

## Psalm 145 - Awestruck

I will extol You, my God, O King; And I will bless Your name forever and ever.  
2 Every day I will bless You, and I will praise Your name forever and ever.  
3 Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and His greatness is unsearchable.  
4 One generation shall praise Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts.  
5 I will **meditate** on the glorious splendor of Your majesty, and on Your wondrous works.  
6 Men shall speak of the might of Your awesome acts, and I will declare Your greatness.  
7 They shall utter the memory of Your great goodness, and shall sing of Your righteousness.  
8 The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and great in mercy.  
9 The Lord is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works.  
10 All Your works shall praise You, O Lord, and Your saints shall bless You.  
11 They shall speak of the glory of Your kingdom, and talk of Your power,  
12 To make known to the sons of men His mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of His kingdom.  
13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and Your dominion endures throughout all generations.  
14 The Lord upholds all who fall, and raises up all who are bowed down.  
15 The eyes of all look expectantly to You, and You give them their food in due season.  
16 You open Your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.  
17 The Lord is righteous in all His ways, gracious in all His works.  
18 The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth.  
19 He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him; he also will hear their cry and save them.  
20 The Lord preserves all who love Him, but all the wicked He will destroy.  
21 My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord, and all flesh shall bless His holy name, Forever and ever.

**PRAY**

**Author Paul Trip writes these words concerning this Psalm:**

“What is the overriding worldview of this Psalm? It is that every human being has been hardwired by God to live in daily awe of him. This means the deepest,

most life-shaping, practical daily motivation of every human being was designed to live in awe of God.”

**Hardwired by God to live in daily awe of him**

**A)Awe of God is a built-in craving, whether we realize it or not.**

**B)Why people every day all over the world take time to pause from their busy lives to take in a sunset -**

1)there is something awe-inspiring about a beautiful sunset.

**C)For us as believers it reminds us of the awesomeness of God.**

1) Every day in a sunset God is painting an awe-inspiring scene.

**D)For the unbeliever are captivated by it even if they want to deny the source of it.**

**This is what the Psalmist is getting at here- God's works inspire awe of God.**

**A)Notice - that The Psalm is laid out as a series of responsive statements of awe and not commands to be in awe.**

I **will** extol You, my God, O King; And I **will** bless Your name forever and ever. 2 Every day I **will** bless You, and I **will** praise Your name forever and ever. 3 Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and His greatness is unsearchable.

**B)What is he doing - He is responding to the unsearchable greatness of God with praise and worship**

**C)Here is the idea- when our hearts are in the right place - when our hearts and minds are fixed on God**

**1)AWE OF HIM IS THE NATURAL RESULT**

**D)He continues - 4 One generation shall praise Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts.**

1)**In other words - being in awe is contagious.**  
Surf videos - Tyler / Scott

**When my kids were younger - we went with some friends one summer to Wyoming to visit the Grand Teton national park -**

A)Majestic scenery - we did that to introduce them to the Beauty of God in creation - **Share with them - something amazing!**

B)Take some time to get out of our normal setting to be awe-inspired at the beauty of God's creation.

C)Being in awe of God is a contagious thing! - You want to share it!

1)You have to share it - can't hold back!

Continues

5 I will **meditate** on the glorious splendor of Your majesty, and on Your wondrous works. 6 Men shall speak of the might of Your awesome acts, **and I will** declare Your greatness. 7 They shall utter the memory of Your great goodness, and shall sing of Your righteousness.

**That is the normal response of the heart that is right with God!**

A)To mediate on the splendor of his glorious majesty and wonderful works

B)To talk about it - to want to share it! - To sing - HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD!

**C)When our heart's are in that place of being AWESTRUCK/ the normal outflow of our daily lives - we can't help but worship God**

**But therein lies the problem:**

A)There are two things in our lives that we are constantly dealing with that rob of us of being in that place of BEING AWESTRUCK

B)OF constantly living in that place of being awe-inspired with God

C)What are those two things that rob us?

1)One is our daily routine - the other is THE daily distractions -

D)The circumstances that come into our lives - the trials the difficulty

1)that move us from focusing on the awesomeness of God right in front of us

2)**to only being focused on the problem we are facing**

**Example: Last week my wife and I had the privilege of spending a week in Tahoe**

A)Some friends hooked us up and gifted us with a week at this gorgeous resort

B)Now I had not vacationed in Tahoe in like 48 years- Once when I was a kid- our family went there - that trip led to my dad getting saved/  
**another time**

**C)I had forgotten how beautiful it was! - Stunning - we had a wonderful week of bike riding - exploring - awesome.**

D)The Day we were leaving - we got onto highway 80 only to discover that there was some major construction traffic happening

**We were crawling!**

A)The whole time I was watching my GPS - our 9.5 hour driving home was now reading 10 hrs - 10.5 hrs - 11hrs

B)Inside I am seething - I am so mad - see I am a planner -

1) I had planned out our trip perfectly to miss the LA traffic -

C)Set to Get home in record time -before our grandson went to bed

1)Now that was not going to happen! - TICKED!

**As I sat there inching away in the traffic - in my mind and heart I was cursing Cal Trans - this is ridiculous**

A)Whoever is in charge should be fired - they should only do this type of work at night when less people are on the road

B)I am just getting madder by the minute.

**C)Like my whole trip was going to be ruined by that hour stuck in traffic.**

**You know what I should have been doing?**

A)The slowness of the drive as we were inching away - was giving me the perspective to take in the beauty of that part of the drive

B)I could have been snapping pics on my phone - we were going so slow!

C)But I was so distracted by the problem in front of me and how my agenda was being ruined by the construction traffic

**Here is what is interesting:**

A)When we finally reached the bridge that they were working on, and I saw what they were working on

B)I realized - no way ... done that at night - I had to repent of my complaining!

C)Repent of allowing an inconvenience from robbing me from basking in the glory that was right in front of me!

**Friends that is what happens to all of us - constantly!**

A)Every day we are surrounded by things that should move us into being awe-inspired of God –

**B)But we get distracted by our circumstances and miss it!**

1)Only able to focus on the problem, the challenge, the trial that we are facing - we get robbed

C)I really think that is a tactic of the enemy - get us distracted -

1)so that we are not living in awe of God - his splendor and majesty

D)And we are not passing that on to our kids - and grandkids and those whom God brings in our path

E)We become a generation **of complainers instead of praisers!**

1)We are far too pre-occupied with the problems that we miss the glory

**As I sat there on HWY 80 that day - repenting from my bad attitude.**

A)I started to think about the people whose routine is to drive that road every day.

B)Because of their routine - how many of them have grown immune to the beauty that is around them everyday?

C)It no longer leaves them awe-inspired, but it is simply a road that they travel on.

**D)Once again I THOUGHT how often does that happen to us -**

E)we get so caught up in our routines - that we miss the majesty of God

1)That is right in front of us on a daily basis?

**Here is what I want to do in the rest of our time today.**

A)I want to share a few things about God's creation and our redemption that **I hope** will leave you awe-inspired today!

B)1<sup>st</sup> Concerning Creation - We could talk all day

C)But there 3 things that I have been fascinated by the last few weeks

**1<sup>st</sup> is Bird Migration: Fascinating**

A)The golden Plover travels from Alaska to Hawaii for 88 hours over the Pacific Ocean—over 2,500 miles;

B)It flies this great distance without stopping once for rest or food.

C)How do they know how to do that - God has ingrained it in them!

**Or take The Arctic tern**

A)The Arctic tern travels from the North Pole to the South Pole twice a year—a **round-trip flight of more than 20,000 miles.**

B)Here is what is interesting - Scientists have tried many different experiments to try to confuse migratory birds.

C)Instead of confusing the birds, the scientists themselves are astounded that, no matter how they try to trick them,

1)the birds always follow the same migration patterns, & always start on their long journeys at the same times.

D)God has built into them this incredible navigational system

**Who here is a fan of the Home Alone Movie - Christmas Classic**

A) Did you know there is like 6 sequels to that movie - I knew there was a Home alone 2.... Resort free movies ....there are actually 6 movies

B) How many times can you tell the same story - **a kid accidentally being left behind by a parent**

C) Moment of truth - Any parents here who have accidentally lost your child even for a few minutes? (Banned from Children's ministry)

**Anyone ever lose your child on purpose?**

A) Imagine leaving a 5 week old to fend for themselves? - CPS

B) That is exactly what the Bristle-thighed Curlew does.

1) When the chicks are just five weeks old, winter comes there in Alaska -

C) The parents - say hey kids too cold here - headed to the tropics

**They fly off over 2500 miles to places like Fiji or the Hawaiian islands -**

A) Leaving their little ones to fend for themselves

B) Until they are strong enough to make the trip on their own

C) So the chicks gorge themselves on berries and insects. As their little bodies become stronger,

1) accumulating the all-important reserves of **fat fuel** for the long journey ahead

**Then one day, the birds launch themselves into the sky, and, finding the right winds,**

A) They head off on the long nonstop flight south to their ancestral wintering grounds.

B) The curlew Chicks are on their own, without a guide.

**C) Scientists have determined that these birds have this built in compass and navigational system -**

1) that gets them where they need to go

D) Who put that built in Compass in them - God!

**Or take Geese - ever notice how they fly in V formation - why? Is it because it looks cool?**

A) They do this to conserve energy -

B) They use the slipstream created by the bird in front of them to conserve energy and make it easier to fly

C) Our Navy fighter Jets - fly in the same formation to conserve fuel

**Watch the geese how they will take turns leading**

A) One bird gets tired flying with the most wind resistance -

B) After time the lead bird will drop to the back of the pack while another moves up

C) Bird Migration is an incredible example of the majesty and splendor of the wondrous works of God!

**Here is another - The Human Eye**

A) Charles Darwin was so troubled by the perfection of the eye that he once remarked that "The whole idea of something so flawless like an eye, could have been formed by natural selection, seems, I freely confess, absurd in the highest degree." Darwin

**B) Another evolutionist - Robert Jastrow said this:**

"The eye is a marvelous instrument, resembling a telescope of the highest quality, with a lens, an adjustable focus, a variable diaphragm for controlling the amount of light, and optical corrections for spherical and chromatic aberration. The eye appears to have been designed; no designer of telescopes could have done better. How could this marvelous instrument have evolved by chance, through a succession of random events?" Evolutionist Robert Jastrow

C) Your eyes focus on 50 different objects every second.

- Your eyes can distinguish approximately 10 million different colors.
- Your iris (the colored part of your eye) has 256 unique characteristics; your fingerprint has just 40.

D) Your eye is the fastest contracting muscle in the body, contracting in less than 1/100th of a second.

1) The optic nerve contains more than one million nerve cells.

### **E)Second most Powerful Organ in the human body**

1)The eye can develop about 36,000 bits of information an hour.

The human eye is a truly amazing phenomenon. Although accounting for just one fourth-thousandth of an adult's weight, it is the medium which processes some 80% of the information received by its owner from the outside world. The tiny retina contains about 130 million rod-shaped cells, which detect light intensity and transmit impulses to the visual cortex of the brain by means of some one million nerve fibers, while nearly six million cone-shaped cells do the same job, but respond specifically to color variation. The eyes can handle 500,000 messages simultaneously, and are kept clear by ducts producing just the right amount of fluid with which the lids clean both eyes simultaneously in one five-thousandth of a second. **John Blanchard**

### **The Bible is right when it says we are fearfully and wonderfully made**

A)We were just talking about the eye - Hrs - the brain

B)Did you know: our body contains about 5.6 liters (6 quarts) of blood.

C)The 5.6 liters of blood circulates through the body three times every minute.

### **D)In one day the heart pumping the blood in our body**

1) the blood travels a total of (12,000 miles)—that's four times the distance across the US from coast to coast.

### **E)We could go on and on in talking about the wonders of the Human body that would leave us in awe of God**

1)The glory, wonder and majesty of his artistic and creative design

### **Talk about the Solar System**

A)The Sun is like a giant nuclear engine.

B) It gives off more energy in a single second than mankind has produced since the Creation.

C)The Sun converts 8 million tons of matter into energy every single second, and has an interior temperature of more than 20 million degrees Celsius.

### **Planet earth has been positioned perfectly in the Solar system -**

A)If we were closer to the sun- we would fry.

B)Farther away - no life would be able to survive

C)Earth makes one complete rotation on its axis every 23 hours and 56 minutes-

1)that is by design - not random

### **Jupiter for instance rotates every 10 hours; Venus, every 243 days.**

A)If earth rotated every 10 hours like Jupiter, wind velocities would be extreme.

B)Jupiter has wind velocities of a thousand miles per hour.

### **C)If earth took 243 days to rotate like Venus,**

1)life could not exist because the days and nights would be too long, creating extremes of heat and cold.

D)Oxygen comprises 21 percent of the earth's atmosphere.

1)That precise figure makes life on earth possible.

### **Other factors contribute to earth's unique ability to support life**

A) Jupiter's enormous size and location serve as a protection to the earth

B)Our solar system also contains thousands of asteroids and meteoroids, that sometimes collide with planets.

C)But Jupiter size and strong gravitational pull keeps those large rocks from hitting earth

### **The earth's huge moon also protects us from many of rocks that cross our planet's path.**

A)The craters across the moon's surface demonstrate the frequency something has collided with the moon instead of earth.

B)The moon's South Pole—Aitken basin—is the largest known crater in our solar system.

1) It is five miles deep and 1500 miles across.

**C) The precise alignment of the planets in our solar system is another example of DIVINE DESIGN**

1) The Beauty and majesty and Genius of God as our Creator

**But do you know what is God's greatest creation? It is the Christian.**

For we are His workmanship, **created** in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2:10

**Workmanship = poema - masterpiece -**

**A) God never says of the planets - the oceans - the mountains or valleys**

**B) or any of the created animals or sea creatures - masterpiece - No only the Christian**

**C) Notice when He says We are his workmanship - not talking about - Man in General**

**D) Not talking about Human anatomy -**

Notice that verse in Ephesians 2:10 again - **For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus** for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

**E) Being IN CHRIST - That is what makes us his masterpiece**

**The Bible tells us that God spoke this world into existence!**

**A) God said and it was - The planets - the MTs - the Rivers the oceans - all the beauty we see around us**

**B) God just spoke it into existence**

**C) Every animal - every bird - every sea creature - God spoke and it was**

**1) Effortless**

**Even human beings - So intricate/ We read in Genesis - God SAID let us make man in our image**

**A) God spoke and man was formed - complete -**

**B) My point is this: The creative process of God was simple - Spoke it into existence!**

**C) Imagined - spoke - happened**

**But in order to make a Christian - a Christ follower - A) God had to send his son Jesus - to earth to die on a Cross - pay the price for sin**

**B) Man's rebellion marred God's creation -**

**1) Man broke God's one rule -**

**C) Sin infected THE HUMAN RACE - Virus**

**1) Spread - every human being infected at birth**

**Sin separated us from this magnificent God -**

**A) Left us doomed to be damned in our sin**

**B) God did something about it - My Son to Rescue - give his life a ransom**

**1) To pay the price for sin - Redeem fallen humanity**

**C) That is why the Christian is God's greatest creation - It cost him the most**

**1) His beloved son**

**The minute you put your faith in Jesus - what he did in dying for you on Calvary**

**A) Rising again on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day to give His life to all who embrace him**

**B) When you do that - God takes you from being in that place - sin - separation - doomed**

**1) Places you in Christ -**

**C) That is what makes you His Masterpiece!**

**D) God begins that work of transformation - Inside affects the outside**

**1) Forgiven - Declared Righteous in God's eyes**

**E) It is a work that God does - not something you do**

**So Only the Christian is given the title of Workmanship of masterpiece -**

**A) Paul tells us how that happens**

<sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not of works, lest anyone should boast. Ephesians 2:8-9

**B) Grace = undeserved favor**

**Notice how the Psalmist highlights for us as well the Grace and mercy of God in V8,9**

8 The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and great in mercy. 9 The Lord is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works.

**Mercy is not getting what we deserved**

A)Deserved Hell - Mercy

B)Grace is getting what we don't deserve - Heaven

1)Life instead of death

2) Hope instead of despair

C)Glorious

**Jesus was full of compassion - Sheep without a shepherd - in need of saving**

A)He responded - I am going to come to the rescue

B)God Continues to shower us with tender mercy - we sin - confess he is quick to forgive

**C)Mercies are new every morning!**

17 The Lord is righteous in all His ways, gracious in all His works. 18 The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth.

D)Near to all who call upon him

1)In need - Call on him - He hears

**Call upon him in truth! -**

A)Admit your need - desperation

B)WHY IT IS So important we see and focus on the majesty of God - Cry out to him

1)We see his majesty - our problems get seen in perspective of who he is

C)Cry out to him he is near

**Here today and not saved - no relationship with the God who made you**

A)First step - Embrace the truth - sinner in need of a savior - CALL ON HIM

**Prodigal - walked away - been living in rebellion**

A)How is that working out for you?

B)My guess - seen it often - moments of fun -

1)Sin is pleasurable for a season

C)Moments - but deep down you are miserable

**D)God says - Call out to me in truth - admit your rebellion**

1)Admit ready to turn from your sin - turn back to Jesus - OPEN ARMS -

**E)DON'T WAIT**