

## I Wonder

I wonder if everyone has a dream...of who they want to be, of the family they want to be a part...of what they want to be when they grow up. My dream has changed over the years, and the things that I thought were important have changed, too. How does one evaluate a dream...a deep desire of the heart?

An artist paints. A writer writes. The medium really doesn't matter. To each, the deep desires from within must be brought to light. This act of "creation" isn't a matter of what should be done...eventually. It's a "now!" impulse, a passion that needs to be fulfilled at the time it's felt. The only evaluation by the artist is whether or not what is seen or felt from within has been accurately portrayed in the world outside the artist's mind. And yet...

The art itself IS judged; and thus, so too, is the artist. The judgment that is given—without ever having seen the artist's original vision—is based on what is in the CRITIC'S mind, not the artist's; therefore, "Judge not, lest ye be judged. For the judgment that you give will be the judgment that you get." [Matt. 7: 1-3]

What a strange world we live in...when, in spite of this good advise, the artist is called on to place a price on his creation. In other words, he is asked to become a critic and judge what his art might be worth, based on what may or

may not be in someone ELSE'S mind at some time in the future? It's as if a multitude of blind people wants to make the artist just as blind as they are.

Whether we realize it or not, we all make judgments while being blind to what is really needed in order to determine its worth. The monetary value of something may not be readily observable, but *how we treat* someone or something tells us (and others) the judgment we've made on its worth. (For example, when I was a child, I remember throwing my clothes on the floor instead carefully putting them away; they meant very little to me.)

I wonder what would happen if God had looked at all that He'd made, saw that it was good...and then was asked to put a price on it. Better yet, I wonder what God would think of the judgment we've given to His Creation(s). I suspect He wouldn't have to ask. He wouldn't even have to "read" our minds. All He'd have to do is observe how well we've taken care of what we've been given.

The fact is (though this is just a judgment-call on my part), no matter what the creation, he, she or it can only be judged by his, her or its creator. Anything else is strictly a matter of taste.

Written, December 29, 2013.