Twitter Thread by Bronze Age Seeker



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"Not much is needed: a small well-preserved homestead, a worthy craft reputably practiced, a tiny garden bearing evidence of cultivation by loving hands, a miner's spotless home, a few books or reproductions of classical art."

I won't be coy with you and make you guess the author of that quote, its Spengler speaking on Culture and property. I've always seen Spengler as a man dealing in immense causes and forces, so it came as a wonderful surprise to see him speak so beautifully on the simple life.

I think my mistake was in assuming that this is Spengler breaking with his typical penchant for the "immense," because what he is describing is NOT some minuscule humility, but rather an integral component of those great civilizational forces.

Spengler's perspective on this matter of property is precisely the type of advice I wish someone had given me when I felt directionless as a young man. I will continue the quote from above:

"The point is that these objects should be transformed into a personal world, should bear the stamp of the owner's personality. True possessions are soul, and only through that soul Culture. To estimate them by their money value is - either an incomprehension or a desecration."

What a heuristic to apply to one's things, to possess objects which financial evaluation would either be "incomprehension or a desecration." I know I don't have much that fits that bill, but its a worthy thing to aspire to a lifestyle such that one's possessions become so imbued.

To further quote Spengler on possessions:

" To divide them after the owner's death is a sort of murder. That was the Germanic conception of inheritance: morally an indissoluble unit, permeated by the soul of the dead owner who had administered it, not a divisible sum"

We all instinctively recognize that a household SHOULD be "an indissoluble unit, permeated by the soul of the dead owner," but so often the estate of our loved ones is deracinated to point of meaninglessness, and further desanctified by crass financial evaluation and division.

"This belonging goes to Uncle Joe's house, these two items are divided to go to different cousins' homes, we must be fair after all!"

THAT represents the destruction of whatever dregs of spiritual value a modern home came to be imbued with.

Here is the perfect image of a family seat in the modern era, falling into disrepair as each generations decreasing numbers of children abandon it for better opportunity, the grounds ravaged by m0nsanto cornTM, and the roof crowned with a TV antenna.

"Families who are making their way upward, therefore, seek a family seat as the original form of real estate, and those who are descending in the scale try to turn it into cash"... Spengler is illustrating a dichotomy, and perhaps the potential for a choice.

Our era is one of manifest decline, and it is a valid consideration to wonder if one can try to take the path of the family "making their way upward" in such an era, one could say its best to loot and stay free and unrooted, and that certainly IS a path for some, a good path.

But to those who feel called to have children as part of their vision, the upward way is integral. Maybe we must first turn things into cash, but with the goal of seeking the family seat, a place where the multi-generational will can return, and perhaps in time, Culture.