

## A Sermon on Chosen Ones

Sermon by Rev. Minister Angela Smith of COPE for August 21st, 2022 (and beyond)

This sermon is in dialogue format in hopes to inform, enlighten, and entertain while acknowledging for some problems in life there is no simple solution.

### DIALOGUE

Community: Get a job.

Unemployed Party: I'm trying and have applied to every position for which I'm qualified. I'm not currently receiving unemployment benefits and am out of savings.

Community: Are you willing to take any job including manual labor?

Unemployed Party: Yes, but when I apply to entry level and/or manual labor positions I'm told I'm over-qualified and should apply to corporate. When I apply to corporate, they tell me they don't consider public transit reliable transportation even though it is more environmentally-conscientious to do so and I have no car.

Community: Get a car.

Unemployed Party: I can't afford that, nor insurance, nor gas at this time.

Community: Move.

Unemployed Party: I can't afford to move.

Community: Take out a loan and move.

Unemployed Party: I have no property nor income to secure a loan.

Community: Get a job.

Unemployed Party: Should I lobby for Universal Basic Income or start looking for a charity that can help? Both?

Community: Universal Basic Income would require eliminating Medicare, Social Security, and Welfare in all current forms including Section 8 Housing Assistance and to make it universal, everyone would get it unless they choose to opt out. As a result, it would be taxable income for those who got it, possibly putting them in a higher tax bracket. Inflation would also increase driving the prices of all necessities higher so that the influx from Universal Basic Income would result in changes to the market responding to the influx of unsecured income that's value is mostly symbolic and not tied to any actual material goods or products (providing said value when there isn't excessive debt).

Charities love help. Maybe volunteer and work for free and see if it turns into a real opportunity for gainful employment.

Unemployed Party: I'll look into volunteering then and hope I'm not misguided by radicals in the process. Recently on a walk three young men asked if I'd go into a local pot dispensary for them since they were teens and underage. I refused even though that was one of the only offers I've had in over a year besides other requests for unlawful services I also refuse to provide. There was one job that was promising but the place got robbed so any hiring of me there is on indefinite delay while they try to recover since they carried liability insurance only to save money and lost almost everything but the building.

Community: Maybe they'll recover sooner than you think. Hang in there, you'll get there. Do you have friends or family you can stay with or are you looking for housing assistance? There's adult foster care, they'll place you.

Unemployed Party: I find your suggestions impracticable for the most part, but remain thankful I'm not in adult foster care nor do I ever believe I will accept that. I think I would prefer death to that.

Community: A Republican. That figures. How's liberty working out for you?

Unemployed Party: Better than the alternative. I prefer having to find a job to being assigned to one I can't leave without suffering penalties at law.

Community: Typical free market capitalist. You'd have guaranteed income as the carrot to the stick of penalties at law though under socialism with that assignment.

Unemployed Party: Give me liberty or give me death. Patrick Henry.

Community: Good American. I see your potential. Volunteer it might turn into something and at least you'll have a sense of purpose while possibly learning some more skills.

Unemployed Party: Thank you.

END DIALOGUE

For those interested in starting #TaoFu Self-Defense Exercises, please see <https://www.cope.church/taofu.htm> and begin at any time.

There are opportunities to send messages, receive mystery bonus blessings, and more with or without donating available now on our "Pass the Basket" page at <https://www.cope.church/basket.htm> . Thank You.

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32 KJV Willful blindness is an abomination.

COPE accepts Feedback, critical and complimentary. Learn more at <https://www.cope.church/feedback.htm> . For the sake of keeping myself and others humble, a sense of humor is welcome on all sides.

For More About COPE and the HEAL Mission, see:

<https://www.cope.church> and <https://www.heal-online.org>