

ATASCOSA COUNTY JUDGES REPORT

I heard about at least one person who put a picture on Facebook of them wearing a t-shirt with a cloaked obscene message about the President. I know this person is a church-going Christian, so I would ask, "Would Jesus wear that t-shirt?" We are told by the Apostle Peter in his letter (1st Peter 2:16-17 NLT), "For you are free yet you are God's slaves, so don't use your freedom as an excuse to do evil. Respect everyone and love the family of believers. Fear God and respect the King." Jesus told us directly that we were to show the world we were his servants by the love we show for one another (John 13:35). That cloaked obscene message does not show respect or love. It is precisely the opposite. I love a good joke but object to hateful ones.

I write this column to encourage the observance of the "Spirit" of Christmas. Isaiah (chapter 9, NLT) says, "... God will honor Galilee of the nations for unto us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And, he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

If you believe in God and His son, Jesus the Christ, join me for the next few days in refraining from personal and political rancor. Let us honor the "Prince of Peace, the Everlasting Father," with our mouths and thoughts. Difficult? Yes. But, I think, worth the effort.

It may be puerile of me, even naïve. Still, for the next few days, I am asking that we honor this time by all of God's creation, including male and female, pro-mask and anti-mask, pro-vaccine and anti-vaccine, Democrat and Republican, by being nice to each other. Like the song made great by Glen Campbell, "Try a Little Kindness."

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. May God bless you in the coming year. I pray for God's Grace and Peace to cover you in all that you face in your lives.

Thank you for listening.