

NATIONALISM: TAKING CARE OF OUR COUNTRY

According to Dr. Alvin Ang, one of the top economist in the country, the Philippines has been the fastest growing economy in Asia since 2017. However, there are Filipinos who are still wondering if this is the best place to live in. This is because of all the issues we are facing, like the Marcos burial, the extrajudicial killings, Duterte's leaning towards China and Russia, etc. It saddens me to hear people wanting to migrate in order to protect themselves from the uncertainties of the future. On the other hand, it angers me when people say, "Mabuti pa sa America, sa London, sa Canada... Hindi katulad dito sa Pilipinas!"

Have you ever wondered why God created you as a Filipino? If God is in control, He could have made you an American or a Canadian diba? So why did He make you a Filipino? I believe it is because He sees you as the best steward of this country. He gave you your portion or inheritance in the Philippines because this is the part of the world that He wants you to care for and to make fruitful.

He allowed many of us to see the beauty of other countries, not because He wants us to live there, but because He wants us to realize our potentials. We should understand that the reason why the infrastructure of the US is good is because the Americans of old stayed, took care of their country, and made it what it is today. Unfortunately, many Filipinos keep on leaving for other countries, selling their lands, and bringing their money out to spend in those nations. No wonder we are what we are today. It is because many of our best talents did not stay to care for this country.

God made me a Filipino because He wants me to steward a portion of the country in Bukidnon. If only all Filipinos would take good care of the portion God entrusted to them, we can make this country what God wants it to be. I love this country not because it is the best but because it is the country God gave to me. If only we would all learn to love what God gave us, we can make this country the best in the world.

For me nationalism is not just about loving our country but also about loving God and treasuring the things He entrusted to us.