

A coworker from Virginia, who is working here in Oregon on temporary assignment made a comment to me recently, a comment that I had never heard someone say before. He had recently visited the Oregon Coast along with his wife and son. It was a beautiful day, and he made the comment. "I hope I never lose my "awe" when I look at the ocean. He went on to talk specifically about the beauty of the waves and how they just keep rolling on. He was like, "just think about it, for several thousand years", the waves just keep coming. They just keep rolling in.

1 Samuel 12:18

Then Samuel called on the LORD, and that same day the LORD sent thunder and rain. So all the people **stood in awe** of the LORD and of Samuel.

Because rain during the wheat harvest was uncommon, this thunderstorm was considered a sign from God.

Job 25 :2-3

"Dominion and awe belong to God;
he establishes order in the heights of heaven. Can his forces be numbered?
On whom does his light not rise?

Psalms 65:8

You answer us with awesome and righteous deeds, God our Savior,
the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas,
who formed the mountains by your power, having armed yourself with strength,
who stilled the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves,
and the turmoil of the nations.

The whole earth is **filled with awe** at your wonders; where morning dawns, where evening fades,
you call forth songs of joy.

Is it possible to lose the "awe" of God. Is it possible to lose the reverence and maximum amazement when we see the hand of God. My first thought was that it takes a pretty depraved mind to get to that point, where there is no wonderment in the things of God. What it really takes is sin.

The prophet Jeremiah describes how this can happen.

Jeremiah 2:19

Your wickedness will punish you; your backsliding will rebuke you. Consider then and realize how evil and bitter it is for you when you forsake the LORD your God and have no **awe** of me," declares the Lord, the LORD Almighty

It is sin that will cause a person to lose their awe of God.

Vs. 13 My people have committed two evils

Vs. 22 Although you wash yourself with lye and much soap, the stain of your sin is before me, declares the Lord God.

Vs. 32 My people have forgotten me days without number

Jeremiah clearly paints the picture of exactly how Gods children and lost their awe of him. It was sin, evil, and plainly forsaking him repeatedly.

I firmly believe the same loss could happen and will happen today, if we forsake him over and over and over again. If we deprioritize the things of God day after day after day, pretty soon, we no longer find amazement and wonder in the things around us that scream of the Almighty God.

I also believe that unrepented sin can also cause us to lose our awe of God. Satan would have it that way. He would love to keep us from meditating on the amazing gift of love. that was given us from Jesus. Satan would love to distract us day after day from worship the Awesome God, the God who deserves all awe and respect.

We have some much to be thankful for today,at this time of communion, because we have an eternal hope, we have forgiveness of sin. When we think of Jesus Christ, the Messiah, hanging on the cross, bleeding profusely, dying for our sins. Can we just say internally as we reflect, wow, I stand amazed in presence of Jesus the Nazarene, and wonder how he could love me, a sinner condemned unclean. How marvelous , how wonderful

Hebrews 12:28

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and **awe**

May our worship and communion today be given in reverence and awe.

Father in Heaven,

Thank you for your goodness, for your love, and for Jesus amazing sacrifice for our sins. Bless these emblems as we partake today ,and help our focus to be on you. Please forgive our sins.

In Jesus Name, Amen.