

BY Atty. BATAS MAURICIO

LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "... However, if you no longer listen to the Lord your God, and no longer obey His commands... all these curses will come upon you and overtake you..." (Deuteronomy 28:15, the Holy Bible).

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FILIPINOS WITH HONOR AND DIGNITY: I am getting voluminous reactions about pictures I have been posting in my Facebook account (Melanio Lazo Mauricio Jr.) which are accompanied by captions with the heading "Pilipinong May Dangal" (Filipinos who still have honor and integrity in themselves). Many are saying politicians and government leaders should see those pictures and captions, and then try to measure themselves against the pictured citizens.

The obvious implication of these reactions is that, politicians and government leaders no longer have honor and integrity. It is readily evident that once an ordinary citizen becomes a politician, or is elected or appointed as a government official in a high position, he or she loses his or her honor and integrity, because he or she becomes either a thief stealing government funds, or an abusive official whose only concern is his or her interest or that of his or her family's.

Why have Filipinos descended to this shameful state? There are many reasons, but, if we think long and hard about it, it is ultimately because many or all of our politicians and officials no longer fear or love God. When they no longer fear or love God, they become capable of evil, even of the most despicable kind, which is pocketing billions of government funds intended for the poor and the needy.

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NO CHANGE AT ALL FROM TWO REVOLUTIONS: The greatest examples of politicians losing their fear and love of God were shown by two so-called revolutions which saw the ouster of two presidents of this country. One would think that those who managed to maneuver to install themselves in power, in place of the ousted leaders, would be animated with desire to really pull our long-suffering people from poverty and destituteness.

But then, we all witnessed the sad reality that there were only two things that really changed with the change in presidents. The first change involved only the person who was to be called president after each revolution, while the second change involved the heightened capacity to steal more billions of government money by those who succeeded the ousted leaders.

If those who assumed power after the two revolutions only had true fear and love of God in their hearts, they would have governed this country using the only yardstick acceptable to God, which is His Bible. Yet, it is undeniable that the Bible was never consulted at all by the supposed successors when it was time for them to govern, or, perhaps, especially when it was time for them to become thieves and abusive themselves.

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GOD'S CURSES UPON THE FILIPINO NATION: And so we are all suffering because of this lack of fear and love of God among our politicians and officials of government, and, it has to be conceded, even among many Filipinos. As it were, God's curses have been heaped upon us as a nation because of our collective refusal to listen to God (through His Bible), and to obey His commands.

Here is a reminder that what is happening to us as a people now have already been warned to happen, taken from Isaiah 5 of the Bible: "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter. Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and clever in their own sight..."

"Therefore, as tongues of fire lick up straw and as dry grass sinks down in the flames, so their roots will decay and their flowers blow away like dust; for they have rejected the law of the Lord

Almighty... Therefore the Lord's anger burns against his people; his hand is raised and he strikes them down. The mountains shake, and the dead bodies are like refuse in the streets..."

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REACTIONS? Please call me at 0917 984 24 68, 0918 574 0193, 0922 833 43 96. Email: batasmauricio@yahoo.com, melaniolazomauriciojr@outlook.com, mmauriciojr111@gmail.com.