

March 1, 2025

Daily Reflections



MANY REMINDERS

By Julie Mussché

A Bible Verse

"I set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and this earth."

GENESIS 9:13

Reflection

With the Fall TV lineup last year, I started watching *Rescue: HI-Surf* largely because of where it is filmed, the North Shore of Oahu. It has some of the most beautiful scenery and spectacular surf I can ever recall seeing. As a child, my family, along with our neighbors in Pearl City, would go camping at Waimea Bay. It was always exciting, and particularly in the winter -- the surf was huge. To get there, we would travel out Kamehameha Highway in a renovated "Woody" which on occasion would lose its roof. During calmer times, when the surf was low, it was a great place to snorkel. Our journey home would always

include a stop at either a pineapple or sugar cane field's roadside stand for a treat.

As shared in previous reflections, my residence in Hawaii was during the time when it transitioned from Territory to become the Fiftieth State. The North Shore was not very developed and much of the area was agricultural. My understanding, based on several visits over the last two decades, is that much has changed. The increasing population and development, coastal erosion, dying coral reefs, toxic refuse, and an overtaxed water infrastructure have significantly degraded the environment.

Hawaii is often called the “rainbow capital of the world”; what a fitting reminder of the scriptural significance noted in the passage leading into this reflection. In the reading, God affirms his covenant with the earth, an agreement with conditions and responsibilities. This was established after the Great Flood, a sacred promise not to destroy the world again by flood. Does it not just seem like humankind has some part in helping to hold up that bargain? Aloha!



Rainbow
Photo by Julie Mussché

For Pondering

- What is the meaning of sacred covenant to you?
 - How are you called to fulfill that agreement to partner with God and earth?
-

For Prayer

Our Father

(As translated from Hawaiian)

*Our Father who is in heaven
Sacred be your name
Your dominion approaches
May your wishes be carried out upon this Earth
Just as it is carried out in heaven
Grant to us this day
Our daily harvests
Absolve us of our sins
The same as we absolve those who sin against us
Do not lead us to temptation
But provide an escape for us from evil
Therefore, yours is the dominion, and the divine
power, and the high praise, forevermore.
Amen*

<https://lyricstranslate.com/en/e-ko-makou-makua-our-father.html>

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