

THE STEWARDSHIP PAPERS

Do You See What I See?

In my vision, there was music. And a Voice came out of the music in Strength and Power, the Voice of God. And His hand reached down out of heaven, mammoth, in my sight. Now, many years later, I have seen His hand again, this time formed in the clouds overhead, reminding me to tell you of His love.

What shapes do you see in the clouds? On a summer day when the breeze gently moves and changes of these seemingly fluffy white balls of cotton, what do you see when you look up? I remember playing this game as a child and, later, teaching it to my own children. We'd lie on the grass, hands behind our heads...

"I see a clown!"

"I see a dog!"

"Where?"

"Right THERE!" said the spotter, pointing and making it clear that it should have been obvious to anyone.

But, what we ourselves see is not always obvious to someone else. Children don't always realize this because they don't realize that each person is unique. In fact, it takes a baby awhile to realize that it is separate from its mother.

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I see things in the clouds, now, that I would never have dreamed of seeing as a child, because there are a lot more things in my mind. I've been to zoos and seen tigers, dolphins, and even giraffes! I've been to school and seen test tubes (though I've never looked for one in the clouds), footballs, batons, and tubas. I've been to work and seen computers, automobiles, and tall buildings. I've been to God and seen His hand reaching down from the heavens. It's "what's inside" that makes the difference.

I wish you could experience only the good things in life; but if that cannot be, I pray that you try very hard to take only the good things out of any experience and make that a part of who you are. Trying counts. So,

"...fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure..." [Philippians 4:8]

and if there should come a day when the trials of life are weighing you down, look up

"...and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming with the clouds of heaven" [Mk. 14:62]

because you are a child of God, precious in His sight, and He loves you.

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