

BY BRIAN MILLER

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ENHANCING LIVES

Compassionate Power

Less than five years ago, one of the most devastating natural disasters to hit the United States swept through the Mississippi Delta region of New Orleans. Hurricane Katrina destroyed the lives of tens of thousands of families and created billions of dollars of damage. Over thirty-six hours passed before a single government organization showed up to help with relief efforts. Watching people waiting on their rooftops for help, the thousands trapped inside the Superdome, and the wave of crime that exploded—it was hard to believe it was all happening in the so called “greatest country in the world.” Five years have passed, and the country that once waited three days to help our own citizens in New Orleans has banded together to raise enormous amounts of money, food, supplies, equipment and volunteers to assist our neighbors, the Haitians.

If there is a common thread that can band the great superpowers of human history together, it would have to be arrogance, greed, and collapse. Some lasted for a long time, while others rose and fell rather quickly. Eventually, each and every one collapsed under the collective weight of their egos. We must always remind ourselves that we are not better than any other nation—every country in the world is comprised of people just like us, trying to survive and grow and prosper. God does not just bless America. Being the wealthiest nation does, however, give us unique challenges and responsibilities. There is a common energy binding us all, connecting us all together. Not just in our country, but in this world and throughout the entire universe. Anything designed to psychologically separate us from others and make us think we are not connected and do not come from the same place is unhealthy. Whether you believe in God or not, to believe that God is biased towards a single imaginary boundary line of landmass



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and people is arrogant. Lastly, we cannot consume as much as we do as a nation, without having some feeling of obligation to help out the less fortunate countries of the world. If every nation consumed at the rate of an average American, we would need five earths to support us! If we are going to use the earth's resources at such an extraordinary rate, the least we can do is use a tiny percentage of this wealth to help other countries in need of assistance in their most dire times.

Haiti was one of the poorest nations in the entire world before the earthquake. Now, with over 100,000 dead and the entire capital city of Port-au-Prince flattened, the country is devastated. It gives me great pride to see what happens when a nation based on love and compassion comes together to help other citizens of the world. Not only is it important for other nations to understand that we are a good people and that we are beyond grateful for everything we have, but also because life should not be about politics and party lines, but rather about life!

Mr. Miller and the Cutting Edge Staff

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