

# FROM AMAZEMENT TO AMUZEMENT

## INTRODUCTION

1. We sing a song -- *Amazing Grace*
2. I hope we sing it genuinely amazed at the sacrifice of God's Son for us
3. But we live in a jaded society -- nothing much impresses us any more
4. We have become calloused to amazing things
5. Why? Because of PlayStation and computer graphics and digital images.
6. Hollywood has concocted so many amazing special effects, we have become saturated with amazing things -- church going seems dull and boring

## I. AMAZEMENT AT HIS AUTHORITY –

**Mt 5:1 And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. 2 Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying:....**

**Mt 7:28 And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching, 29 for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.**

- A. Early in his ministry Jesus spoke to the multitudes - sermon on the mount
- B. Said some amazing things:
  1. Beatitudes - Matt 5:3-16
  2. Taught them how to pray - 6:9-15
  3. Taught them about treasure - 6:19-20
  4. Taught them that few would be saved - 7:13-14
- C. The people **amazed!** (Gk. *ekplesso* - "to be exceedingly struck in mind; astonished")
- D. He taught as one having authority

## II. AMAZEMENT AT HIS POWER - Lu 9:43 And they were all amazed at the majesty of God. But while everyone marveled at all the things which Jesus did, He said to His disciples,

- A. Jesus had just come down from the mountain of transfiguration
- B. A man begged for Jesus to help his demon possessed son
- C. Jesus seemingly reproves the disciples for their failure
- D. The demon is exorcised -- NOTE THE REACTION
- E. Amazed at the greatness of God (majesty)

## III. AMAZEMENT AT HIS WORD - Acts 2:7,12

- A. The day of Pentecost -- thousands in Jerusalem
- B. The promise of Christ fulfilled -- the HS comes on his apostles
- C. They begin to speak and the people are AMAZED
- D. Amazed at the WORD spoken by the authority and power of God

## WARNING - 2 Timothy 3:1-5

#### **IV. IT HAPPENED BEFORE! - Exodus 19:16-18; 20:18-21**

- A. God's people observed something amazing - thunder, lightning, trumpet sound, smoking mountain, quaking of the whole mountain
- B. They must have been amazed and terrified
- C. Why? So they will not sin - Exo 20:20
- D. Note one of the first commands issued by God - Exo 20:22-23
- E. Moses returns to the people briefly - Exo 24:3-7
- F. Then back up for 40 days and 40 nights - Exo 24:18
- G. The people turn from AMAZEMENT to AMUZEMENT - Exo 32:1-6
  - 1. Created god in the image of their own choosing
  - 2. Ate and drank
  - 3. Rose up to play
- H. A web search reveals many, many churches have forgotten amazement and instead have turned to amusement
  - 1. basketball tournaments
  - 2. ice cream socials
  - 3. rock bands
  - 4. coffee shops
  - 5. Etc.

Any and every way to draw a crowd and use every means available to secure funding for such.

#### **CONCLUSION**

- 1. Are you looking to be AMAZED at the authority, power, and word of God?
- 2. All of them are amazing if you will but look into the word of God and study it
- 3. Or are you looking to be AMUZED?