

Let the Fire Fall!

Last week I talked about watching the sunrise in Yosemite and how awesome God's natural sanctuary was. After watching that sunrise I drove down into Yosemite Valley to revisit this truly wonderful place.

The first time I had gone to the valley was in high school in the mid-sixties. Our football coach would take a group to the valley for a week in order to get us in condition by hiking the trails. At that time the valley was uncrowded and very different from the masses that visit the place today.

Because of the increase of people in the valley over the years, the park service has had to initiate tight controls over the traffic and camping reservations. Even with these controls, the swirl of buses and people is almost endless and it is literally harder to find a parking spot in the valley than it is in Los Angeles.

One of the truly cool things they used to do in the Valley every summer evening is to have the "fire fall" from Glacier Point which was nearly 4,000 feet from the valley floor. After a short nature program at Camp Curry near sunset, a person from the Camp would shout up the vertical granite wall: "Let the fire fall!" After a moment, there would be a response from the ranger high up at Glacier Point, "Let the fire fall!"

They would then begin pouring hot coals over the side of the mountain to form an awesome glowing waterfall which disappeared several thousand feet into the darkness. It was truly a spectacular sight.

Nowadays, because of the popularity of the valley, the fire no longer falls. Too many people. . . . Too little space.

It just makes me wonder if the press of people and things has stopped the fire from falling into our personal lives. The Holy Spirit is always near, ready to thrill our hearts with his presence. Why not call on Him today? Let the fire fall!