

Compromise

There are some people for whom getting what they want, what they feel they need, is their first priority. Therefore they will compromise somewhat in order to get that prioritized thing.

Sometimes that compromise is as simple as paying an inflated price, as in shopping in a convenience store so as to not have to go further to find a better price, or so as to get their goods sooner. Convenience stores know this, and this reality, coupled with their expected, relatively low traffic is reflected in their prices.

Sometimes the compromise is a bit more significant. In order to get to view their favorite TV shows and movies, one might “look the other way” as a streaming platform promotes child porn in some of its presentations. According to the consumer's principles, child porn is bad, wrong, but they'll compromise and give their money in support of the platform, thus supporting something that they themselves would decry. That's a compromise.

As compromise becomes more and more our way of life, the principles that humans ought not compromise become less and less a part of life, culture thus becoming less and less principled. I guess the ultimate example of principle and value compromise is prostitution, though it is being mainstreamed as a valid, legitimate way of life, not really a principle compromise at all, prostitutes now being renamed, “sex workers”. Principled bodily integrity is an antiquated, outmoded, no longer necessary thing. Whatever must be sacrificed to get what's wanted is no sacrifice at all, just another choice which must be affirmed as such.

But when anything and/or everything is “compromisable”, then there is no longer any compromise; just alternative choices. In this there can be no principle. You get the point.

In recent days (crazily now, years!), some have compromised their bodily integrity, allowing themselves to be subjected to invasive, potentially dangerous medical interventions that they neither want nor necessarily need, in order to be allowed to participate in some activity or other. In some cases the activity is as trivial as getting to go on vacation, travel, enter a restaurant or a theater, etc.

In some cases it's more severe... having to compromise thus in order to keep a job and keep food on the table; people having been persuaded, “convinced” to undergo some medical intervention upon threat of losing their livelihood, or not getting a needed prescription or a needed surgery or such for their children...

I have always said that in the world of persuasion, attempting to get folks to participate in something, perhaps especially something as potentially invasive as a medical intervention, civilized men resort to dialogue, reason, weighing the pros and cons and such. Coercion on the other hand, falls to the realm of the barbarian.

Barbaric or otherwise, many, many, many have compromised. As in the convenience stores realizing

that a sufficient percentage willing to make this compromise exists to keep them in business, they raise their prices accordingly, expecting the compromise.

Some restaurants, some cruise lines, some theaters, and many, many medical institutions have made the same calculation. In the medical world however, there is a greater ethical component; one of denying *needed* medical intervention unless one agrees to an *unneeded* medical intervention. This is a more than slightly bigger issue than an inflated bread, milk and gasoline price, or supporting an unethical streaming service.

Sometimes the compromise is smaller; a mask requirement, a temperature check, a negative infection test, etc. But in any case, we fear we won't get what we need. And so we compromise.

One thing that is common in all of the above is compromise. Whether small or large, a compromise is a compromise, is a compromise, and in each case, results in the empowerment of those asking the compromise and the (pardon the ugly, ugly word) enslavement of the compromised.

When asked to speak to the coercive tactics that were coming from “renowned” leaders, even national leaders, ours included, Dr. David Martin had this to say;

“If you're using the agency of fear, you have no business being a leader. Are we somehow fueling, the very system that is harming us? If you have fear, root it out. If you've decided someone or something is so important that you give up your liberty, reexamine that decision and claim your liberty over whatever that thing is. And before you take a devil's bargain, that says, 'In exchange for this shiny object, maybe air travel, maybe venues for concerts, maybe... whatever that thing is, you get it only if you take this industrial, chemical intervention'. Ask yourself the question, 'Will you be a fully functioning human being at the end of that transaction?'. We're not asking that question, and we should be .”

I am a fully functioning human being, and so compromise under such circumstances as the above are not an option for me. Indeed, I may have to live without some things, or in pain or some deformity in order to continue as a fully functioning human being.

But “fully functioning” physically and “fully functioning” economically are not worth the cost of the soul. Are they?

Principle compromise is something asked of the human, not by God, but only by His and our enemy, and we must remember that fact as we make decisions in this life.

In many cases, “convincing” will ensue after a “No, I won't do that”, and the convincing will often come in the form of the “greater good” narrative or the “weaker brother” narrative, or the “trust the science” narrative.

We've been through all of that, successfully and rather handily demonstrating that they are all lies... but

they are lies having been told so often and so loudly as to sound like the truth. No matter, they are still lies and those of us whom are aware of the reality must stand for reality without compromise.

There seems now to be a cruel, disgusting, callous, “*See what we can make them do!*” mentality that has pervaded our market places. We've legitimized the forcing of people to bend to the will of another in order get what they need. We've even done it in the world of the “caring and compassionate”, the medical profession in which rule number one is “do no harm”. Forced prostitution if you ask me.

This is perverse. This is wrong. This is devilish, and no mistake.

The end of this perverseness beloved, will not come as the result of compromising with it, nor of complying with it.

It must be fought, resisted, defeated, and ended. A tall order, I know, and it may be a lifelong fight and you may feel exhausted. I understand.

Love, pastor