

A Church Marked by Awe

Acts 2:43- Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.

Chapter 2 Acts gives us more than a moment in history. It gives us a picture of what happens when God's Spirit moves among people whose hearts are fully surrendered to Him. The Holy Spirit had just been poured out. Three thousand people were saved. The new believers were devoted to the apostles' teaching, to fellowship, to breaking bread, and to prayer. Because they were devoted to God, His presence was honored among them. And because God was honored, He moved in powerful ways.

The result was simple but profound: **everyone was filled with awe.**

This shows us something important. Awe is not accidental. Awe is the atmosphere that surrounds people who are truly seeking God. When hearts are surrendered and devoted to Him, His presence becomes real and powerful among His people.

If we want to see God move in our churches, in our families, and in our generation, we must understand what produced that awe in the early church and what followed it.

Reverence Is the First Evidence of God's Power

Acts 2:43 says that "**fear came upon every soul.**" This does not mean people were terrified. It means they were filled with a deep reverence and awareness that God Himself was present. One of the greatest miracles God can perform is not just healing a body or providing a breakthrough. One of the greatest miracles is changing a human heart so that it honors Him.

When God truly moves, hearts begin to change.

- Pride turns into humility.
- Indifference turns into hunger for God.
- Compromise turns into conviction.
- Routine turns into reverence.

God's measure of success is not buildings, bodies, or budgets. His measure of success is transformed lives.

Throughout the Bible we see this same pattern whenever people encounter God.

- When **Isaiah** saw the Lord high and lifted up, he immediately recognized his own need and cried out in repentance.
- When **Moses** stood before the burning bush, he removed his sandals because he realized he was standing on holy ground.
- When **Peter** saw the miracle of the overflowing nets of fish, he fell at Jesus' knees in humility.
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Every true encounter with God produced reverence.

Psalms 24 asks an important question: **Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord?**

The answer is clear. Those who have:

- Clean hands (right actions)
- A pure heart (right motives)
- No idols (undivided loyalty to God)

Seeking God means intentionally pursuing His presence. It means turning away from sin, removing idols from our lives, and sincerely seeking Him with all our hearts.

When we do that, God promises blessing, favor, and His presence.

This challenges us to examine our own hearts.

Have we become too familiar with God's presence?

Have we allowed routine to replace reverence?

If we want to see the power of God in our lives and churches again, we must first restore honor for God.

Power flows where honor is present.

Miracles Follow a Heart of Awe

After the people were filled with reverence, Acts 2:43 says that many signs and wonders were done through the apostles.

- **Notice the order.**
- **First came reverence.**
- **Then came miracles.**

The early church did not chase miracles. They pursued God. Because they honored His presence, His power was released among them.

This pattern appears throughout Scripture.

- When Zacchaeus encountered Jesus, his heart changed before anything else. Greed turned into generosity.
- Mary Magdalene was delivered from bondage and became devoted to Jesus.
- When the apostle Paul encountered Christ, his life completely changed. Persecution turned into purpose.

Every time someone truly surrendered to God, transformation followed.

The same principle applies today. Instead of chasing hype or emotional moments, we must seek the presence of God. When we do, miracles become the overflow of His presence.

God still works miracles today.

- He restores broken families.
- He heals wounded hearts.
- He sets people free from addictions.
- He transforms lives.

But those miracles often begin with a surrendered heart.

The Marks of a Spirit-Filled Church Today

Acts 2:43 gives us a clear picture of what a Spirit-filled church looks like.

- It is not first defined by size, talent, or programs.
- It is defined by reverent hearts and the power of God at work.

When a church truly stands in awe of God, everything changes.
Awe leads to authority.

When we recognize how holy and powerful God is, we stop relying on our own strength. As we submit to Him, He entrusts us with spiritual authority.

Honor leads to manifestation.

When we honor God's presence and make room for Him, His presence becomes evident among us. What we honor, we host.

- Before God shakes a city with revival, He first shakes a heart with repentance.
- Before public miracles, there must be private devotion.
- Reverence is the foundation. Power is the result.

Sometimes the greatest miracle God wants to do does not begin around us but inside us. When awe returns, faith rises, reverence deepens, hunger for God grows. And when hearts surrender fully to Him, breakthrough begins.

Let Awe Return

Acts 2:43 say that **fear came upon every soul.**

Not just the leaders, not just a few people, every soul. That means the move of God was both personal and corporate. Each individual heart responded to God, and together they experienced His power.

The same God who filled the early church with awe desires to do the same today.

The question is simple:

- Will we remain casual, or will we return to reverence?
- Will we settle for routine, or will we seek a real encounter with God?

If we want to see God move in power again, it begins with surrender.

When hearts honor Him, heaven responds. So let awe return. Let reverence rise again. And may it be said of us what was said of the early church:

“Everyone was filled with awe.”