

Finding Ultimate Contentment in Christ – A Series in the Psalms – Week Five

“Awesome” is More than a Cliché

Experiencing the Awe of God – Psalm 8:1-9

Introduction: Awe is the feeling of reverential respect mixed with honor and wonder. To put it another way, awe is worshipful esteem mixed with amazement. This morning we look at four ways we can cultivate a sense of awe in the presence of God.

1. NAME – We experience awe when we reflect on God’s name. Psalm 8:1, 8

- A. Psalm 8 is bookended by the name of God. Literally it says, “*O Yahweh, our Adonai, how majestic is your name in all the earth.*” 8:1
- B. We understand the depths of God’s name from the passage in Exodus 3:14-15. God provides his full sentence name: I AM WHO I AM.

2. NATURE – We experience awe by reflecting on nature. Psalm 8:1, 3a

- A. David reflects on his experience with nature and by implication, he invites us to experience awe in nature as well. 8:1
- B. What would David have seen with his eyes that would have inspired this Psalm? And what can we see with our eyes?
- C. And as David observes this incredibly beautiful universe, he concludes something about God: He’s infinitely powerful!

3. LOYAL LOVE – We experience awe when we see how much he loves the lowly. Psalm 8:2

- A. Surprisingly, God accomplishes great feats through totally unsuspecting people.
- B. We see this principle modeled in the life of Jesus, beginning with his birth.
- C. We see this principle modeled and taught by the apostle Paul. 1 Cor. 1:26

4. LIFTING UP – We experience awe when we remember our noble purpose. Psalm 8:3-8

- A. The pressing question: Who am I that you should care for me?
- B. It’s not our size that makes us significant. It’s our proximity to our creator.
- C. We are created to be stewards – co-rulers!

5. CONCLUSION-RESPONSE – Here’s how you respond to awe.

- A. Worship.
- B. Exercise wise stewardship over your personal world.
- C. Let God turn weakness into strength.