

## THE GREAT SOLAR ECLIPSE!

08/22/2017

Most of you know that yesterday, Monday, August 21st, was the solar eclipse. I must admit, here in TN, it was an awesome and humbling experience! For about a minute and a half the sun was entirely obscured by the moon passing in front of it. The crickets began to sing and an eerie darkness engulfed the whole Middle TN region.

The whole neighborhood here in Berry Hill was outside, eclipse glasses on, to witness the event. At the moment the eclipse became total someone fired off several firecrackers then it was silent. All that was heard for the next minute or so was an occasional ooo or ahh as everyone stood spell bound looking up!

I have seen several solar eclipses in my lifetime but never one that was "full"--or so close to full it didn't matter, and I'm thankful for the opportunity to have witnessed it. That feeling of awesomeness and eeriness at the same time is something I don't think I will ever forget.

My point to all this though is this--the media hyped the event for probably 3 to 4 months. The Weather Channel even had a "count down" running for the past several weeks giving the number of days, hours and minutes until the full eclipse happened. I don't mind the hype but-----

We seem to be pushed evermore by the media and people in our lives to skip over the hum-drum time between the hep and the event itself--regardless is the event is an eclipse, a holiday or some other kind of "red letter day" chosen to "look forward to". The time in between is simply taken for granted and almost "wished away" so the event time will be here. After the event, whatever it is, occurs then it's on to the next one starting the hyping for it all over again.

As I've written about before, time is something we can never get back once it has elapsed. Those precious minutes, we could have used living our lives, are gone forever--used up dreaming and focusing on some future event that finally happens and is gone itself. In my opinion, life is way too short to allow any of it to pass by "un-lived"!

I hope all of us, right now, will focus on living our lives in the moment and not waste any time with expectations down the road.

We are not guaranteed any time but the present moment. And, sadly, for some all the planning and expectations will be in vain. Live life NOW! Please, don't let a second of it pass by without relishing the moment and attempting to put everything you have into it! Life is a wonderful gift God gave us and our time here is short. Make the most of it!!!

God Bless--

All my best,

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