon a time. Some of the most beautiful inland lakes were created by the glaciers of years past.

Then, there is another possibility. Perhaps, we should actually blame ourselves; but not in the way that has become socially acceptable. Could it be that the Lord is trying to get our attention? Might He be trying to get the point across that He is in charge and not us?

There are those who cringe at the thought that God might allow natural disasters because of our behavior. After all, God is a God of love and does not wish disasters upon us. Of course, the Lord loves us. Nevertheless, a good, loving parent also disciplines in some way. The objective is to change behavior because of love.

When we become serious about our relationship with an All-powerful Personal Force that created and is in charge of the whole universe, including us, we have to wonder why that God puts up with us at all. We would not. And, yet, He does.

Throughout salvation history, the Almighty has spoken through the prophets, but to no avail. Lastly, He speaks to us through his Son, a mystery that we have just celebrated during the Christmas Season. Is that to be to no avail, as well? If our children treated their parents the way that we treat God, what would those parents do? Think about it. There would be more than just a little "frigid air."

I have to think that our behavior as a nation is of interest to the Almighty. If you believe (and, I do) that our nation is unique and came into being with a unique role to play, one should easily come to the conclusion (and, I do) that we, as a nation, have gone astray. And, as in a family, the innocent suffer with the guilty.

Also, as in a family, we can either pout and rebel some more or we can get our act together. But, how does a whole nation get its act together? Again, the same as in a family, the first step is to have the desire and the willingness to do so. That begins with you and with me.

Either we believe that there is a Supreme Being in charge or we do not. If we do not, then we are left to our own devices, - and that truly is a scary thought. Our nation was founded on the principle that its right to exist comes from an Entity higher than any ruler on earth. Why would we think any differently today? The time to take God's admonishing seriously is long overdue. It is global warming of a divine kind that we can bring about by our behavior.