

QUIET SUN, BUT NOT PEACEFUL

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We are having a period of quiet Sun, a few days respite from the solar inundations we have been experiencing. However, even now some of the active sunspots are rounding the bend from the far side of the Sun and once again coming into view, ready to perhaps send another volley of solar flares at Earth, so get ready for more.

In these recent days of a quiet Sun, you would think the smoke would have cleared and we would be at peace, which is what I imagined. Wishful thinking on my part. Yes, it has been quiet, but in that quiet time there has been time and room for some of the deeper changes to rise into view, to be better seen and grasped.

As I like to say, times of solar flares are terrifying for the conservative in us and a feast for the liberal. Change of any kind (by definition) threatens the status quo, the way things are or have been up to this point. Everything changes and by that fact does not remain the same. Yet changes bring opportunities for those looking for them and willing to meet the challenge they offer. And most changes probably are needed.

With the quantum-sized chunks of change brought by solar flares (and their related effects), things change abruptly and amount to big change. Big changes alter both our inner and outer landscape and don't tend to be smooth, especially if they are changes not only in our life, but in ourselves. We change and that can put us out of sorts or confuse us.

As I look around among reports from my family, extended family, and friends, things are mostly not smooth right now. There have been reactions to change. And in the relative solar quiet recently, many have been able to take stock of advancing changes and either accept them or reject them. They begin to see them and make sense out of them. There has been a lot of opinions flying around, many in the form of serious discussion and even downright argument. It has been anything but peaceful.

Few of us welcome change, at least at the onset. But as I sort through the various changes I have experienced, and what others tell me they are going through, I tend to see the silver lining in the clouds of change. In other words, when all this gets sorted out, it looks like for most folks everything will be improved. Of course there are exceptions. Some of us will have to make needed adjustments, ones long overdue anyway, and that can be tough.

Solar change is a lot like the shifting of tectonic plates that lead to earthquakes. Pressures build up and sooner or later there is a sudden shift, a change that rearranges things a little or a lot. We are in a time of change now and even this rather brief time-out or overview we just have had will probably soon give way to more change.

With intense solar activity such as we have had recently, we undergo change in larger updates than we are used to and this can be challenging to say the least, and upsetting for most. Yet, as I look back on my own history during similar times of solar onslaught in the past, those times now appear rich with content and meaningful change. Certainly this Earth and those on it need to make some adjustments. I just hope these are that.