

I was in my happy place yesterday, Hobby Lobby, taking advantage of 50% off all items marked for Spring. To my dismay, they have already started stocking items for Fall, and we haven't even hit Summer yet. I know there is a marketing strategy at play somewhere, but it's just too soon.

Fittingly, they have their patriotic merchandise in grand display, as I would expect. Tomorrow is Memorial Day; we will blink and the 4th of July will be here as well. An extra effort is being put forth because it is the 250th anniversary of our first day of independence. I confess that makes me feel old, having celebrated the 200th anniversary when I was in middle school.

Recently I was in a conversation about the state of our nation, and it wasn't a positive discussion. To be honest, my heart is broken over our government, the embarrassing headlines that pop up daily, and I believe myself to be a true patriot. Perhaps that's why my heart is so heavy. I love my country, but I'm not proud of her today.

I don't believe those brave souls who paid the ultimate sacrifice did so, for our country to bully others, or glorify and protect those who are downright evil. We literally show honor to those who, at one point would have been burned at the stake. I'm not saying everything that was done in the past was always correct, but most decisions were based from a moral compass.

I fear we are no longer one nation under God, and we are slowly feeling the effects from God having to turn his face away from us. I've been hearing a lot about the current crisis being the fault of my 'boomer' generation. I resent that accusation, simply because I've done nothing but try to live my life quietly, work hard, and now I'm ready to meet and enjoy time with my two new grandbabies. And, I have loved this country.

It's easy to point fingers and blame others, but the hard fact is that 'we the people' have turned our back on God as a nation. We are reaping the benefits of our selfishness, and it's biting us all in the rear end with horrible gas prices and not being able to afford beef in the grocery store.

So there I was in Hobby Lobby, looking at the beautiful wares of red, white, and blue. But this time, I just walked right on past. I will put something on my front door in July, because I am a patriot, and I love America. I still believe we are most blessed to live in a country where we are free to come and go as we wish, but I fear that is changing as well. Only time will tell.

Blessings,

Lisa Jo

