

FACES

Franconia Notch State Park, New Hampshire

July 6, 1961

I was fairly flippant about seeing the Great Stone Face, rock formations not being high on my list as a teen. I wrote in the trip log, "On through the white mountains of New Hampshire. We saw The Great Stone Face, the one immortalized by Hawthorne. We're thrilled."

Now I'd be intrigued, but I can't go back as an adult and see it, because it's no longer there. It collapsed in 2003.

I love Daniel Webster's comment on the Face: "Men hang out their signs indicative of their respective trades: shoe makers hang out a gigantic shoe, jewelers a monster watch, and the dentist hangs out a gold tooth; but up in the Mountains of New Hampshire, God Almighty has hung out a sign to show that there He makes men."

The Bible says that when God created the first people, He breathed His breath of life into them. Later, when He called Abram and Sarai to start His special, chosen nation, He changed their names. And He changed them in a way that shows His life-giving breath: *Abram* became *Abraham*; *Sarai* became *Sarah*.

Do you hear and see the aspirants, the breath carried by the sounds of *y*, *w*, *wh*, and *h*? God's own name, *Jehovah*, is made almost entirely of breath sounds, helping me remember that He alone is the source of life.

The LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.
(Genesis 2:7)

