Random Reflections on the first Yosemite Waterfall painting

Dear all, I made a startling discovery yesterday. I have been very interested in the Holy Spirit for as long as I have been a Christian, and even more so now that I am a Christian artist. Early on in my Christian life I acquired a magnificent Bible study tool called e-sword. This is free and comes with access to a limited range of built-in Bibles, Concordances, Dictionaries and Commentaries and a much larger range than one can download for PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone and probably for android too... The most useful and used tool in my version of it is Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries, which are linked to several versions of the Bible via numbers beginning with H for Hebrew words and G for Greek.

A very long time ago I looked up H7307 Spirit and on that very first occasion, misread it, transposing the vowels in the English transliteration of the Hebrew רוּח so that I did not read rûach as I should have done. I have never heard anyone say the word apart from me, and I have always misread it following my initial error and spoken it incorrectly as well as writing it incorrectly. One of you noticed that I had written it incorrectly in my last email and very gently and with loving-kindness, corrected me. Thank you. I would never have noticed without someone telling me.

So that is the reflection which goes with this painting of one of the beautiful waterfalls and its reflection from the Yosemite Valley in California, first made really famous around the world as a result of Ansell Adams' glorious monochrome full-plate photographs.

As an aside, I was lucky enough to accompany my son, who is a brilliant photographer, far greater than I shall ever be, to the Victoria and Albert Museum. Douglas was studying A level photography and discovered that they had several original Ansell Adams prints which you could book to view in the reading room, and thus I found myself in the presence of probably the best photographer I have ever known, Douglas, and several wonderful prints of the Yosemite valley by one of the greatest photographers who has ever lived, Ansell Adams. It was a good day.

Douglas, although a brilliant photographer, enjoyed acting more and thus A level was as far as his studies took him. He works in a supermarket and has done all the way through the pandemic. I am incredibly proud of the courage and humility that he has shown in serving the public in this way. So he is not just a great photographer, but also someone whose patience and courage I admire. He is also, in a family with quite a lot of people on the autistic spectrum, the one of us who has, rather than taking the 'Pretending to be Normal' approach to life, taken the much braver approach exemplified by his A level Exam piece, 'Never be Normal'. I admire him a very great deal. Love from Rick