

Awe

Part 1-Standing in Awe when God is God

Acts 3:1-16

Three Possible Reasons for the Decline of the American Church...

1. Competing PRIORITIES

Then He said to them all: "Whoever wants to be My disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow Me." Luke 9:23 NIV

2. Playing RELIGION

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven." Matthew 7:21 NIV

3. Lack of EXPECTATIONS

The LORD is in His holy temple; let all the earth be silent before Him. Habakkuk 2:20 NIV

Annie Dillard quote (please have on a slide)

Why do people in church seem like cheerful, brainless tourists on a packaged tour of the Absolute? ... Does anyone have the foggiest idea what sort of power we blithely invoke? Or, as I suspect, does no one believe a word of it? The churches are children playing on the floor with their chemistry sets, mixing up a batch of TNT to kill a Sunday morning. It is madness to wear ladies' straw hats and velvet hats to church; we should all be wearing crash helmets. Ushers should issue life preservers and signal flares; they should lash us to our pews. For the sleeping GOD may wake someday and take offense, or the waking GOD may draw us to where we can never return. Annie Dillard

What Should We Expect?

¹² *When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this*

man walk? ¹³ The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified His servant Jesus... Acts 3:12-13

Who is this God of “our Fathers”?

For Abraham and Isaac, God was a DELIVERER.

For Jacob and his family, God was a PROVIDER.

For Moses and the Israelites at the Red Sea, God was an INTERCESSOR.

For Elijah on Mt. Carmel, God was an ANSWERER.

For Hezekiah facing the Assyrian army, God was a RESCUER.

For Nehemiah and those who returned to Jerusalem after the exile, God was a RESTORER.

For the Woman Caught in Adultery, God was her FORGIVER.

For the ten lepers who were cleansed, God was their HEALER.

For Saul the great persecutor of the church, God was his REDEEMER.

For me and you, God is _____?

If this is true of God...

- **We should EXPECT God to come in his MANIFEST POWER shake up our worship gatherings.**
- **We should EXPECT GOD to WORK MIRACLES every single Sunday that we gather for worship.**
- **We should EXPECT God to be all of these and more EVERY SINGLE DAY of our lives, not just in worship on Sundays!!**

We should not be surprised when God is God!!