

TABOO OPINIONS #66

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8-31-05 KATRINA'S EPIC BLOW JOB

The stock markets liked her on Monday as she blew New Orleans, Biloxi, Gulfport, etc., anticipating the pleasures of vast reconstruction loans and profits in certain areas of the economy.

But then on Tuesday the glow went away as the enormity of the damages and human tragedy came into view...

And today the destruction and its consequences have assumed gigantic measures, especially for New Orleans, which is 80% flooded. This means hundreds of thousands of houses and buildings are being totaled; it would cost more to remodel and renovate and repair than to rebuild.

The delta was a lake/swamp before New Orleans came into labored being (kept 'safe' by all those miles of dikes and levees) and now is a lake/swamp again. An object lesson to hubris-swollen mankind restated: Do not build or live on a flood plain or in a swamp.

What we may be looking at is vast areas of this ruined city having to be bulldozed flat and all that debris dumped---where? And who will risk rebuilding in that 'cursed' swamp? I would suggest turning it into a Do Not Enter National Park inhabited forever by the returning spiders, bugs, birds, snakes and alligators. The ugly criters can fight it out with existing rats and human looters (who will refuse to leave their happy hunting heaven).

May I suggest further that this national disaster is of divine origin? I say that if God exists, He is responsible for the sudden transformation of Katrina from a tropical storm to a Category Five hurricane, and this horror is His punishment for our arrogance and godlike pretensions as a nation.

But of course, since I am an atheist, I personally believe Katrina is simply in the realm of SHIT HAPPENS.

But I do think that a true Christian would have some niggling thoughts about God's responsibility and motivation. He could have stopped this, couldn't he? So why did He let it (or cause it to) happen?

Please don't give me that ancient cop-out: God works in mysterious ways.

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