

### "Awe-Struck"

**1 Peter 1:14-16** February 5, 2025

INTRO: Natural Wonders/Superbowl

## **Holy Posture**

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**1 Peter 1:14-16** 14 As obedient children, <u>do not be conformed</u> to the passions of your former ignorance, 15 but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, 16 since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

- ⇒ Marked by Reverence & Awe (Worship/Prayer/Our Serving/Every Breath...)
  - Reverence is a deep <u>respect</u> or honor toward God, recognizing His holiness, authority, and majesty. It involves an attitude of humility and submission in response to God's character.
  - <u>Awe</u> is a profound sense of wonder and amazement in the presence of God's greatness and power. Awe often leads to worship and recognition of human smallness compared to God's majesty.

**Hebrews 12:28** Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with <u>reverence and awe</u>.

**Hebrews 5:7** In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his <u>reverence</u>.

When you approach God in Worship and Prayer? Do you understand who you are talking to?

Psalm 33:8 Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in <u>awe</u> of him!

Awe is the root for the adjective "Awesome" – do you use this word Casually? Watered Down

One problem we face in using the term **awe** – even **reverential awe** – is that the true meaning of the word is so little understood in our culture today. Its meaning has been essentially debased through frequent flippant usage. It isn't uncommon, for example, to hear someone speak of the awesome chocolate sundae she enjoyed at an ice cream shop. Compare such a statement with the true meaning of awe as "an emotion in which dread, veneration, and wonder are variously mingled." The ice cream sundae was undoubtedly tasty, but it hardly qualified as awesome. Even the popular chorus 'Our God is an Awesome God" is too often sung with the gusto and enthusiasm of a pep rally rather than with the sober realization that God is indeed awesome. **Jerry Bridges** "The Joy of Fearing God" pg. 19

#### ⇒ Danger of Irreverence in his Presence: Awe-Struck Down

Leviticus 10:1-3 Aaron's sons Nadab and Abihu were killed instantly for offering unauthorized fire

2 Samuel 6:6-7 Uzzah was struck down by the Lord for touching the ark of God

Acts 5:1-11 Ananias & Sapphira died for lying to the apostles and the Holy Spirit (New Testament)

Although we've been delivered from the ultimate wrath of God, we are not guaranteed deliverance from His Temporal Judgments. *Jerry Bridges* "The Joy of Fearing God" pg. 22

# Holiness in "Our" Reality

⇒ New Covenant Reality – Not called for Impurity but to be Cleansed (1 Thes 4:7-8 & 2 Cor 7:1)

**Isaiah 6:6-7** Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar.7 And he touched my mouth and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your quilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for."

#### Light Bulb/Tattoo/Wi-Fi

Category	Old Testament Holiness	New Testament Holiness		
Access to God's	Limited to specific people (priests, prophets)	Available to all believers through the indwelling		
Presence	and places (temple, ark)	Holy Spirit (1 Cor 6:19)		
Role of the Holy	Came upon certain individuals temporarily	Permanently lives in all believers, guiding and		
Spirit	for specific tasks (e.g., Samson, David, Saul)	transforming them (John 14:16-17)		
How Holiness is	Through rituals, sacrifices, and ceremonial	Through the Spirit's power and daily		
Maintained	laws to remain pure (Leviticus)	transformation to be like Christ (Galatians 5:22-23)		
Relationship with	Distant and mediated through priests,	Personal and intimate—we can approach God		
God	sacrifices, and holy places (Exodus 19:12-13)	confidently as Father (Hebrews 4:16; Romans 8:15)		
Purpose of	To reflect God's purity and set Israel apart	To become <b>like Jesus</b> and be a witness to the		
Holiness	from other nations (Exodus 19:6)	world (1 Peter 1:15-16; 2:9)		

**Matthew 27:50-51** And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit. 51 And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split.

When the veil was torn, the presence of God became accessible to all who would come, not through ritual, but through the blood of Jesus and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. The presence that once dwelt behind the veil now seeks to dwell within the hearts of men. **A.W. Tozer "The Pursuit of God"** 

**Philippians 2:12-13 ...** <u>work out your own salvation</u> with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

⇒ Promise & Benefit of having a Holy Posture: Matthew 5:8 & 2 Chronicles 16:9 & Isaiah 66:2

