Terrorism and the Light at the End of the Tunnel

With acts of terrorism at an all-time high, it's easy to get caught up in feelings of outrage and fear. But how do we change this perspective? How to again rejoice in our freedom to love?

I'm scared. Seems like the world is falling apart...

"The event of terrorism is certainly related with what is happening in the society. The society is falling apart. Its old order, discipline, morality, religion, everything has been found to be wrongly based. It has lost its power over people's conscience."

Osho, Beyond Psychology, Talk #18

But how did this happen?

"Once you create a philosophy, an opinion, you are already on the warpath. If there is ideology, there is going to be fight. This is the predicament: there are people who want the world to be without wars, but they have ideologies and their ideologies create wars. There are communists who go on arranging peace conferences, and they have a particular ideology of how the world should be and how the society should be. There are Catholics who go on talking about peace, but they have an ideology; and there are Hindus who go on talking about peace, but they have an ideology. There are even Jains who talk of non-violence, peace, no war, but they have an ideology — and if you have an ideology you are the cause of war."

Osho, Come Follow To You, Vol 4, Talk #4

What's really frightening is I just can't see an end to this chaos.

"Terrorism is going to become bigger and bigger, because the third world war is almost impossible. And the stupid politicians have no other alternative. Terrorism simply means that what was being done on a social scale now has to be done individually. It will grow. It can only be prevented if we change the very base of human understanding — which is a Himalayan task; more so because these same people whom you want to change will fight you; they won't allow you to change them easily."

"Terrorism simply symbolizes that to destroy human beings does not matter, that there is nothing in human beings which is indestructible, that it is all matter – and you cannot kill matter, you can only change its form. Once man is taken to be only a combination of matter, and no place is given for a spiritual being inside him, then to kill becomes just play."

"So individual violence will increase – it is increasing. And all your governments and all your religions will go on perpetuating the old strategies without understanding the new situation."

Osho, Beyond Psychology, Talk #18

Isn't there a light at the end of this tunnel?

"The new situation is that every human being needs to go through therapies, needs to understand his unconscious intentions, needs to go through meditations so that he can calm down, become cool – and look towards the world with a new perspective, of silence."

Osho, Beyond Psychology, Talk #18

But how is meditation going to stop a suicide bomber?

"The terrorism is not in the bombs in your hands; the terrorism is in your unconscious."

Osho, Beyond Psychology, Talk #18

So ideology goes out the window as meditation leads to love?

"... if people start meditating, if people start loving their bodies, loving their minds, and out of love peacefully transcending towards a state of no-mind, they will not belong to any stupid ideology."

Osho, The Great Pilgrimage From Here to Here, Talk #13

