



Erik DeSean Barrett

Saturday, May 4, 2024

To Those Who See This,

This is arguably the greatest moment in history to be alive. It may not seem so, with all going on. Stress in Ukraine, Struggles in Gaza, College students feeling some kind of way, a former president selling bibles to cover his legal bills, all that and still I say, this is the greatest time to be alive.

Twenty five years ago, I booted up my computer. That was the first computer operating with all its original parts. See before my first Dell, I was using one computer built with parts from several other computers. Some can appreciate the time when building things yourself was easier than making a Bologna and cheese Sandwich. Yes, computers back then were basic, but had little to no power.

Back then, we could travel from Norfolk Virginia, to Washington DC, and have lunch before the Lonely Island, "[I Just Had Sex](#)" would finish downloading. Yes, I know the before mentioned song was released in 2011, but for some of us, 2011 was still the era of AOL broadband cds. NEWSFLASH: Even now, 2024, some still lack basic access to the World Wide Web. But thankfully, the window of inaccessibility is narrowing, which brings us back to this being the greatest time, to be alive.

Will Smith, the fresh prince actor, currently residing on the island of shame; at one point made the most profound statement. He said to this effect, ***The struggles of this age are not new, they are just newly being revealed***; in other words, with the idea of TikTok, and other social concepts, now in real time, we can see what's happening, and can better understand what's happening, which affords us the boldness to exercise the right, and privilege, some of us have been intimidated to use for generations. I think about the African American spirit, at its core. It has for millennial avoided being open, vocal, and engaging, for fear of retribution from those in power.

If I may, focus on the section of the Holy text that talks about the successor of Solomon, his son Rehoboam. I won't waste your time diving into theological weeds, but just want to point out the contrast between the first four kings of Israel. Saul, the inaugural king, started as a man of humility, forceful to his opponents, but kind, and cuddly to his kingdom, until he got the big head, became threatened by who would soon be his successor David; the one who was a mighty warrior, but the Pillar of gratitude. Yes, David would more than likely catch a MeToo charge in 2024, but unlike others we know, He embraced his errors, with a remorseful, and repentant heart, passing his power peacefully to his son Solomon, who then handled the people's business with esteem wisdom, like his father, also suffered from Horndognism, translation, **he was a hoe**. But nothing the others did, match in comparison to the ideas, and Ideals of Rehoboam. **King Re**, was the ultimate oppressor, dismitter, disconnecter. You think Netanyahu doesn't care? Even he couldn't match with Rehoboam. The fascinating thing is what links Rehoboam, and Netanyahu together. Both presided over the the greatest rebellion of their time. Ten of the twelve tribes, under Rehoboam, decided to amend their constitutions if you will, granting them succession from the nation of Israel, more to my thought; these people decided to take the power into their own hands.

Some one I know, lives by the philosophy that everyone is a mercenary. I agree. We all have the tendency to think about only what matters to us, excluding, maybe unconsciously what hurts, or offends others. Let's get personal, I wanna talk to you, even when I read this back, I want to feel like I am the one this letter is addressing. That said, Hey You, I am sure you know, Its easy to live in a glass house, constantly shooting at others because you are scared of them possibly shooting at you. The problem I see, eventually they will shoot, not because they are the evil people you envisioned, but because they're just **sick and tired of your shit!**

So why is this the greatest time to be alive? Well here's the answer in one sentence. This is the moment, the era, where we as individuals have the power to **Exceed all the noise, Defy all the odds**, and **Believe we can achieve the impossible**. Its the time when the societal systems once oppressing us are being torn down. The ideas, and Ideal once alienating us are losing its grip. Which means you can win!!! not because you went to Princeton, Pledged Allegiance to ONE of the ORGs, or have some letters preceding/trailing your name, but because you have been gifted by God with undeniable gifts.

So If you are reading this, thinking about someone who hurt you, oppressed you, or all out in your mind dismissed you. Send this to them. Attached with nothing, except Happy reading. Because the ultimate Asswhoppin you can give your enemies, is to just settle into you.

Sincerely yours,

Erik DeSean Barrett

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