

BEARCLAW

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Heilsan!

No doubt many of you have followed the drama in front of the Alabama Supreme Court building. It is there, deep in the Southland, where Chief Justice Roy Moore defied a court's command to remove a massive carved representation of the Ten Commandments. Today, the carving has been removed by workers and Chief Justice Moore is under investigation for his refusal.

This resistance to a court order has attracted attention nationwide, and millions of people have silently taken one side or the other.

Most Asatruar probably feel that Chief Justice Moore is wrong, and that the Ten Commandments need to go. I agree...but with some misgivings.

Most of the things I've read about the human being named Roy Moore are impressive. He is a West Point graduate who led troops in Vietnam. He is a trained kickboxer. His sincerity seems beyond doubt and I think that if we knew him personally, we might find him likeable.

Likewise, I have no desire to resort to Christian-bashing. My parents were Christians, as were most of my recent ancestors, and I wish all Asatruar were as decent and honorable as some of the Christians I have known. I will not judge Moore on the basis of his religion, but I will not hold back in criticizing his beliefs.

There is something about the sight of all those defiant Southerners, most of whom are no doubt European Americans, that warms my heart. White folks need to learn to disobey - and these people are getting some good disobedience training.

Two things bother me, though: their cause of a "Christian America," and their willingness to impose their beliefs on the rest of us. Let's look at that last item first.

Reverend Jerry Falwell, writing in defense of Moore, stated that "Anyone who knows American history knows that America was built on the Judeo-Christian ethic - the principles found in the Old and New Testaments, particularly the Ten Commandments." You and I know that's false, but most people out there on the streets don't realize that.

Let's review the facts, so we can enlighten our Christian and agnostic neighbors: America was not created out of nothing. The colonists, before they decided to opt for independence, were struggling for their "rights as Englishmen." Those rights spring from the tradition of the Magna Charta and Anglo-Saxon Common Law. Common Law, despite what many in the "patriot movement" believe, is not rooted in the Bible but rather

in the customs of the pre-Christian Anglo-Saxons - a fact mentioned by Thomas Jefferson when he proposed that the Saxon heroes Hengist and Horsa be honored on the Great Seal of the United States.

The liberty-enhancing institutions in American culture were developed in Europe, not imported from the Middle East. Trial by jury, the right to bear arms, the rights of women, the parliamentary system itself - not one of these come from Christianity, Judaism, or Islam. For Falwell and the thousands like him to claim that these are the gifts of an alien culture is an insult to our forebears. We must always be eager to point this out to others who know no better.

I have no objection to Christians being Christians, if that is what their conscience demands. But they do not have the right to erect monuments in front of the Alabama Supreme Court Building implying that the government somehow belongs to them, and that the rest of us should just keep quiet. If the government of the United States is inherently and specifically Christian, then to that extent it cannot be my government.

While I object to their imposing their religion on the rest of us (Asatruar, Buddhists, atheists...all of us), there is something else that saddens me about the conflict in Alabama. It is a comment on our degenerate age that, of all the issues facing men and women of European descent, this is the one that stirs us to action! We are being dispossessed in the country our ancestors built. Affirmative action, runaway migration, and globalization conspire to rob us of decent jobs at decent wages. Our heritage and culture are constantly demeaned ...and what gets us excited? The removal of the Ten Commandments from the Alabama Supreme Court Building. I shake my head in amazement.

Some of the protestors in Alabama wore T-shirts bearing the words "Property of Jesus." This is fitting. It seems we have bred a people fit only to be slaves.

Asatruar - you and I - need to recall two important points: First: These men and women are horribly misguided and we must calmly explain to them the true source of our freedoms. Second: Unless we are willing to match their determination, dedication, and defiant courage, we have no right to gripe.

Let us go forth, living our beliefs as intensely as we can and standing for our true spiritual heritage - the native way of the European tribes!

Hail Our Gods and Heroes!

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