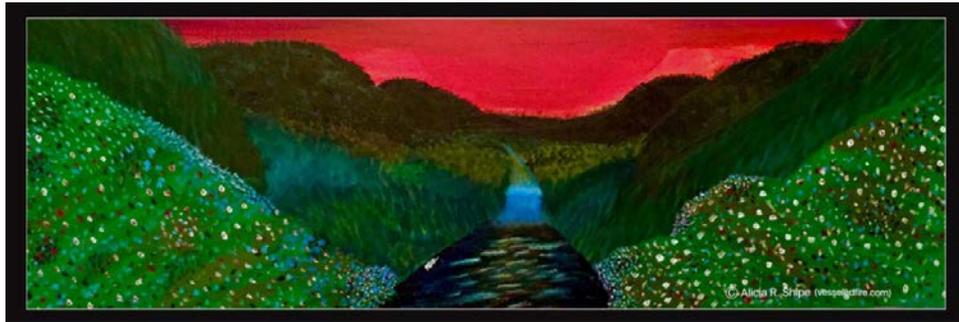


Layers



December 07, 2016

"Through The Valley"-36x12 Acrylic painting by Alicia R. Shipe

Everything that exists has layers. There are anatomical layers, physiological layers, psychological/mental layers, emotional layers, layers in space, layers in time, and layers in nature. Our world and existence is multi-dimensional. The God-head (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) also has layers as does the Bible.

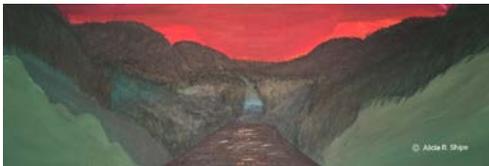
In the past few weeks I have been doing a lot of painting as a Christmas gift for my husband. He knows I am painting for him but he doesn't know what they are (I'm not worried if he sees this because this message is very important). Whenever I am in creative mode (whether painting, drawing, writing music, or working on writing books) Holy Spirit and I get into very deep and real conversations. The topic of layers has been going through my mind as I have been painting.

I am an amateur artist but have found my painting skills have been increasing. The reason is because I have watched videos and realized I was not creating depth in my art. How does one create depth? What I learned I am going to share with you. These rules can be applied in our everyday lives and in our relationship with the Lord.

- 1) Paint the things farthest away first and wait until each layer is dry and complete before starting the next layer. [Clean up/fix up whatever needs to be fixed before proceeding to the next layer.]
- 2) Usually, the things most distance from you are darker or in the shadows. [If it's too far away don't ruin your vision by trying to focus on the details of it. It's not that important at the moment.]

- 3) The things closer to you are usually bigger and brighter.
[Keep your focus on what's right in front of you. That's where the details are most prominent.]
- 4) Sometimes every detail doesn't have to be painted. This allows the viewers of the work to see what is intended. Our minds naturally fill in the blanks. [There is no obligation to explain every detail of anything. People will always see what they choose to see and are able to comprehend.]

Think of these the next time you are reading Genesis 1 or when you are looking at the order of the books in the Bible. Everything has layers. One other thought that has been floating around in my multi-dimensional mind is this: 'Yesterday is today. Today is tomorrow. Tomorrow was yesterday.' Let that sink



in to your many layers.

Alicia R. Shipe