GLOBAL SOLIDARITY: TAKING A LEVEL DEEPER

by:

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“Out of the fires of desperation burn hope and solidarity”

-Sharan Burrow

World peace has been an inspiration for a long time, from arts, music, literature and the list goes on, due to the long period of time thirst for oneness. Many sought this and some even took steps on accomplishing it but most failed to do so and abandoned hope that they will see the break of dawn for this black pitch crisis.

To have a deeper understanding of it knowing the meaning of global solidarity is essential. According to US Catholic Bishops, 1997, it is an action on behalf of the human family, calling all to abolish divisions of this world, putting an end to discrimination, not looking on the status, wealth, physical abilities etc.,. It binds everyone to work for others, leaving the comfortable life to help those who are persecuted and oppressed. It drives the strong to risk for the weak and vulnerable. It opens heart of everybody to everyone in need. In shorter term, these words (global solidarity) mean having no walls between each person on this world and treating each other as a family member. It means a world that does not only have peace but also hope and especially love.

In this world where the majority barely get to the next day, where most don’t have the courage nor the heart to give to care for others for survival, can global solidarity be possible?

This has been an elephant in the room for many generations that had passed and most likely, will pass. Though, some have dared to start and lead campaigns hoping to lead, none, have yet succeeded. In my stand, a kind of world wherein everything is perfect, free of conflict, hunger and unhappiness is a utopia. The word itself is derived from the Greek word ou-topos meaning ‘no place’ or ‘nowhere’, this was a pun for the almost identical Greek word eu-topos meaning a
‘good place’, according to British Libraries. That, raises a vital question: can a perfect world be even realized? As a support to my stand earlier, my answer is no, not now at the least. Pessimistic as it seems but it is more realistic than having the idea of a world in which the citizens treat each other like a family, how come it will come true when even inside their own houses they don’t treat their biological family right.

As stated by Pope John Paul II in the book entitled, “Social Concerns” [Solidarity] is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at misfortunes of so many people both near and far. On the contrary, it is a firm persevering determination to commit oneself to common good, to the good of all and each individual, because we are already responsible for all. Following that note, to achieve social solidarity we need not just to have pity but compassion, a deep and true compassion for one another despite of the animosity of their identity and the willingness to have a proper and positive connection to one another, setting aside their arguments and miscommunications.

To achieve this kind of world we need not to just settle on sharing posts on social media, those posts that has the content “1 like, 1 help” because, let’s face it, liking or sharing those don’t resolve the root of someone’s problem or misfortune and it don’t help anyone. How can we achieve global solidarity if even inside our communities gossiping, violence and aggressions are rampant? Again, pessimistic as it seems but it is preferable than chasing clouds with bare hands and with bare foot.

So, does my stand lead to a conclusion to just let everyone be comfortable on the rotting state of our society? No, diversions between people are common, whatever angle you look onto. It is impossible for us on ourselves but it is possible for God. So do I mean for us to just have faith on God and don’t take action? No, faith without work is death. We can’t fix everyone to agree, be at peace and give love to everyone, for we are not God, but change comes from within. Let’s start being someone that is at peace and give love to everyone. Achieving total unity of this world might be impossible for the state of the world right now but having a deep compassion and willingness, as a person, to positively connect to someone is a piece of cake.

References: