

Friday with Fred – September 15, 2017



When Feeling Bad is Good

Positive Illusionism is a psychological theory that tells people it is good to create a positive illusion of reality because it makes life seem more acceptable, tolerable and livable even though it is not true. (Sounds like the reason many people drink and do drugs to oblivion.)

I suppose creating an imaginary altered state to view life through fits with Shakespeare's assessment of mankind: "Man cannot bear much reality." (Sounds like the Snowflake Syndrome.) Reality often makes us feel bad but that can be a good thing. Why? You may ask. Let me suggest for your consideration: Feeling bad is a good sign as we watch the culture collapse around us for it shows we are sensitive and able to discern good and hate evil. The cultural realities of the day that include the deconstruction of truth and the accompanying moral decay that is rotting the roots of the Judeo/Christian foundation of western civilization has reached a point where, if you are not saddened you might wonder if your conscience has not been seared.

In 2 Peter 2:7-8 we are reminded that righteous Lot, as he was living in Sodom and Gomorrah was filled with grief and dismay because of the unrighteousness and moral depravity and decadency of that city. How should we feel in our day about what is happening in our cities and in our culture?

I grew up in the Bay Area of California in the 50's - 80's. The culture was quite different under Governor Pat Brown until he left office in the mid 60's. Now under his son, Governor Jerry Brown, San Francisco is a sanctuary city and the whole state functions as a welfare state for millions of illegal aliens. It is also the cultural benchmark for the low mark of morality.

When we as Christians see a culture collapse into such moral depravity it should make us sad for it makes God sad. It is a sign that we still know right from wrong and we are

offended when confronted by a culture that is hostile to our Lord. However, Christianity never depended on environment but on relationship. The good news we proclaim is the only real good news for a culture and a people who have lost their way.

Early Christians were called "The Way." Jesus declared Himself to be "the way, the truth, and the life." It is okay to feel bad as we live in this culture today, but let us feel good as we look to Christ and remember He is the way.

Serving Him with you
Until He comes for us,

Fred

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