

CONFESSION OF EVIL

“The confession of evil works is the first beginning of good works.”

- Saint Augustine

In my news reading, I came across this quote of Saint Augustine and thought, why not? If I can elaborate on this quote – and the article from whence it came – than maybe I learn something further about the saint...or at least about being honest?

New Testament teaching clearly points to the need to “confess” or sins before God (through Christ); for until we are able to acknowledge our sins – or that we sin – we cannot be forgiven; moreover, to be forgiven, we must forgive. Jesus describes this “condition of forgiveness” in his prayer in Matthew 6.

The described article is by Ilana Mercer, and is entitled, “Republicans: Repent!” The subject is the history or background of our current national and personal debt woes. In summary, the article holds the past congressional majority, the Republicans, responsible for the developing evidence of socialism and other aspects of centralized government. This development did not begin with the current administration – according to the writer – but developed much further back with the accumulation of debt and deficits measured in trillions!

Avoiding the need to describe the grim developments, I will turn to this concept of confession. The writer evidently considers the Republicans as being both irresponsible and erroneous in pointing the finger of blame at the Democrats for such developments... If she is right, then why doesn't the party *step-up-to-the-plate*, “come clean”, or otherwise acknowledge their part in this whole national – if not international – mess? Who is at fault...and who is hiding the truth – or attempting to?

Lot's of questions, some plausible answers; but no real solutions because, as a start, no one is admitting or confessing the truth. Yes, they know that they share in the blame, but political protocol prevents them from clearly and concisely admitting to it. Politics entitles – if not demands – them to *gloss-over*, avert, or shirk the blame; but such behavior has no good – according to the saint. Conversely, “confession of evil works” is the first step toward “good works”; until honest and truthful behavior is exemplified, they fool themselves and they infuriate and disgust the public who have been fooled...

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