

AWESTRUCK

- We started last week talking about the reality that if we want to see revival in the earth, it must begin with a renewed appreciation for the FEAR OF THE LORD.
- We live in a time where people have lost respect for God, the people of God, the men/women of God, and the opinion of God. The concerning part is that too many Christians also have lost reverence for God and His opinion.
- **QUOTE:** *I am a Friend of God...but Jesus is not my Homeboy. He's my Lord, My Savior, and My Master.*
- **I Peter 4:17 (ESV)** – *For it is time for JUDGMENT to begin at the HOUSEHOLD OF GOD; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?*
- Judgment (Merriam-Webster) – *the process of forming an opinion or evaluation by discerning and comparing.*
- **Psalm 33:8 (NKJV)** – *Let all the earth FEAR THE LORD; Let all the inhabitants of the world STAND IN AWE of Him.*
- We discussed what the Fear of the Lord is last week. Let's dig into AWE or AWESOME today.

Week #2 – My God is AWESOME

- The Hebrew word related to “awesome” is multifaceted when it refers to God. *Yare*’ means to fear or be afraid; to be awed; to cause astonishment; to inspire reverence; and to show reverence, honor, and respect. The term used in the King James Version is “fearful” or “terrible,” as in **Psalm 47:2:** “*For the LORD most high is terrible.*” The English usage of the word when the King James Version was published meant a reverent fear of God. This was later translated as “awesome.” Merriam-Webster dictionary defines “awesome” as “inspiring awe.” Taking that one step further, “awe” is defined as “*an emotion variously combining dread, veneration, and wonder that is inspired by authority or by the sacred or sublime.*” Essentially, awe of God means we fear Him — we revere Him and continually submit to Him in humility and faith. We worship Him, knowing He is God and we are not. And we meditate on the wonders of His Personhood and works as described in the Bible.

Reasons We Stand in Awe at God!

We Stand in Awe at HIS FAITHFULNESS

- Faithful – true to His word, able to be trusted, one who keeps His promises.
- **I Samuel 12:22 (NLT)** – *The Lord will not abandon his people, BECAUSE THAT WOULD DISHONOR HIS GREAT NAME. For it has pleased the Lord to make you his very own people.*
- **QUOTE:** *One of God's primary motivations for His faithfulness to us is the recognition that somebody knows we belong to Him.*

We Stand in Awe at HIS MERCY and GRACE

- *Mercy – when we don't receive what we actually deserve to receive.*
- *Grace – when we are blessed to receive what we know we didn't deserve to receive.*
- **Hebrews 4:15, 16 (NCV)** – *This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. ¹⁶ So let us come BOLDLY to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his MERCY, and we will find GRACE to help us when we need it most.*
- **QUOTE:** *The good news that causes us to stand in awe of our God is that He's not like human beings. He still does right by us even when we've done wrong by Him.*

We Stand in Awe at HIS AMAZING LOVE

- God's love for us defies human logic and it should be the FOUNDATION for our lives.
- **Ephesians 3:17 – 19 (GNT)** *I pray that Christ will make his home in your hearts through faith. I pray that you may have your **ROOTS** and **FOUNDATION IN LOVE, 18** so that you, together with all God's people, may have the power to understand how broad and long, how high and deep, is Christ's love. **19** Yes, may you come to know his love - **although it can never be fully known** - and so be completely filled with the very nature of God.*
- **STRANGE THOUGHT:** *The churches I grew up in told me lots about God's judgment, but very little about God's love.*
- **QUOTE:** *God's love for us is the most pure, selfless, perfect expression of love that anyone could extend to us.*
- Paul prayed that God's love for us would be the FOUNDATION of our entire life.
- **Luke 15:1, 2 (NLT)** – *Tax collectors and other notorious sinners often came to listen to Jesus teach. ² This made the Pharisees and teachers of religious law complain that he was associating with such sinful people—even eating with them!*