



FAITH matters

April 17, 2023

A brilliant blue sky and sunshine. A GIFT in this end of winter/early spring. Sleeping Bear glistens in the sunshine and the lakes share their shades of blue.

What a place we live in! What a gift we are given.

Yet, there is SO much that isn't. So much that isn't what it should be or even could be. So much that shouldn't be, but is. I am just back from an amazing journey to Egypt. 4700 B.C. there was SO much happening, wonders of thinking, of developing language, of construction, of knowledge. And then? It disappeared under the blowing sands and rising silt and conquering occupations and greed and was FORGOTTEN.

How can one as a member of a 'first world' country stand proudly thinking we have it all? How can one not feel the words of the Tenor Aria from Susannah, written by Carlisle Floyd "It's About the Way People Is Made"? We heard this when my niece connected us to the Houston Grand Opera's Aria Competition in February.

*"It's about the way people is made,
I reckon, an' how they like to believe what's bad.
How short they are on lovin' kindness.
It must make the good Lord sad.*

*They don't know it ain't what you feel that counts.
But what you do about it.
So instead they take it out on you.
It must make the good Lord sad.*

*Way out yonder somewheres,
The Lord's great heart must break
At seein' how men treat one another
An' say they're doin' it all fer His sake.*

It's a hard, hard thing for you to realize,

*I know, that people want to believe what's bad
An' how short they are on lovin' kindness.
It must make the good Lord sad."*

Can we practice 'likin' what's good' in each other? Can we 'believe' in the good of others? Can we become 'long' on loving kindness and 'short' on believing what's 'bad'/different/other? Can we fight for what we know is right and just and needed like gun control and recognizing that our 'campus' is a weapon free zone?

Let's try to make 'the good Lord' pleased with us and happy with what we are doing in our faith journeys as we work for HIS kingdom here on this earth.

Faith Matters!

~Written by Pat Sheafor



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