

Like a Tree

If you have been to the west coast, you know how beautiful it is. Our family recently took a 10-day vacation and enjoyed a host of wonderful sights including Albuquerque, Santa Fe, the Grand Canyon, San Francisco, Solvang, and Half Moon Bay. No, it wasn't named after me, but I like to pretend it was!

One of the sights we didn't get to see was the Giant Forest of Sequoia National Park. This beautiful park covers an area of 631 miles and is filled with awe-inspiring Giant Sequoias. These trees are simply breathtaking with their beauty and magnitude, dwarfing everything else in their presence!

The largest living thing in the world, currently on record, is found in this wonderful forest! It is the tree known as, "General Sherman!" General Sherman is estimated to be 2500 years old. It towers 275 feet above the ground, has a diameter at its base of 36.5 feet, and weighs almost 2 million pounds! Its first large branch is 130 feet from the base and its largest branch is almost 7 feet in diameter! When one of these giants falls (hopefully nobody's around when that happens), it just stays where it lands, being entirely too much tree to remove! If one falls across the road, they simply cut a path through it for the cars to drive!

I've been to this beautiful place. I've stood speechless at the base of these magnificent trees and remember being profoundly impacted by the thought that I was surrounded by trees that were alive when Jesus was on Earth!

One very interesting fact is that their root system is extremely shallow; the opposite of what one would expect with such huge trees. Although the root system of one tree can cover up to an acre, they only go down 12 to 14 feet and have no tap root. So although these massive beauties seem like they're as solid as a rock; they're actually very, very fragile.

Many people are like these mighty Sequoias. They are sturdy on the outside, but fragile in reality because they follow the world and its wisdom, rather than God and His wisdom. Psalm 1 declares, "How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of scoffers! ² But his delight is in the law of the LORD and in His law he meditates day and night. ³ He will be like a tree *firmly* planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season and its leaf does not wither; and in whatever he does, he prospers."

The person who delights in, meditates on, and obeys the Bible will be firmly planted in the truth of Almighty God. He will not be tossed and turned by the foolish lies of the world, but will stand strong in this life and in the judgment to come. Delight in the powerful truths of God's word today!