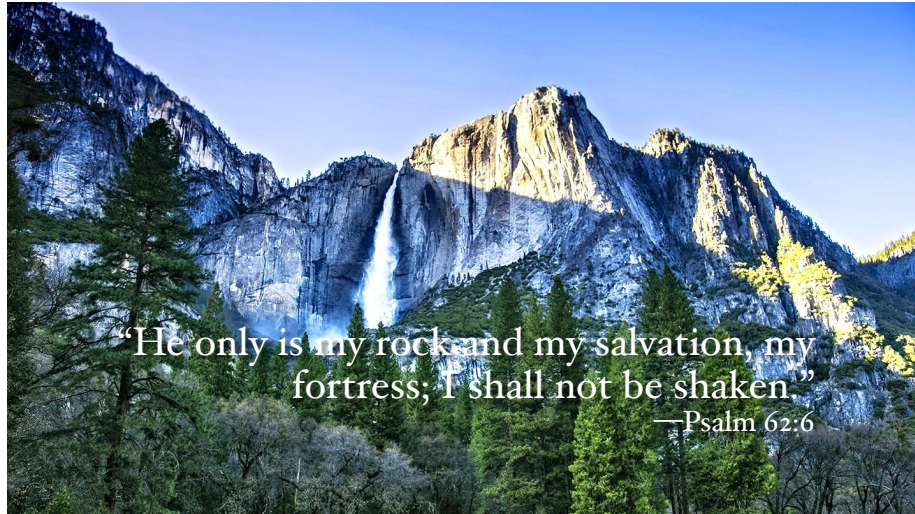


Daily View

“But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called ‘today’” Hebrews 3:13

October 13, 2020



Yosemite [2013]

Are we all shook up because of this pandemic?

What I’m seeing in and hearing from a majority of the members of the Folsom church fills me with joy, warms my heart and makes me sing... Okay, that’s a little over the top. What I’m trying to say is that most of the members of the church here have not allowed the pandemic to affect their relationship with God and with other Christians. They have stayed connected, they come to the assemblies in whatever form we offer them (Zoom, livestream, in-person in thirds, outside or inside). They are teaching their kids, reading their Bibles, praying and watching out for each other.

Seven months ago (as of October 8th) when we were first prevented from meeting together (except online), I was concerned that it would have a harmful effect on the work here. After all, from the day I got here in May of 1994, I had never seen the level of commitment to attending services that I saw here. Attendance at all services — Sunday morning, Sunday evening and Wednesday evening — was close to 100%. It became obvious to me, early on, that it was not only because of their strong commitment to God but also because of the affection that the saints have for each other.

But I feared that rules against meeting would change all of that. I was worried that it would break up the good thing we had going here. *Shame on me!* I should have known better. While I dislike being forced into three services I still count

my blessings every day that I am with a church that will not be shaken, not even by a major crisis like a pandemic.

If I’m correct in my analysis of why this is, it makes me even more confident that when we emerge from it, we’ll be stronger and more resilient. There is no way to quantify this, but my sense is that the reason the majority of us are hanging in there so well is not just because we have a “fine church.” I believe the reason is because most of our members have a real personal relationship with God — and a pandemic cannot take that away. In fact, nothing else that culture can throw can take that away: not the election (even if it doesn’t go the way we would like), not national division, not our different views about Covid — *nothing*. It’s because we know two things: (1) we are part of a kingdom that is not of this world, according to Jesus (John 18:36) and (2) we know this world is not our home, that our kingdom is in heaven and it cannot be shaken. Listen to Hebrews 12:28:

Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe,

I may be wrong but it seems to me that Psalm 16:8 applies, personally, to most of us:

I have set the Lord always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.
Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices;
my flesh also dwells secure.

Are we all shook up because of the pandemic? **No.**

*Unless otherwise indicated the opinions expressed in this publication and images used are solely those of David Posey.
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