... to take a look around us. Be honest. What do you see?

Do you see a "peaches and cream" existence?

Or do you see the current "state of the union" in all it's glory?

Two phrases harken out to me these days ...

"If it ain't broke, don't fix it" ... and "If you do what you've done, you'll get what you've gotten". Oh yes, and let's add the Santayana favorite - "Those who cannot learn from history are doomed to repeat it".

This isn't a post about politics. And it surely isn't a post about Republicans and Democrats. But it is a post about waking up and smelling the Kona. It's about simply seeing the world around us. And it's about change - because if what you're doing isn't working, then dang it, do something else. Or ... another quotable ... "the genius is not the one that doesn't make mistakes - the genius is the one that doesn't make the same mistake twice".

If we are all responsible for our own personal growth, then as a nation we will grow as well. If we take a moment to reflect upon our history, upon "rights" and "responsibilities", we will be faced with some hard answers. I am a true believer in free enterprise - but I am also fully aware that we spend more money on the world's problems (whatever they include - and that's not a specific reference to the war in Iraq) than we do on our own constituents. We send money out of this country by the fistfuls ... but fail to attend to the issues of our own brethren.

Take a minute to ponder and reflect deeply on the big picture - and tell me you're still not pissed off by it all. Seriously.