

Leaning on the Highest Judge

(Up Close and Personal)

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There has been much discussion about a certain linguistic flourish, which contained the expression, wise Hispanic. This expression, along with its containing thought, was for a limited audience. It is a way of striving to achieve a first mark in the journey toward excellence in judicial behavior. It is only a first marker, and only one of several such markers. We could replace the words, wise Hispanic, by any other personality that a person might express when they have set their mind to performing consistent judgment, for the rendering of decisions based on the applicable law. It is not an exclusive, or negatively comparatively, expression; except where experience might raise a negative feeling in those who are without it.

In that light, let me extend the statement (not amend it) with the following . . .

"For, I know that there is a wise Hebrew, who continually makes more righteous judgments than any man or woman--for there is no man or woman who can ever attain to the richness of his experiences. This Hebrew man is the true higher mark of judicial activity; not, me. Please receive a portion of his words, following:

*Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, Master, we would see a sign from thee.*

*But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas: For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here. The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here.*

*(Matthew 12:38-42)*

These words are a portion of my deliberations in my private anticipation of growth. However, my reverence for the source of these words must never be forced on any audience; especially, not on an audience that could include others who follow a path in life that is directed away from even a belief in the existence of this Hebrew. Additionally, the audience may consist of people who do not have a willingness to accept his example as binding on them. These differences are the prerogative of being individual humans.

For me to mention the wise Hebrew seems appropriate because I believe that it was the wise Hebrew who passed the torch to us, in this matter of judgment and excellence. The

gift of understanding came to us as the wise Hebrew man provided behavioral guidance, in an open fashion, to the men who would sit as judges over all Israel, and as examples to the world; according to his words, as written in the Bible.

*Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues; And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles.*

*But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you.*

*(Matthew 10:16-20)*

Moreover, as he said in another episode of quickening that was for the sake of the apostles:

*Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.*

*(John 14:12)*

In my private development of respect for the law, it is my desire to use the type of wisdom that he exhibited. This living wisdom is embodied in the essence of five weighty books of the Law. Jesus Christ presented a personal, living statement of the application of this Law to life. Christ, the living statement, as presented in four additional books, retains the full integrity of the Law. So thoroughly honest was his living applications and expression of the Law, until one of the greatest scholars of his day spoke of him in the following grand way:

*For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.*

*(Romans 10:4)*

It is my quest to be seen as one who flows in that pattern of respect for the laws of this land; the laws that you, and the other members of Congress present to me. It is my intention to stay consistent with the challenge that the Hebrew man set down; as he set aside his own personal feelings, accepting statements of the Law of God as being binding, even when it called for his own execution.

*And he came out, and went, as he was wont, to the mount of Olives; and his disciples also followed him. And when he was at the place, he said unto them, Pray that ye enter not into temptation.*

*And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.*

*(Luke 22:39-42)*

Granted; the closest that this will apply to me is if some one, or ones, should try to execute my reputation, as a statement of their interpretation of the laws of the land. This is something that every judge must face. For, in the matter of their personal reputation, only, and not as endangering their life, these words are relevant . . .

*These things have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be offended. They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service. And these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father, nor me.*  
(John 16:1-3)

Borrowing the flow of the words written, above, it can be said that in the matter of the law, “These things will they do unto us, because they have not known the law, nor its application”.

Unfortunately, too, if the news accounts of some human actions are accurate; some zealots have pushed the above statement beyond the bounds of the reputation of the judge. Some individuals and groups have pressed the matter of their interpretation of the laws of the land, to the point of acting or participating in the destruction of human life. Additionally, as the statement above says, they have found various means of personal justification that incorporate their own interpretation of the allowances of the laws of the land. Furthermore, it is a testament to the strength of the laws of the land that these, too, have been entitled to a defense under the law.

In rendering a judgment on such egregious behavior (as are attacks on public figures serving in truth to their election or selection), we must still apply the law. Even if there is the slightest hint of a feeling that there was no legal justification for any of these behaviors, still it is my duty to allow the presentation of evidence, and to apply the facts that are presented, laying them on the template of the laws of the land. I do not have the choice of immediate conviction based on what has been widely reported as being witnessed events. The process is progressive, not immediate. I must wait until the presentations are complete, in a court of law, of my jurisdiction. Then, the judgment, too, must be set as based on the law; even though there may be those from either sides of the argument that are intent on applying a remedy as was available in the day of the Hebrew man, Moses.

*Eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, Burning for burning, wound for wound, stripe for stripe.*  
(Exodus 21:24-25)

Still, we judges--wise Hispanic, wise Hebrew, wise Caucasian, wise Negro, or any others who are wise in the law, either by training or by the richness of their experience--still, we respect the law. Still, we do not bend the law to accommodate opinion--not our own, or others. This was the way of the Hebrew man, who contributed a significant portion to the

compendium of the laws of this land. Therefore, the wise Hebrew man should be the example, of first choice, of excellence in both legal construction and in legal jurisprudence. This is my extended statement of what a wise Hispanic must bring to bear on all matters; as opposed to, just a cultural model, of any sort.

My preference in the matter is that all judges apply the wisdom of the Highest Judge, to all the judgments that we render. When this is done, it will be as the Hebrew man said:

*Settle it therefore in your hearts, not to meditate before what ye shall answer:  
For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be  
able to gainsay nor resist.  
(Luke 21:14-15)*

