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For those of us who experienced the 1930s Depression, and WWII, we at least know how unprepared we are, to have either one, today. Farms in Kansas, were nearly self-sufficient, then - except for gardens, not nearly so, today.

Our society is in shambles - so much crime, we cannot build enough prisons; we cannot recognize it, as the country we knew. Now, we wonder how long we will have any rights or privacy? With the Internet, we hear that it is another means to spread lies and graft. Many of us cannot afford computers, anyway. Even advertisements are either silly, or unreliable. With the UN trying to run our affairs, President Clinton, and Al Gore - ~~and~~ leaning toward World Government. The ^{Chinese} ~~Chinese~~, and -- other Asian countries, interfering with our election, was the last straw!

We no longer trust the National Government, or anything they say - we have heard. The regular TV stations lost most of our trust, by their own Liberal views. A run-down of TV offerings, in TV WEEK leaves us disappointed, as to attractive programs, so our main TV is news and the weather, and FOX news is a nice change

We are somewhat surprised, at all the big to-do, about the President's latest escapade. He is just following a "pattern", that the networks chose to ignore, for so long. To us, there is a sort of vulnerable women he can charm, and they never seem to learn, any lessons. We took off our blinders, a long time ago, about the Clinton's; and the zigzag paths they try to lead us down. We have heard him lie, read about his switches in policy, etc. We just wonder if America the rest of his term, with any decency left???

CAN survive

O.C4/low

Has anyone thought of a poll or bets on his next escapade? Big gamblers should get in line!

From previous examples, I will probably not watch or listen, tonight, I can read fairy stories, more interesting!

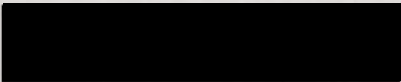
"CRED-IBILITY??"

As a people, we are long past the naive trust, we once had, about our government. That is why we welcomed the Fox News Network -- we got tired of the other networks parrot the Washington line, too long; and seen too many big promises broken, by both sides.

We have learned not to expect the bare-bones truths, from our leaders. It is hard to lead, when at least half the people do not want to go that direction.

Where do we go, in search of the truth -- in search of something to believe in?? Only in our prayers -- in this era.....

GOD IS STILL IN CHARGE OF THE UNIVERSE!!



What V.P. Al Gore sees as people-caused Global Warming, many Christians see as the start of warnings, for the end times.

The truthful way is sometimes painful

It seems that Washington has become the Lying Capital of the World. There must be something in the water.

There must be something that predisposes our political leadership, particularly members of the current administration, to fibbing.

Little white lies are not the issue — we all are guilty of spreading them around. They are largely harmless.

We are talking about lies that cover up wrongdoing.

Those lies are especially detestable when they come from the heights of public office.

What kind of message does this send to the rest of the country?

Is this the example we want to set for the world? That we cannot be trusted and everyone is doing something so wrong that it takes massive lying in order to avoid society's breakdown and possible collapse?

I say that we may already be at the brink of collapse if we are so afraid of facing the truth.

When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the 10 Commandments he did not say to the Israelites, "Here are some recommendations for us to consider."

No, we are *commanded* not to kill, *commanded* to honor our parents, and so forth.

We are not told, "Thou shalt not lie, unless it suits thy purpose."

Granted, not everyone follows the 10 Commandments to the letter.

But the point is we must strive for some kind of standard of right behavior.

Politics avoids such standards like the plague.

That is a shame, for our leaders would serve us all better if they had certain

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consistent and reasonable rules by which they conducted themselves.

Today it seems the unspoken consensus is that if rules sometimes need to be broken, it is better not to adhere to any at all.

Those in the current administration apparently feel that the standard rules and practices that apply to most of society do not apply to them.

Who needs such constraints?

They simply interfere with the business of governing, and governing can be a ugly game.

Yet the government requires all citizens to be honest — especially at tax time.

The end result is a nurturing environment for breeding lies that feed off each other.

It's now to the point that truth is obscured and completely supplanted by falsehood, hardly a healthy climate.

We have become scared of the truth because if it gets out it will not set us free but could send us to prison.

Frequently lying is regarded as the right thing to do because the truth hurts.

So we lie, and we lie about lying, thinking nobody gets hurt.

Yet the more lies we tell, the more we damage our credibility and integrity.

Like a stone dropped in a pool, the

harm lies can do has a significant ripple effect. How did we become so confused?

Where did we lose the ability to differentiate right from wrong? Because it is wrong to deceive others through lies, especially in matters that involve running this country.

We demand honesty from our parents, our friends, our business associates — is it asking so much to demand it of our political leaders?

With the amount of responsibility they have in their hands, they have a heightened duty to the truth, for their decisions affect not only every citizen in this country but the entire world.

No one is perfect; we each have faults. But those faults should spur us toward improving ourselves and becoming better people.

We should not wallow in our flaws or celebrate our less-than-virtuous behavior because they remind us that we are human.

We must learn from our mistakes so that we do not repeat them, for without such learning there is no progress.

When we lie, we reduce ourselves to unenlightened beasts, without the capacity for reason.

We become so caught up with what works now, what benefits us now, that we sabotage our future prosperity.

However, if we are honest with ourselves and each other, we can avoid costly inquiries and investigations to separate the truth from the lies.

Character is doing what is right even when the cost is painful to pay.

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