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"It just doesn't get any more bizarre than this. After listening to three years of people telling us the Russians colluded with Trump and screwed up the 2016 US elections, we now see that it must have been the people of lowa who screwed up the last election.

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-- A pastor (not from nearby) who shall remain anonymous.

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:The_New_Boy__Los_Angeles_Herald_ipc https://nymag.com/intelligencer/2020/02/the-real-problems-with-the-lowa-caucuses-shadow-app.htm https://www.wsj.com/articles/lowa-caucus-results-delayed-by-apparent-app-issud-11580801099 "What, me worry?"

"What's the good of anything? Nothing!"

--Alfred E. Neuman



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It was <u>OUR</u> fault!

Nothing is sacred.

We don't give a damm.

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:The_New_Boy_-_Los_Angeles_Herald.jpg tps://www.amazon.com/Beyond-doubt-devotional-response-questions/dp/0933140126

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An important contributor to the problem: The notion that security is a result of secrecy. (FALSE, darkness is devil's playground)

How it should have been handled:

Security is a result of openness, agreement, and trust! (TRUE)

Crypto keys do need to be secret. The guts MUST BE PUBLIC and must undergo the strictest scrutiny. This is a GOVERNMENT responsibility. Security requires broad understanding of the process and goals!

--Prof ddb's take on the matter.

https://nymag.com/intelligencer/2020/02/the-real-problems-with-the-lowa-caucuses-shadow-app.ht https://www.wsj.com/articles/iowa-caucus-results-delayed-by-apparent-app-issue-115808016

5

"What? Me worry?" "What's the good of anything? Nothing!"

Ephraim [Israel] is joined to idols, let him alone. Yet it was I [the LORD] who taught Ephraim to walk, I took them up in my arms. (A short paraphrase of Hosea.)



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Many couples choose not to have children. It is not that they dislike children particularly. They just do not want any in their homes and lives. Children need time and take pains. You have to risk and spend yourself for children, and they can break your heart.

God has chosen to have children. God is fatherly. In Hosea, God's child is called Ephraim. Ephraim stands for Israel and all God's children. God loves Ephraim. But Ephraim has gradually been breaking his father's heart. A careless and stubborn prodigal son, Ephraim has been wasting his father's gifts, blackening the family name, and smearing over his own soul with an ugliness which years cannot erase.

There have been numerous fatherly warnings from God. "Don't do that, son! *Look* at how you have come to live! You are sick and hurt and desperately wrong. You are feeding on sin. Come home!"

But Ephraim will not listen. At times it seems he cannot listen.

Finally God lets Ephraim go. He does not get even. He just gets out. Here is the ageless picture of a hurt, angry and deeply disappointed parent. He has

said everything there is to say. He has tried everything he can think of. None of it has worked. Now it is time for silence and restraint. "Ephraim is joined to idols; let him alone"

Here is God our Father, as someone put it, "pacing the room, biting his lip, hands gripped tightly behind his back." He forces himself to let us go, let us hit bottom, let us see what life is like in the darkness. If we want to destroy ourselves—well, all right.

And yet, he cannot do it. He cannot let us go. Isn't he the one wo lifted and held us when we toddled into trouble? Isn't he the one who bent to feed our hunger with child-sized bits of food? Has he not sat with us many times through the watches of the night?

How can I give you up, "O Ephraim! How can I hand you over, O Israel!... I will not execute my fierce anger... for I am God and not man.

"For I am God and not man." In those words lies hope for children who would otherwise make themselves fatherless. (Cornelius Plantinga Jr., Beyond Doubl)

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Our father who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen. (-Jesus Christ, "The Lord's prayer")

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