

Historically people have always found a way to express themselves. Whether it was drawing on the ground, rocks, walls or whatever. We know the thoughts that were held by the writers because they left the record of those thoughts. And whether it was angst or hopes many expressions lived on long after the original composer. The old Roman Empire left us a treasure trove of graffiti that gives us a look into the thoughts of the common man in those times.

A lot of ancient Roman graffiti alluded to the common idea then that half man, half beast creatures were produced by the acts of men, women and beasts in the public arena, for entertainment value of course. That left a vague unknown fomenting in their minds about what, if anything, came of such acts and where was the government hiding these creatures? They referred to a secret holding compound out in the middle of nowhere where these creatures could be brought from to control any malcontent of a population if the government needed to. Much the same way people nowadays refer to "Area 51" as a place where government is making weapons and even soldiers from space alien technology and DNA.

Similarly the ancient Roman soldier on duty in the Palestine region had references in graffiti to their thoughts on the Jewish nation they were occupying. They had orders not to interfere with an occupied nations internal affairs so they had to try and not to upset the locals and their local laws and customs. Other nations were proud of their religions and gods in statue form that were completely open and displayed to the public.

They were completely baffled by the setup of the Jewish temple however. An outer courtyard was open to them but the inner courtyard was closed to even the majority of the population. But the real puzzler was the temple itself that only a handful of specially picked priests could enter with an inner chamber that no one could enter except once a year by the High Priest. The Romans thought they had it all figured out by saying that in the inner Holy of Holies was the head of a donkey! They laughed at the Jews because they honestly thought that the Priesthood of the Jews were in there worshipping an ass and didn't want the people to know that was all it was. The Roman graffiti degraded the Jews and congratulated themselves on not being that stupid and for having a superior religion.

Not much has changed in 2000 years. People see things going on and hear differing views as to why these things happen and come up with their own expression as to why. The graffiti world is abuzz, in meme form, as to why something is right and something is wrong. As is always the case it is ignorance and lack of knowledge that causes the fear and confusion requiring expression for or against a thought. This is why I thank God, our Heavenly Father, for His Son who personally walked amongst us to tell us in His own words, "You shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free (John 8:32)."

We know that God assured us that each creature reproduces after its own kind (Gen 1:24). No half and half's around. We also know that God has sent a clear call into the world for each and every one to come to Him and join His family. As expressed in Acts 11:18 we all have God's welcome.

It is our pleasure and our desire to be at the Lord's intimate dinner table and to be in the fellowship of communing with all the saints past, present and future with our observing Christ's command from Luke 22:19, "Do this in remembrance of Me." We can and do remember and hope for a more intimate presence always with the Lord in our forever lives with Him.

God bless us all.