

# That's My Jesus Wonderful- Part 2

**The Purpose of This Series:** Too much about Jesus gets lost in the shuffle during Christmas and in our preparations for the next year. These four messages, of this series, are to help us press through the clutter and better identify who our Jesus is. These are not your typical seasonal sermons, but they are to assist us to better equip us to know who Christ is and in that to better know who we are in Christ.

**The Purpose of This Message:** It is so easy in our day and time that we lose the relevance of the existing God. He is, and at times we wonder. But the wonder should come from being shocked with the “reality” of who He is rather than the “wonder” of where He is at. To Wonder is an extravagant understanding of an incoming barrage of insightful truths. This message is to put the Wow back in the Wonderful Jesus. Not only should we visit these truths often, but we should learn by them and know them so that we may leap to greater opportunity of insight that requires faith based upon these wonderful truths.

## **Intro:**

There are so many people on earth whose lives are in complete confusion; they don't have God or have peace of any kind. They are far from the love and care of God's mercy and grace in salvation. I've said this more than once, people who are truly hurting and are lost always ask the right questions. They know they are on a search. They know they are missing something. They know that they want life to become different. They know that what they are looking for is not in anything that they have found. They are looking, searching, some desperate, many discontent. And one big question that they need the answer to the most is, **"What is so wonderful about Jesus?"**

We do serve a mighty Jesus. And if you have given your life to Him I assure you that there is something different, a “Wow” factor that He can only provide. **"What is so wonderful about Jesus?" We must remind ourselves just how important it is to remind ourselves that Jesus is wonderful.**

**J.B. Phillips** tells the story that took place almost 50 years ago. A survey was done with several, older teenagers. They were given a question and were responsible to answer it without any reflection, here is the question:

### **“Does God understand radar?”**

In nearly every case the students responded “No!” Then it was followed by a laugh as their thoughts helped them realize how absurd their response was. But in the back of their minds they held to the idea that God was quiet inadequate for modern days. (J.B. Phillips, *Your God Is Too Small*, Pg. 24)

There was a Sunday School Teacher who asked their children to write down the ideas as to what God was like. The answers, with few exceptions, began something like this:

### **“God is a very old man living in Heaven...”**

This is understandable, given that God is ageless and He has lived for all eternity, He is

certainly an “OLD” God. But there is a real **danger that this “old” God is perceived as “Old-fashioned.”** I perceive that God knew exactly that idea might pop up and He already addressed it through the apostle Paul,

*“Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.”*  
Hebrews 13:8

He is old, there has never been a beginning nor will there be an end, but He is **Ageless!** Many may have the concept that the God “of old,” may not be capable of handling the present, being a “present help in time of trouble” and lead us to a hopeful future, but He is more than capable. Our technology has never made Him less.

If the test given to the teenagers over 50 years ago was presented today, to a group of young students, the question would be more like, “Could God could play Halo 2, or mix a CD on the computer.” WE have a tendency to be convinced that God can do what we know and have conquered, but He is out of touch and unable to take care of things hard for us and the business for today.

**UT-** I barely remember this and I'm glad I found it written in a book. On May 5, 1994 I was on the University of Texas campus and found a banner with this quote from the “Voice of the Student Body,” it read,

**“If it is happening or has happened we interpret it as tradition and we are out to change tradition.”**

In other words, if it has happened or is happening now, we will not recognize it as having any relevance in our life. We want our own way, our own world, we don't need your help! There is an arrogance in that statement that cuts me to the bone. Their statement was making a point, all that has been is of lesser use or needed to calmly lay down, because they are roadblocks to a brighter future. We don't need your ways nor your old God, we are going to define our own future. How insane is that, without God? This pride has become more loudly displayed and massively distributed in the 15 years since I first read it. And that attitude has some bearing on the way our nation is being ran today. We are in a great void of God in our country and in a great rebellion to any consciousness of Him.

In other ways God is treated with reverence and respect, but in a “Great Old Man” way. He is seen as able to help the past but He needs help to pull out the future. He can't cope with the complexities and problems of life today...or can He? **There is a duty to recognize and respect this “Old Man” but there is no feeling or inclination to worship Him as the living God. This is a painful breakdown and needs confronting, as I will in this message today.**

Ray Stedman makes a firm observation of the Colossians who were in danger of not only losing a proper sense of the profound power and eminence of God but that of Jesus Christ as well. He says,

“Many true believers appear to have little sense that Jesus is active in their lives here and now. Some churches seem to treat Jesus as the **British treat their monarch: they strip him or her of all political power, and do not expect the sovereign to do anything at all except to look good. They treat their monarchs with great respect and reverence, and pay much lip service, but they really do not expect anything**

**from them. That is the way Christians all too often treat the Lord Jesus.”**

**Storm On The Sea:** I'm not sure if you have ever stood by the seashore with a storm out on the ocean's horizon. This is way out of my comfort zone, coming from West Texas and now Western KS. I remember looking out at a storm and thinking, "Thank you God I'm not out there!" I guess I keep having images of Gillian and the skipper wrestling to guide the minnow to a safe rest. An ocean with a storm makes me feel very comfortable. I just don't get it, it's not in my experience. But you put a tornado somewhere behind my house I will more than likely be tempted to get on the roof of my house to watch it. It has been my experience to watch tornados from a distant and up close. My familiarity of something so awesome has caused me to lose the "fear" of something greater than me, something that is devastating and mighty! I need the "fear" of the sea on me when it comes to God! That is the "Wonderful" I am talking about.

### **Isaiah: Wonderful God!**

God was speaking through Isaiah all the things that were going to come to pass because they had become distracted with other things in life than God. God specifically tells him,

*"The LORD Almighty is the one you are to regard as holy, he is the one you are to fear, he is the one you are to dread..."*

**Isaiah 8:13**

Isaiah continues to write down the words of God when a ray of hope shines through in these words:

*"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."*

**Isaiah 9:6**

**"His name shall be called..."** Note the word "name" is singular and not plural. Not His "names", His "name." **Jesus displays all the following characteristics at he same time.** He is saying this for clarity, the more He becomes revealed, and the more that you and I come to know Him, we can't but help give him that name, wonderful, counselor, and so on.

When we look at the works which Jesus did in healing, raising the dead, casting out demons, freeing the captives, etc., we have to say that everything that Jesus did was 'wonderful'.

- He is a Physician Who never loses a patient.
- He is a Captain Who never loses battle.
- He is a Teacher Who perfectly teaches every student.
- He is a Friend Who sticks closer than a brother.
- He is a Counselor Who always give the right advice.

He is a Savior Who completely saves all who come to Him.

### **Wonderful: You Wouldn't Get It!**

#### **Judges 13-**

At the time of this story, the Israelites had just become enslaved to the **Philistines**. This was the **longest bondage any of the Jews had lived during the time of the**

**Judges.** This was no ordinary bondage either, the **Philistines worshiped Dagon, Ashtaroth (Astartes) & Baal-zebub** (Baal = "master, possessor, husband"). They were **worshippers of Satan** himself. As Israel entered Canaan to defeat the enemy found there, every piece of land had its own spiritual deity, its "owner" or God. The term they used for God was "Baal". Yahweh was the Israelites "Baal," in all innocence. But it didn't take long before confusion slipped in and the worship of Yahweh started blending with the Baal rituals. It appears also that the 40 year period of oppression did not end until the Battle of Mizpah (1Sa 7:7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13) when Samuel led Israel to victory over their Philistine foes. They were not finally defeated until the early years of David's reign (2Sa 5:17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25). The Philistine dominion began before the birth of Samson [Jdg 13:5], and was in force during Samson's 20 years' judgeship [Jdg 14:4; 15:20].

Philistines were those who settled in the plain and low hill country of SW Palestine. They organized a "**pentapolis**" or **confederation of 5 cities** (**Gaza**, Ashkelon, and Ashdod on the coastal highway, with Gath and Ekron on the edge of the foothills of Judea). The Jews weren't able to occupy that territory during their conquest of the land (Jos 13:1,2).

Manoah and his wife had just come under the domination of the Philistines. Life was uncertain and there was little hope in the land. When the angel had come to tell him about having a son, that was an astounding thought in itself, he thought of only the amazement of the moment. But what was going to happen would take place some **20 years later, the assistance of Samson to help Israel to come out of bondage or slavery?** That was something that could hardly be imagined. But even imagination couldn't get it right.

**Manoah and his wife Zorah**, were told by the angel,

*"The angel of the LORD appeared to her and said, "You are sterile and childless, but you are going to conceive and have a son."*

Judges 13:3

*"Then Manoah inquired of the angel of the LORD, "What is your **name**, so that we may honor you when your word comes true?" He replied, "Why do you ask my name? **It is beyond understanding.**"*

Judges 13:17-18

- KJV- "**Secret**"
- NLT- "**You wouldn't understand it if I told you.**"
- NKJV & ESV- "**Wonderful**"

**"To fully understand God is impossible—To fully worship Him is imperative."**

- **The word "name" is translated in the Old Testament literally- "A mark or a brand."** Parents often give children names that described their parent's hopes and future expectations regarding that child. People were given the names they were given for a reason.
- **Wonderful** *pele'* H6382- (**extraordinary, hard to understand thing**) admirable, distinguished. **Wonderful means, miraculous, incomprehensible, He will fulfill,**

accomplish, be consecrated, separated, devoted. Jesus name, "Secret", and "Wonderful," are both found in the Old Testament.

**Manoah:** Manoah's account with the angel is one of mystery, intrigue and special interest. In this particular encounter, Manoah wanted to honor the angel, to give him recognition for telling him a prediction, that if it came true, he could correctly give him recognition. But the angels reaction was not your typical response. He was not impressed with simple, present points of recognition because he understood the grander picture of eternity.

As one can readily discern from carefully studying the context of Judges 13, this Angel is no ordinary (created) angel, but all indicators point to the fact that this Angel is the pre-incarnate representation of the Lord Jesus Christ. Notice the greatest number of appearances of the "Angel of the LORD" in the book of Judges, which describe some of the darkest days in Israel's entire history.

**When God wants to do something really great in His world, He doesn't send an army but a BABY.**

- GOD wanted to deliver Israel from the Philistines: JUDGES 13- SAMSON
- GOD wanted to fulfill His promise of a great nation He gave **Abraham and Sarah, Isaac.**
- GOD wanted to deliver Israel from Egyptian bondage, God sent baby **Moses to Amram and Jochebed** (Ex 6:20)
- GOD wanted to bring needed revival back to Israel God gave baby **Samuel to Hannah** (1Samuel 1:14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20).
- GOD wanted to fulfill His promise to all mankind (Ga 4:4), God gave Baby Jesus to Mary; and that **baby grew up to die on the cross for the sins of the world.**
- **GOD wanted to bring this earth to a greater understanding of who He is, God gave a baby to your parents.** If you knew you would play such a crucial part of the Jewish history and the lineage of David and Jesus, you wouldn't be able to understand it, it would be too wonderful for you. The angel just responded, "**You wouldn't get it if I told you.**" If you had any idea what was going on with your life right now and how it serves God in a greater way you would be amazed...you would be in Wonder!

### **Paul's Picture of Jesus: Colossians 1**

*"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation."*

Colossians 1:15

*"For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together."*

Colossians 1:16-17

Can you get this? If we are talking about "wonder," can you grasp this astounding fact that just in verse 15 are two incredible characteristics that must proceed with "He is," or "Jesus is." Without an understanding that Jesus came to this earth as a full expression of God, not just a representative of God. Many people make this mistake, but it is not a "simple" mistake,

it is a deadly one.

The image that Jesus “IS” is the Image (1504) (*eikon*), of God; an artistic representation, as one might see on a coin or statue. Paul was extremely expressive when he talks about the image of Jesus,

**“Satan, the god of this evil world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe, so they are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News that is shining upon them. They don't understand the message we preach about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God.”**

**II Corinthians 4:4**

Paul is telling us that the “Wonder” the “Wow” Factor of God is gone because Satan has caused there to be a blindness on the “MINDS” of those who don't believe. There were a lot of things I didn't get while attending school, it wasn't that it wasn't taught, it was just never caught. I struggled reading and writing, spelling was and still is a challenge. But I “got” math, Algebra, Trig, and all the rest. It made sense to me. It was as if I were “blind” in my mind to many things, but I saw the “glorious light” of math. I have worked with several people breakthrough and see the light in math. It is an incredible experience, but nothing like someone getting a full view and partial understanding of God by accepting Jesus Christ into their heart and life.

Notice here a **powerful fact: People were blinded, unable to see the glorious light shining on them.** That light of Christ is not shut out of an area or a country. According to this scripture, darkness does not exist, only blindness! This is why we can boldly go anywhere, because the light is already there, even before you get there! There is “NO” darkness in our city where the light don't shine! That should put a “WoW” factor into your heart right now. In homes around our community, heal the blindness. Let your light shine on us!

Let's go back to Colossians 1 and look at the Characteristics of God we find in Jesus,

The first Characteristic that Paul discusses in Colossians 1,

**“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.”**

**Colossians 1:15**

### 1. **Jesus IS The Image Of The Invisible God.**

How are we supposed to grasp that? In an age where anything goes, over stimulation, massive accomplishments, skepticism to the max...(I heard recently that there are people who are actually returning taking courses in Shakespeare and other classical writers of literature, because the writings are being discussed rather than it being a class to critique if Shakespeare actually wrote the classics or not.). **How does knowing Jesus “is” the image of the invisible God affect us in a “Wow” manner?**

- **It helps us stop searching.** If the search for God is over then I can spend all my time **knowing Him!** The Wow in that is I don't have to be everywhere looking for all of Him, He is “one” God, an intimate, almighty God. You might say, “Well, I'm not looking for God.” Well, actually you are. All the things that you “wonder” toward are a hunger for a satisfaction that only God can bring into your life. You may think you are not looking for God, but you are searching for a

god. Something that has purpose and life. You don't stop living when you find God, you stop limiting yourself to being satisfied with synthetic portions of life.

- **It forces us to dig deeper** to get understanding. In one sense, **God made it simpler for us, but He didn't make it easier! God didn't dumb Himself down by sending Christ into the world, He specified the complication!** God is not and will not be a simple "do." He is a great mystery and an overwhelming truth that **you can spend your life getting to know and understand. But He is as simple as the freedom one feels in their heart once they have opened their heart to them.**
- **It confronts the "god's" within us.** There is a great challenge in accepting Christ as the Son of God, the "image" of God, we either accept everything about him and conform to His image or we follow after another God.

**Any place where Christ is not ruling in our heart is a god we like better!**

## 2. **Jesus IS The Firstborn Over All Creation.**

**Six times** the Lord Jesus is declared to be the **first-born of God** (see Romans 8:29; Colossians 1:15, 18; Hebrews 1:6; 12:23; Revelation 1:5). **First-born** (4416) (*prototokos* from *protos* = first, foremost, in place order or time; rank dignity + *titko* = beget, to bear, bring forth) can mean first-born chronologically (Lk 2:7), but **refers primarily to position, rank, priority of position** and emphasizes quality or kind, not time with the idea of "**preeminence**". There is seldom any question as to the "First Lady" is, she is the president's wife. It is a "position" or "rank," no one can call themselves the "First Lady" other than the president's wife. And no one can be the first born other than Christ. In both Greek and Jewish culture, the first-born was the son who had the right of inheritance. He was not necessarily the first one born chronologically. The first-born clearly means **highest in rank, not first created.**

When we read in John 1:1, The "Word" is referring to a **divine Person**, not a **philosophical given**. In the incarnation, the birth of Christ, the invisible God became visible in Christ; deity was clothed with humanity (Matthew 17:2). God is in Christ: visible, audible, approachable, knowable, and available. All that God is, Christ is.

After resurrecting Jesus from the dead, God gave Jesus authority over the Earth (Matthew 28:18). **The Scriptures Declare Three Things About Jesus:**

1. **Jesus' Preexistence: He created the world, (Past)**
2. **Jesus' Sovereignty: He saved the world, (Present)**
3. **Jesus' Redemption: He rules the world. (Eternity)**

*"I will also appoint him my firstborn, the most exalted of the kings of the earth."  
Psalm 89:27*

These passages declare the preexistence, the sovereignty, and the redemption that Christ offers.

Charles Wesley laid this who idea out in a song he wrote called, "**Hark the Herald Angels Sing**":

*"Christ by highest heav'n adored  
Christ the everlasting Lord!*

*Late in time behold Him come  
Offspring of a Virgin's womb  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see  
Hail the incarnate Deity  
Pleased as man with man to dwell  
Jesus, our Emmanuel  
Hark! The herald angels sing  
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

Walter Martin, founder of Christian Research Institute ("Bible Answer Man") wrote,

"The word "firstborn" (*prototokos*) refers not to the first one created or born, but to **the one who has the preeminence or the right to rule as an heir has the right to rule over his predecessor's estate**. The **same term** is used in the Greek translation of the Old Testament (Septuagint or LXX) in **Ge 25:33**, where **Esau** actually **sells his "right of the firstborn" to Jacob** because he is hungry. It is also used in **Ex 4:22** by Jehovah regarding Israel as His "**firstborn" nation**, the nation that receives the blessings of His kingdom. (See also Ps 89:27; Ge 49:3; and Jer 31:9, cf. Ge 41:51, 52.) This is the same meaning that "firstborn" carries in Col 1:15, 18 regarding Jesus Christ, and in Hebrews 11:17 regarding Isaac, who was Abraham's "son of promise," or "firstborn," but, having been born after Ishmael, not literally his first son born."

**God was not transitioning out and phasing Jesus in. When Jesus came to this earth, God was not in transition, neither was Jesus. What God was transitioning was man! He was giving humanity the opportunity to Know God in a personal way, no walls, no resistance, forgiven, loved, received!**

See, Jesus can say what He wants about Himself because it is true about Him. He is not attempting to "save" you as He is first attempting to have you realize who He is, He is Lord! The government was placed upon His shoulders and He did not shrink back from that responsibility or the duty to capture full custody of it. Lovingly, He is Lord of this earth and eternity, it's a fact and He will not draw away from it nor will He manipulate His Kingdom for fear of being disliked, misunderstood or thought harsh. He is without any pride or revenge, He is a faithful master and we must choose if we are to serve Him. And you know what? **He looks like God!**

### 3. **Jesus IS Creator of All.**

**"For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together."**

**Colossians 1:16-17**

**By Him** (3754) (*en*) is literally "*in Him*", the preposition "in" (Greek = *en*) denoting that Christ is the sphere within which the work of creation takes place. Vine adds that

"In Him" "describes Him as **the Designer, the One Who, in fellowship with the Father, determined the condition of all things and the laws which govern and control them.**"

Jesus is "first-born over all creation" and is therefore **preexistent to all things created**. He is **not a creature** but the **eternal Creator** (John 1:10). **God created the world through Christ and redeemed the world through Christ** (Hebrews 1:2-4).

A simple illustration of this is, if there is something physical you don't like about yourself, you are actually not liking the way Jesus is taking care of business. One way to look at this is, one of the greatest victories that one can overcome in their life is accepting who we are in every aspect. If you never take responsibility for who you are then you will or more than likely are constantly blaming others for the way you turned out, your mother or father, your spouse, your family, your city, even Satan or God. You can be angry with God, but you are where you are because it is easier to blame someone else for your dislikes and frustrations rather than moving on and making difficult and painful decisions. You live as if someone truly has control to hold you where you are right now in you are in your life.

The word "consist" is a Greek word which means "to be held together". If you ask Science what holds an atom together the average scientist will say "nuclear power". But what is that? Scientists disagree over the exact nature of the atom. Some hold to the cubic model (1902), the plum-pudding model (1904), the Saturnian model (1904), and the Rutherford model (1911), or the Bohr model (1913). In each model the scientists try to explain how various atoms stay together, since the electrons that orbit inside the atom are negatively charged and the nucleus or center is positively charged. Opposites attract, and the atom itself is positive and negative. However when like atoms are aligned their negative outer charges should cause them – like a magnet where like poles were pressed together – to separate. Yet this is not the case. The Scripture tells us that "by Him all things consist – or are held together". The God Who created all things holds all things together.

**Seven times in six verses Paul mentions "all creation," "all things" and "everything,"** stressing that Christ is supreme over all. His emphatic repetition of "all things" which would **include the seen and the unseen world!**

- **Created** (2936) (*ktizo*) in the NT is always used of an act of God creating something out of nothing.
- **Heavens** (3772) (*ouranos*) refers to the vaulted expanse of the sky with all things visible in it and in context refers to the portion or portions of the universe generally distinguished from planet earth.
- **Earth** (1093) (*ge*) is planet earth, the terra firma on which we tread.
- **Visible** (3707) (*horatos*) that which can be seen by the human eye.
- **Invisible** (517) (*aoratos* from *a* = without + *horao* = see) is that which cannot be seen with the physical eye.

**"Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made."**

**John 1:3**

1. Saturn's rings are 500,000 miles in circumference, but only about a foot thick.
2. The star Antares is 60,000 times larger than our sun. If the sun were the size of a softball, the star Antares would be the size of a house.

3. The earth travels around the sun about eight times the speed of a bullet fired from a gun.
4. There are more insects in one square mile of rural land than there are human beings on the entire earth.
5. Bees make their own air conditioning. When the weather gets hot, and threatens to melt the wax in the hive, one group of bees will go to the entrance of the hive, and another will stay inside. They will then flap their wings all together, making a cross draft that pulls the hot air out of the hive, and draws cooler air inside.
6. A single human chromosome contains twenty billion bits of information. How much information is that? If written in ordinary books, in ordinary language, it would take about four thousand volumes.

#### 4. Jesus IS Leader of All

*“And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the **supremacy.**”*

Colossians 1:18

*“For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.”*

Colossians 1:19-20

*“Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation- if you continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel.”*

Colossians 1:21-23a

#### WOW!

**ShamWOW!** Have you ever seen a commercial and thought, “The main reason I would never purchase that product is because I can't stand how bad the commercial is.” I purchased one this last year that really lived up to its name. I can't tell you how impressed I am with it, it really does work.

I am more impressed with how God satisfies my soul. I know that you have have heard all the commercials for it and you have been turned off because of all the bad presentations. But I want to tell you today, **Jesus is WOW! Impressively WOW!**

- **Solomon-** When the Queen of Sheba came and visited Solomon she saw all that he had done and all those that sered him and she responded,

*“She said to the king, “The report I heard in my own country about your achievements and your wisdom is true. But I did not believe these things until I came and saw with my own eyes. **Indeed, not even half was told me; in wisdom and wealth you have far exceeded the report I heard.**”*

I Kings 10:6-7

- **You And I-** Now, after understanding the “wonder” that the Queen of Sheba had of Solomon's kingdom, “imagine” with me, yes, take a “wonder” with me what God has in

store for those who trust in His name and believe on Him,

***“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.”***

**Ephesians 3:20-21**

This incident happened about the year 1400 B.C. Isaiah would give us more about this secret name 700 years later. This secret name, as an adjective, means, concealed or hid from the knowledge of all persons except the individuals concerned. In the book of Judges, it is used as a noun, and means, a thing not discovered, and therefore unknown.

### **What Do You Do With God's Wonder?**

#### **1. Recognize God's Wonder Is Bigger Than You!**

For about the first 36 chapters of Job, his “friends” give him all their wise counsel and ideas of who God was and what He was doing in Job's life. They were all giving their opinions and then God confronts *only* Job in Chapter 38 as He visits him in a “whirlwind” or a storm of some sort, much like a tornado. It's humorous to see Job questioned by God in this manner, but it should also be a concern of ours. God asks Job,

***“Who is this that questions my wisdom with such ignorant words?”***

**Job 38:2 (NLT)**

For the next two chapters, 71 verses later, God reveals a few of His wonders:

- ***“Who keep the sea inside its boundaries...” (Job 38:8)***
- ***“Have you ever commanded the morning to appear and caused the dawn to rise in the east?” (Job 38:12)***
- ***“Where does light come from, and where does darkness go?” (Job 38:19)***
- ***“Can you shout to the clouds and make it rain?” (Job 38:34)***
- ***“Is it your wisdom that makes the hawk soar and spread its wings toward the south?” (Job 39:26)***

And then God seems to catch His breath a minute to ask Job another question,

***“Do you still want to argue with the Almighty? You are God's critic, but do you have the answers?”***

**Job 40:2 (NLT)**

This is where you realize that you should have never said anything. “Whistle Pete,” that's the name given to someone who knows it all.

***“I'm speechless, in awe—words fail me. I should never have opened my mouth! I've talked too much, way too much. I'm ready to shut up and listen.”***

**Job 40:3-4 (The Message)**

See, Job was finished, but God wasn't. He was just getting on a roll. In Job 40:6-7 God tells Job from the whirlwind that **He has a few more questions, for the next 56 verses** God throws Job one **incredible “Wonder” after another**. And Job eventually cries uncle in Job 42:3

*"You asked, 'Who is this that questions my wisdom with such ignorance?' It is I—and I was talking about things I knew nothing about, things far too wonderful for me."*

Job 42:3 (NLT)

I'd say, if you want to know the wonders of God, go and learn about Job, then you might realize how smart you really are. We should cry out with the Psalmist,

*"Open my eyes to see the wonderful truths in your instructions."*

Psalm 119:18

*"Your laws are wonderful. No wonder I obey them!"*

Psalm 119:129

### **What Do You Do With God's Wonder?**

1. **Recognize God's Wonder Is Bigger Than You!**
2. **Recognize God's Wonder With Your Voice And Mouth!**

**I Chronicles 16:1-7**- David had the Ark of the Lord brought and placed inside the tent that he had prepared for it. There was quite a service that day, offerings and sacrifices of all kinds, all kinds of people were appointed to pray and praise God with their voices and with instruments. And David handed out a song that he had written to be sung,

*"Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his **wonderful acts**. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice. Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always. **Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced...**"*

I Chronicles 16:8-12

*"Declare his glory among the nations, his **marvelous** deeds among all peoples."*

I Chronicles 16:24

*"Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all peoples."*

Psalm 96:3 (NKJV)

*"Sing a new song to the Lord, for he has done wonderful deeds. His right hand has won a mighty victory; his holy arm has shown his saving power!"*

Psalm 98:1 (NLT)

Webster defines the word praise as to say good things about and it is synonymous to words such as admire, commend, extol, honor, and worship. A definition of Christian praise is the joyful thanking and adoring of God, the celebration of His goodness and grace.

### **Who is to praise God?**

*"Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Praise the LORD."*

Psalm 150:6

### **When do we praise God?**

*"I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips."*

## Psalm 34:1

### Why do we praise God?

*"Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you. I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands."*

Psalm 63:3-4

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1. **Recognize God's Wonder Is Bigger Than You!**
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3. **Recognize God's Wonder To Increase Our Faith!**

There are so many who believe that if we could just see a miracle, some sort of the power of God, then all heaven would break loose. But look what the Psalmist Asaph said about Israel,

*"So each generation should set its hope anew on God, not forgetting his glorious miracles and obeying his commands."*

Psalm 78:7

*"They forgot what he had done— the great wonders he had shown them, the miracles he did for their ancestors..."*

Psalm 78:11-12a

- God led them through the **Red Sea** (VS. 13)
- God led them by a **cloud by day and fire by night** (VS. 14)
- God split the **rock for water** (VS. 15-16)
- God provided **food in the wilderness** (VS. 20-31)

*"But in spite of this, the people kept sinning. Despite his wonders, they refused to trust him."*

Psalm 78:32

It's so easy to say after you hear of something powerful that is happening, the "wonder" of God is going on, "Man, if something like that happened, that would be so cool." And I would have to agree. As a matter of fact, I would want it to happen. The great power of God that I've experienced in my life are so incredible, but it was not those new experiences that necessarily push us forward. But it is the old stories that can do it as well. We can never stop telling the stories. And we can never stop telling our story!

Look at two things that happen because people forgot the Wonders of God:

1. **They Kept Sinning-** I believe that one of the reasons why there is no conviction today in who you would call believer's is because there is no recollection as to what our God has done. We have forgot the wonders, and when you forget what God can and will do, you will be enticed to wonder into dangerous territory.
2. **They Refused To Trust Him-** Refusing to trust God is a natural event that occurs after you begin sinning. Eventually you forget what the Lord has done. We need to bring back some of the old songs or sing new ones of

who the Lord is.

Look, we have got to recognize His wonders, we have got to sing His wonders, we have got to understand that His wonders are above our ways and capabilities!

*"I will meditate on your majestic, glorious splendor and your wonderful miracles."*  
Psalm 145:5

In the same way, there is something that we are supposed to make sure we never forget, **the Wonders of God are only comparable to the Wonderful Christ!** It is so easy to get used to the Christ. We get board with Him, we get tired of Him. We don't engage our hearts with our voices. We forget why we are doing what we are doing. We grow cold and we are no longer interested. I'm crying out to you today, don't forget our wonderful Lord!

- Job 37:14 *"Stand and consider the wonders of God."*
- I Chronicles 16:9 *"Speak of all His wonders..."*
- Psalm 9:1 *"I will tell of all your wonders"*

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