

Saturday, October 15, 2011

READING WORDS ENGRAVED ON WASHINGTON MONUMENTS

Inspiring and wonderful words are engraved in the walls of buildings all around Washington D.C. High-sounding ideals are engraved on the new memorial to Martin Luther King Jr, as well as on the older ones dedicated to Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt, Ronald Reagan, Woodrow Wilson, Abraham Lincoln, Thomas Jefferson as well as on memorials to veterans of our various wars. They include words that every American can wholehearted agree to, words such as Justice, Equality, Brotherhood, Peace, Freedom, Honor. The same Ideals are engraved on the walls of the Library of Congress and the Congressional Building and Supreme Court Building and many others. These are words, Ideals, we all believe in. They speak of Principles that unite us, words for which we stand together as a People. Then why are we so divided as a Nation? Because we do not agree on what these words, these Ideals, these Principles actually mean in practice. More than that, we do not agree on how to achieve and preserve these Ideals, particularly the role of the Federal Government in doing that. Behind these wonderful words and concepts that appear to unite us, are divisions caused by often opposing beliefs and dogmas about how to apply and live by these words as a Nation. This is tragic but true. It is Reality. How did we become the Disunited State of America? First, we the People have departed from the Biblical, Reformation (Calvinist) Faith of the first Colonists, the Puritans, which was dominant in this Land for more than 125 years before the Revolution of 1776. . That original dominant Faith has long been replaced by another dominant one known as Civil Religion or the Religion of the Republic which has Christian trappings and symbols, but is not Christian. Second, we have departed from the original meaning of the words, principles and intent of the Founding Documents of the United States and their Framers. Those founding words have, over the years, been endued with ever new and progressive meanings in keeping with the changing values and mores of American Society. (There are many reasons why this happens.) The result is that all Americans can read the Ideals engraved on all those memorial walls with open and nodding approval, but secretly with different, often conflicting, understanding of them. On special occasions when those words and Ideals are invoked, we appear to be united. In reality, we are far from it. Reading the words on these memorials, as I did last week, I am inspired by the ideals they represent and impressed and thankful that they have been spoken and embraced by so many of our Leaders, but the reality troubles me. What must be done to remedy this situation? The solution seems obvious and I am motivated to work harder to do what I can to achieve it by the grace of God and to His Glory.

Posted by Cal in Personal Journal at 00:14