

Some quotes from:
What Does It Mean to Love Your Enemies?
Rev. Dr. Grant Dawson
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Matthew 5: 43 - 48: Jesus said "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of God your Father in heaven; for God makes the sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?"

Ex. 23:4: When you come upon your enemy's ox or donkey going astray, you shall bring it back.

Proverbs

Do not rejoice when your enemies fall,
and do not let your heart be glad when they stumble... (24:17)
If your enemies are hungry, give them bread to eat;
and if they are thirsty, give them water to drink... (25: 21)

The Babylonian tradition, *Akkadian Councils of Wisdom*

Do not return evil to your adversary; Requite with kindness the one who does evil to you.
Maintain justice for your enemy. Be friendly to your enemy.

Stoicism, Seneca

We shall engage in affairs to the very end of life. We shall never cease to work for the common good, to help each and all, to give aid ever to our enemies when our hand is feeble with age.(De Patrio 1.4)

Confucius

Of the adage, "Only a good person knows how to like people, and knows how to dislike them", Confucius said, "The one whose heart is in the smallest degree set upon Goodness will dislike no one." (Analects 4.3-4)

Daosim, Laozi

To the good, I am good. To those who are not good,
I am also good,
so goodness is attained
To the faithful, I am faithful. To the unfaithful,
I am also faithful,
so faithfulness is attained.
True followers in the world live harmoniously.
All under heaven are confused by this.

The peoples of this world all look to them and listen to them. True followers see them all as their children. (Dao De Jing 49, trans. Dawson)

Hindusim

Ramayana: A superior being does not render evil for evil; this is a maxim one should observe; the ornament of virtuous persons is their conduct. One should never harm the wicked or the good or even criminals meriting death. A noble soul will ever exercise compassion even towards those who enjoy injuring others or those of cruel deeds when they are actually committing them—for who is without fault? (Yuddha Kanda 115)

Buddhism

Shame on the one who strikes, greater shame on the one who strikes back. Let us live happily, not hating those who hate us. Let us therefore overcome anger by kindness, evil by good, falsehood by truth. Do not hurt others in ways that would be hurtful to yourself.”

Jainism

My Lord! Others have fallen back in showing compassion to their benefactors as you have shown compassion even to your malefactors. All this is unparalleled.

Sikhism

Says Nanak, “True lovers are those who are forever absorbed in the Beloved. Whoever discriminates between treatment held good or bad, is not a true lover....” (Adi Granth, Asa-ki-Var, M.2, p. 474)

Islam

Requite evil with good, and the one who is your enemy will become your dearest friend. (Adi Granth, Asa-ki-Var, M.2, p. 474)

Harlan K. Ullman and James P. Wade in “Shock and Awe: Achieving Rapid Dominance”

The key objective of Rapid Dominance is to impose this overwhelming level of Shock and Awe against an adversary on an immediate or sufficiently timely basis to paralyze its will to carry on. In crude terms, Rapid Dominance would seize control of the environment and paralyze or so overload an adversary’s perceptions and understanding of events so that the enemy would be incapable of resistance at tactical and strategic levels. An adversary would be rendered totally impotent and vulnerable to our actions. (1996)

Mr. Spock: Those who hate and fight must stop themselves, Doctor; otherwise it is not stopped. (“Star Trek”)

In his 2008 book *The Science of Fear: Why We Fear the Things We Shouldn’t—and Put Ourselves in Greater Danger*, New York Times journalist Daniel Gardner unfolded the ways we fail to assess risk properly, as well as the sobering consequences.

Our subconscious mind issues lightning-fast judgments about danger based on principles that evolved during our cave-dwelling days. This gut instinct served us well when it steered us clear of places where humans often met with hungry predators.

Today, though, the nightly news stocks our subconscious with frightening images of plane crashes, superbugs, and child abductions; faced with related decisions, our guts make the decidedly wrong calls.

Gardner points to the 12 months after 9/11, during which, researchers now know, an understandably large number of people heeded their guts and avoided flying. Fear itself put millions of additional people in cars. Flying, however, is vastly safer than driving, and in that one year, traffic fatalities on U.S. roads spiked. An additional 1,595 people lost their lives. At the end of the year, air travel numbers returned to normal, and traffic fatalities resumed their disconcerting but regular rates.

Marketers, politicians, and entertainers grasp with precision how brains misfire, and they apply this knowledge to great gain. Fearmongering has worked wonders for everyone from real estate agents hawking gated communities to advocacy groups attempting to recruit members.

Mother Jones reported, "In 1993 there were only a few dozen antibacterial consumer products. Today, there are more than 9,000, with 2,753 new ones introduced in 2007." Never mind that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration concluded four years ago that antibacterial soap is no better at preventing infection than regular suds: Sales of antibacterial chemicals are projected to reach \$930 million in 2009. If you aren't afraid of germs, you haven't been watching enough TV.

Julie Harris in article "Overcoming Fear Culture and Fear Itself" A report from the World Social Summit underscores the degree to which fear has become a personal matter. , "Fear in the Mega-Cities" surveys citizens of 10 urban hubs around the globe, among them London, Mumbai, and Beijing. Highly individual fears like physical or mental suffering and death top the list of anxieties, followed by preoccupations with being left out or falling behind, especially economically.

In the past, common fears bound communities together. They were a source of shared identity and engendered camaraderie and trust. "Americans born roughly between 1910 and 1940 were a particularly civic and trusting generation," write Pamela Paxton and Jeremy Adam Smith in the Fall 2008 issue of *Greater Good*; facing down monumental challenges like the Great Depression and World War II required people to depend on one another, fusing communities together.

The individual way we've come to experience fear contributes only to isolation and feelings of helplessness. Instead of seeing support or solutions, we add to our grim roster of perceived threats.

We need a change in point of view from defenders of an old truth to become the makers of a new world

Cosmologist Brian Swimme: "We are in a creative event, so our lives evolve as we see how the universe as a whole lives in us."

Thomas Berry: The human being is the way the universe reflects upon and celebrates itself.

John Polkinghorne, theoretical physicist, theologian in his book *The Polkinghorne Reader: Science, Faith and the Search for Meaning* uses the term "intrinsic potentiality"

William James American philosopher and psychologist at the end of the 19 and into the 20 Century said, "God is 'More;'".

Col. 3:14: Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

John Dominic Crossan points the way: ancients thought homosexuality “unnatural” but also that slavery was natural “Wouldn’t it be wonderful if in future we found war unnatural?”

Emiliano Ricciardi and his colleagues at the University of Pisa studies areas of brain involved in storytelling and identity They discovered that a key component of this region within the brain was activated only when individuals were able to experience empathy.... Free will means having the will to act unconditionally, the ability to transcend the constraints of causality...’

John Gottman in *The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work*

No possibility of solutions when angry

Fights end on same note on which they begin.

“Anger is an acid that can do more harm to the vessel in which it is stored than to anything on which it is poured.” — Mark Twain

Hannah Arendt *The Human Condition*

Forgiveness is a “reaction which does not merely react but acts anew, unconditioned by the act which provoked it and thereby freeing from its consequences both the one who forgives and the one who’s forgiven.

Hadith of Bukhari

According to Anas, after the Messenger of God said, "Help anyone whether oppressor or oppressed," Anas replied to him, "O Messenger of God, someone who is oppressed I am ready to help, but how does one help an oppressor?" "By hindering that person from doing wrong," he said. (20)