**I Peter 1:17-21**

 ***Stand In Awe of God***

Introduction

1. Do you call God your Father? *Conduct yourself in fear…*

2. *Fear* is not the dread of evil consequences. It is the awesomeness of God. Fear of disappointing Him or sinning against His love. You don’t want to do anything that.

2. I Peter 1:17-21 gives 4 motivational reasons why we should stand in awe:

Why should we stand in awe of God?

**I. BECAUSE OF RELATIONSHIP 1:17**

 ***A. A Paternal Relationship*** *If you call on the Father*

**1.** *If* is not hypothetical…*if I get sick*

**2.** The idea is since or in view of the fact. What fact?

 **3.** *You call on the Father…*It is a parent/child relationship. As God’s children (John

 1:12…*as many as receive Him He gives the ability to become children of God*). We

 need to be serious about *being holy…*about sin…about obedience…about a life set

 apart to Him…total surrender.

 ***B. A Provocative Relationship***

This Father is also a judge:

1. **He Judges Impartially** *who judges without respect of persons*

\*People impress us…Not God! He does not receive anyone’s face.

\*I Sam. 16:7 *man looks on the outward appearance:* Prestige…Prominence…*God looks on the heart.*

 **2. He Judges Investigatively** *according to every man’s works*

*\**This is according to what we do. God is a fruit inspector.

\*It has nothing to do with salvation, but salvation should produce good works.

\*Years of obedience cannot buy one hour of disobedience.

\*Is the COVID 19 a judgment from the Father? He permits it whether He ordered

it. I don’t know. Look at America: over 150,000 babies were aborted in Jan-March. No one seems to notice or cares. Approximately 18,000 drug

overdoses in the same time period hit America.

 ***C. A Passing Relationship*** *Conduct yourself in fear*

**1.** During your time on earth, stand in awe of God. We are sojourners, strangers here.

 Our citizenship is in heaven. Live like it.

1. Life is too short to waste in imitating the world and not being totally surrendered to Jesus Christ. The Christian should live consciously in the presence of God.

Why should we stand in awe of God?

**II. BECAUSE OF REDEMPTION 1:18,19**

*Redeemed* means, ‘to set free by paying a price’.

 ***A. The Purchase of Redemption 18*** Two fiends:

**1. From Slavery** *you know that you were redeemed*

 \*It is a gentle reminder of what they were. They were slaves.

 \**Redeemed* is a theological word, but was taken from the slave market. There

 were 50 million slaves in the Roman Empire.

 \*Freedom must be purchased. A price must be paid. We were on the auction

 block of sin. Nothing on earth could satisfy God’s lofty demands and free us

 from Satan’s grip.

 \*We must never forget the slavery produced by sin as we yield to the Father as we

 stand in awe of Him.

1. **From Emptiness…futility** It was a life of emptiness!

**\***This emptiness, futility was passed from generation to generation.

**\***It was a lifestyle without purpose, unfruitful, useless…*”What a waste!”*

**\***Live better than your parents. **Live the American Dream.** 2019 was a Boom year!

**\*At the time these thought their life was ‘full’ ‘happy.’** They never realized they were living an artificial, superficial life. COVID 19 comes and everything comes crashing down!

 ***B. The Price of Redemption 19a***

You are going to worship something. You will try to fill that God-shaped emptiness

 with something. Our god is *gold and silver*…it’s where we live…how much we

 make…where we find pleasure. An economic crash is coming. American’s have

 stopped working. Debt piles up. People are laid off. Businesses are forced to shut

 down. The economic shut down could be worse than the COVID 19. Now, where is

 your god??? Money could not purchase our freedom or fill our empty lives. *Silver*

 *and gold* can’t buy it!!

1. **The Sacrifice** *the precious blood of Jesus Christ*

**\***Peter reminds the readers and us of what Jesus did. Stand in awe!

**\***Jesus shed His precious blood to purchase us out of slavery and to set us free! Jesus came to fill the emptiness that things could never fill!

 **2. The Symbol** *as a lamb*

 *\**Abraham was going to sacrifice Isaac: *I will provide myself a lamb.*

 *\**(Isaiah 53:7ff)

 \*With the Passover Lamb the blood must be applied to the doorpost.

 ***C. The Purity of Redemption 19b***

**1.** *Without Blemish*

**2.** *Without Spot*

 *\**The Son of God was without personal sin. He was examined by the Father.

 \*Why stand in awe? Why should I want to give my life, my soul, my all? Walk

 to Calvary. **I’m Redeemed…I have purpose and meaning for being alive!**

Why should we stand in awe of God?

**III. BECAUSE OF REVELATION 1:20**

There are two important phrases: *For He or Who (Christ, the Lamb)*

1. ***Timeless*** *Foreordained before the foundation of the world*
2. *Foreordained* is foreknown is more than knew before hand. That is omniscience. God in eternity past marked out…decreed Christ’s role. This was before the world was created.
3. This was not an emergency meeting or measure. God not only foresaw Calvary…He arranged it. The Son was slain before the foundation of the world!!
4. ***Time Related*** *Was manifest in these last time for you*
5. *Manifest* is to make known or become visible.
6. *For you…*Jesus, the Messiah was revealed in time for your benefit.
7. (Eph. 2:10) *Good works…ordained that you should walk in them.* Your life is not an accident. This God has a plan for you. He cares, He loves and He has time for us! Stand in awe!

Why should we stand in awe?

**IV. BECAUSE OF RESURRECTION 1:21**

*Who* is the One who paid the price…the one in God’s eternal plan

1. ***The Basis of Belief***
2. They had never seen Jesus (v. 8) Why do they believe?
3. God raised Jesus from the dead. Jesus is alive. *I Serve A Risen Savior.* Stand in awe!!
4. That is why we give Him our all. That is why we surrender absolutely and totally to Him!
5. A living Savior is all we need to live a life pleasing to the Father.
6. ***The Bargain of Belief***
7. *Your faith and confidence may be in God.*
8. Because Jesus is alive. *Faith and hope* are linked (3, 5, 7, 9, 13)

**Why should we stand in awe?**

***Do you call God Father?***

**Did He pay the price for your sin and give you purpose for being alive?**

***Stand In Awe!***

***He died and rose for you...isn’t it reasonable that you should live for Him?***