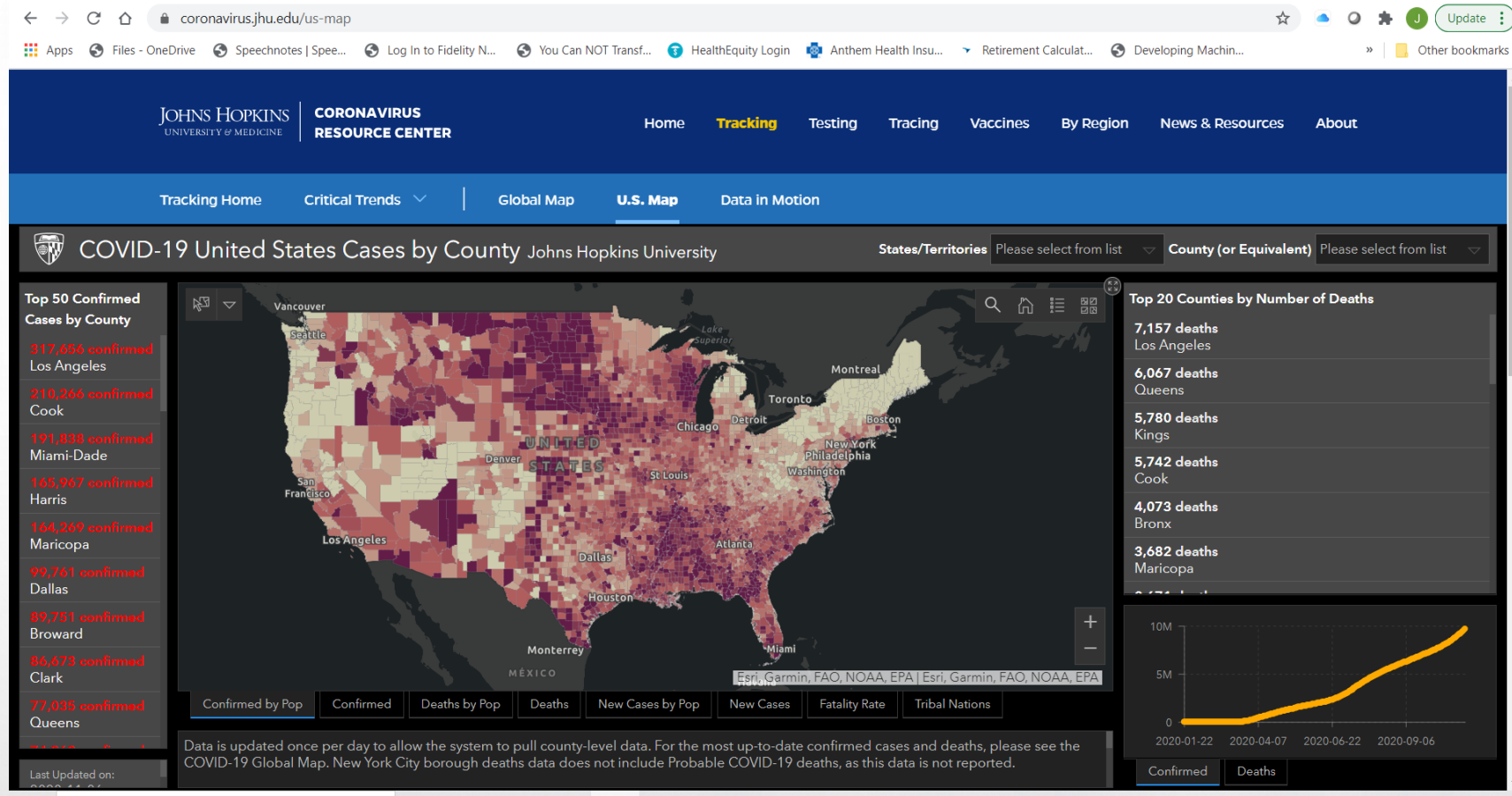


Weekly Tao Spiritual Discussion Holy Teachings

De-Guang Temple, Irvine CA
Pu-Guang Temple, Plano TX
November 7th 2020

onegreatdao.org



US: ~9.8m / ~237k
 India: ~8.5m / ~126k



Nan Hai Ancient Buddha
 Guanyin Bodhisattva
 Renunciation Day
 Lunar Cal: 09/19

Request from Last Week:

Please rate the following:

On a sliding scale, what is your own perceived level of progress on correcting one bad habit during this past week?

<https://www.menti.com/xr2bb486oa>

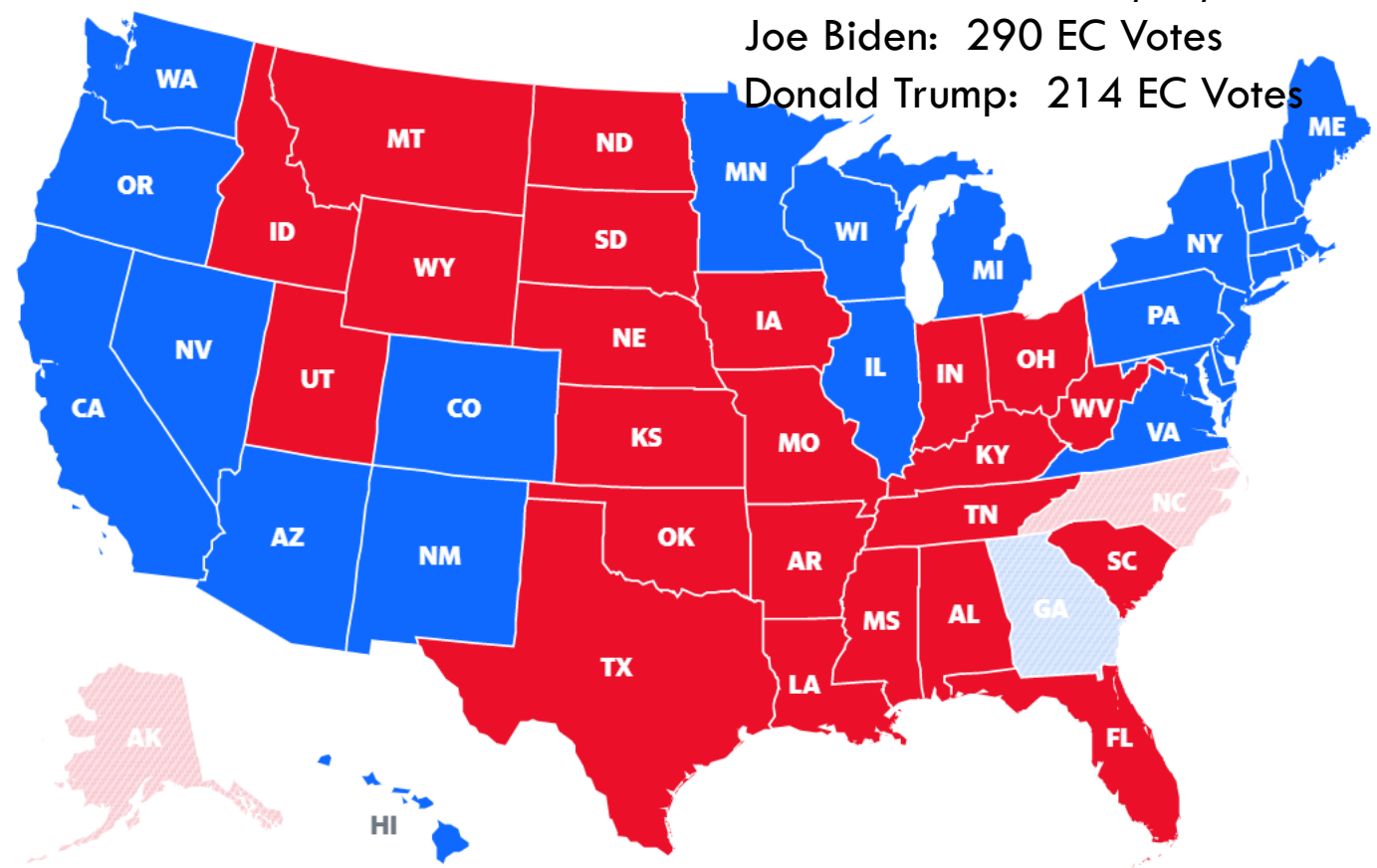
The digit code **76 32 65 2**





James 3 8

Noon Central on 11/07/2020
Joe Biden: 290 EC Votes
Donald Trump: 214 EC Votes



- NH
- VT
- MA
- RI
- CT
- NJ
- DE
- MD
- DC

- 1h ago
Biden releases statement on victory
- 1h ago
Kamala Harris, shattering racial and gender barriers, makes history as first woman vice president
- 2h ago
Biden defeats Trump to become 46th president, AP projects
- 2h ago
A message from the Arizona secretary of state

VIEW ALL →

Records Set in Election 2020



First during a Pandemic



Total Ballots: 150m+
Record Early Voting: ~101m
Highest Voter Turnout
in 100 years

Data as of noon Central
11/07/2020



Kamala Harris makes history.

- **First Female VP**
- **First Black VP**
- **First Asian American VP**

Records Set in Election 2020



Two men became the first openly gay Black men to be elected to Congress.



Cori Bush became Missouri's first Black congresswoman.



Cynthia Lummis, a Republican, became Wyoming's first female senator.



Days after Election 2020



How does this make you feel?

What actions can we take?

What consequences would result from our actions?

Four Great Books in Confucius Holy Teaching Important for Our Spiritual Cultivation

Confucius Analects

Book of Great Learning

Doctrine of the Mean

Book of Mencius



一家仁，一國興仁；一家讓，一國興讓；一人貪戾，一國作亂；其機如此。此謂一言僨事，一人定國。

From the example of kindness of one family, the whole state becomes kind; from the example of courtesies of one family, the whole state becomes courteous. From the greed and brutality of one person, the whole state may be led to a rebellious disorder; such is the nature of the influence. This confirms the saying, "Affairs may be ruined by a single sentence; a kingdom may be settled by one man."



Deeper Dive

From the **kindness of one family**, the **whole state becomes kind**.

From the **courtesies of one family**, the **whole state becomes courteous**.

From the **greed and brutality of one person**, the **whole state** may be led to a **rebellious disorder**; such is the **nature of the influence**.

Hence, **affairs may be ruined by a single sentence**; a **kingdom may be settled by one man**.

Actions / words of one person has a ripple effect and lasting consequences on family and communities.

Personally, our thoughts, if left unchecked, could be detrimental to our health, happiness, & peace of mind.



Step-son's Kindness

母在一子寒 母去三子單



Moral of the Story

When Ming-zi-qian begged for his father's mercy, he was only focusing on his two brothers' needs

Ming-zi-qian did not bear grudges for stepmom but rather perform filial piety towards both of his parents

Ming-zi-qian's goal to persuade his dad was not about getting his stepmom to feel regret, but he rather continue to suffer cold to keep the family together

One grain of rice can tip the scale. One family member can decide the fate of the family harmony

Thoughts for Today

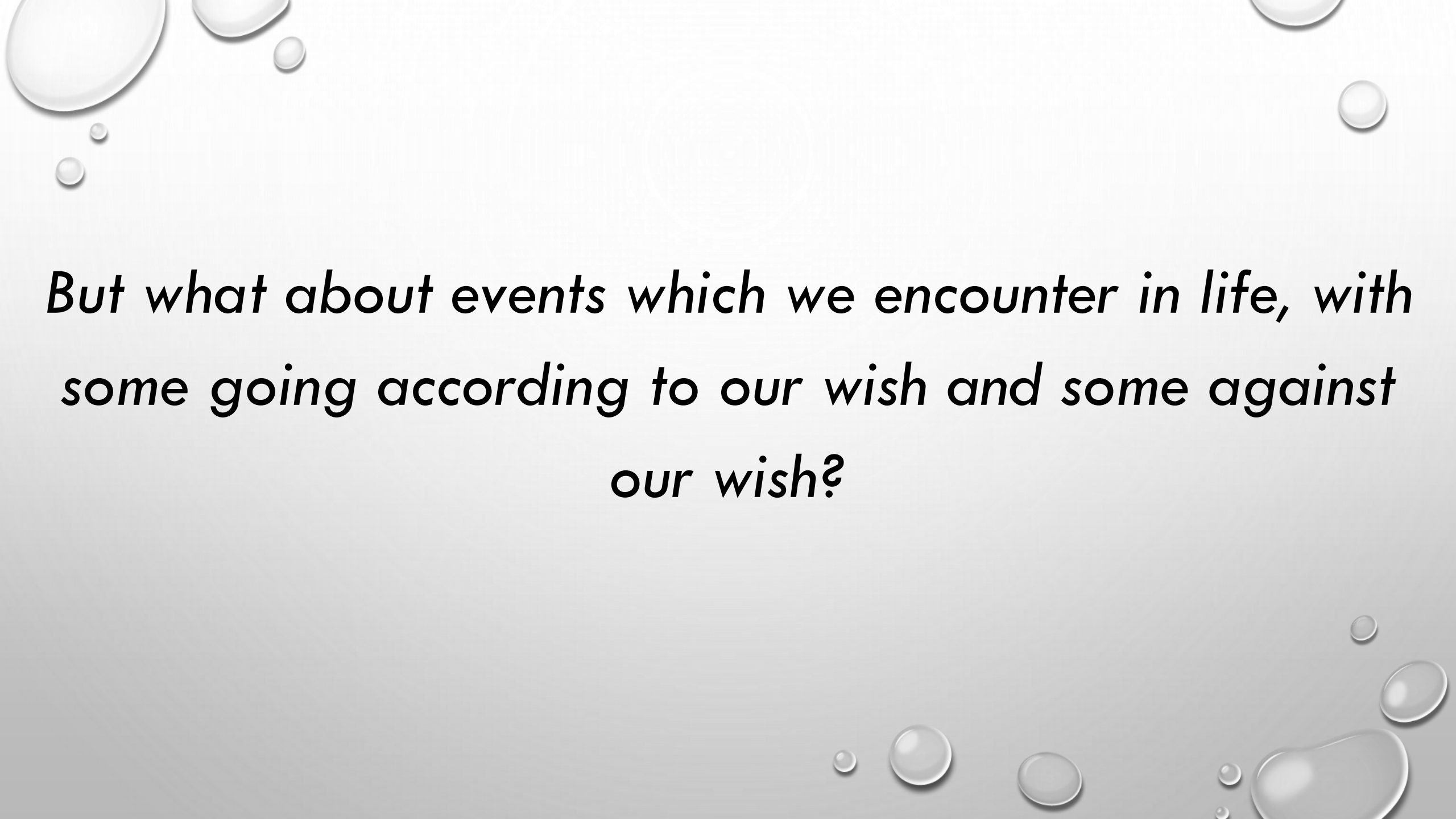
《Holy Teacher》

Happiest life is when we help others and live a spiritual enrichment life


《Mencius》 **A virtuous person has three great joys in life:**

1. The parents are alive, the brothers and sisters get along in harmony;
2. One holds no regrets towards Heaven and Earth and others;
3. One can share the best of his/her knowledge with a group of talented students to grow and develop spiritually together.

The three joys that make a virtuous person happy do not include ruling the world!



But what about events which we encounter in life, with some going according to our wish and some against our wish?




"We can't control everything
that happens to us, but
we can control how
we respond to things
we can't control."

-Avis-J Williams



www.jilliams.com

Tao of Living



WE CANNOT CONTROL
THE WIND

BUT WE CAN
DIRECT THE SAIL

-ANNAIS NIN

AlstroBond

Knowing that we are blessed and have the innate ability, perfected through Tao cultivation, to respond to life's events with balance and peace of mind.



Triggering Events
Internal / External

External
Locus of Control

Internal
Locus of Control



Outcomes outside your control – determined by “fate” and independent of your hard work or decisions

Outcomes within your control – determined by your hard work or decisions



External Locus
of Control

Internal Locus of
Control

Pause, Reflect, &
Proceed

| Triggering Event | External Locus of Control | Internal Locus of Control | Our Responses |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Election Outcome | Yes | | Vote. Honor outcome. Respect each other. |
| COVID | Yes | | Manage own actions. Act for greater good. |
| Broken Glasses by Me | | Yes | Apologize. Reflect. Focus. |
| Social Media Distractions | | Yes | Self restraint. Prioritize. Block out time. |

Know what we can and cannot control. Know that our thoughts and actions do matter. Hence, we must cultivate to help ourselves and our family / community.

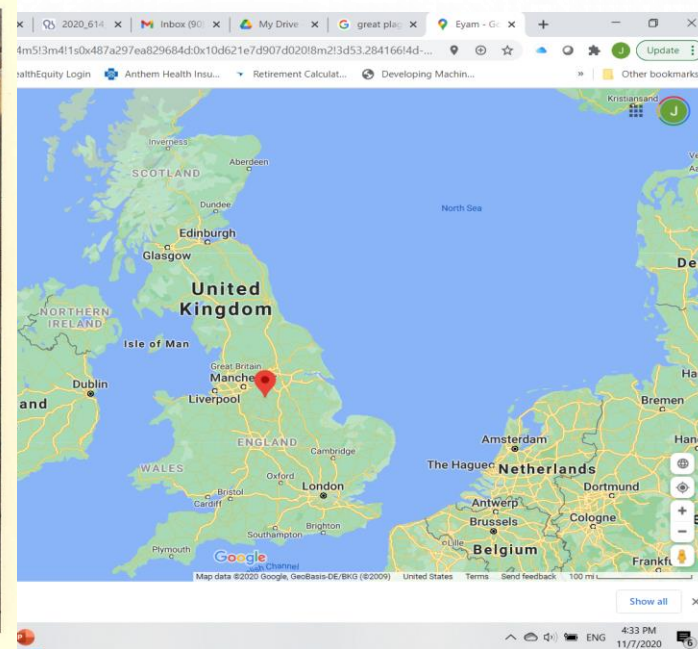
COVID REFLECTIONS



Each person is responsible for own actions, be less selfish, respect each other, & do our best for humanity as we are in this together.



Great Plague of London
1665 - 1666



Ravaged Eyam in
14 Months



Priest: William
Mompesson



Priest: Thomas
Stanley

Plague arrived in Sept 1665. By Spring 1666, 50 / 260 died. People on verge of fleeing. Mompesson: Moral duty to stop spread to other towns. Need to quarantine Eyam completely. Mompesson: Not popular in village. Bad blood with Stanley. Both put aside differences. Met and convinced town to quarantine. Acquired food from nearby village @ exchange zones. Untold sufferings with entire families dying, including Mompesson's and Stanley's and people burying their own dead in backyard and not a central village cemetery. By 11/01/1666, last person in village died.

Moral of the Story

Togetherness for Greater Good: Even with no advanced medicine or technology in the 17th Century, villagers made up for all these deficits by **effective and regular communication with each other, believing in and caring for each other, and showing love, compassion, and togetherness** to fight it together.

Social Distancing: Villagers willing to **sacrifice or adjust their way of living by adhering to strict self-imposed social distancing guidelines**, as social distancing cannot be compromised unless and until the virus is completely eliminated.

Good Leadership: Mompesson **swallowed his ego and** joined forces with the man he hated **for the greater good** of the village. Despite losing his wife to plague, he **remained courageous** to shepherd villagers through the darkness, leading them in prayer in a grassy dell rather than the dangerous confines of the church.

Each one of us has the potential to affect the outcome, as seen by the selfless actions in one village to save North England.

What's
stopping you
from being
the best?

Gaur Gopal Das



Reflections

Be aware of the influence from our environments, surroundings, and friends.

Believe in Heavenly Mother, ourselves, and our untapped potential. If there is a will, there is a way.

Give ourselves some quiet space through Zen meditation. Truly treasure and care for the ones who are wise mentors / strong supporters / true friends.

Stay close to Tao Temples, holy scriptures, and people of virtue and wisdom. Heavenly blessings are bestowed on the ones who are sincere, kind, and true. Care of the ones who love and support us unconditionally as a community.



As issues facing humanity becomes more daunting and complex, we have to put aside our differences, have healthy conversations, & work together to survive.

Tao: Spiritual Foundation for Humanity

SUMMARY OF KEY TAKEAWAYS

From the **kindness of one family**, the **whole state becomes kind**.

From the **courtesies of one family**, the **whole state becomes courteous**.

From the **greed and brutality of one person**, the **whole state may be led to a rebellious disorder**; such is the **nature of the influence**.

Hence, **affairs may be ruined by a single sentence**; a **kingdom may be settled by one man**.

Each one of us has the potential and power to affect the outcome, starting with ourselves and extending to our family and community.

Each person is responsible for own actions, be less selfish, respect each other, & do our best for humanity as we are in this together.

As we are all blessed, know what we can and cannot control and through Tao cultivation, improve our responses to life's events with balance and peace of mind.

Monitor our emotional swings and our responses, using our Three Sacred Treasures, as we observe the election process next week.

Introduce Precious Tao to Family and Friends. Let's All Cultivate Together to Build a Better Future.





*THE JOURNEY OF TAO CULTIVATION IS OPEN TO ALL.
MAY YOUR JOURNEY BE FILLED WITH PEACE,
WISDOM, COMPASSION, AND HAPPINESS.*