Senior Bible Study Ministry

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HOW GREAT THOU ART

How Great Thou Art

- "How Great Thou Art" was originally a Swedish poem written by Carl Gustav Boberg in 1885
- The hymn is a rich expression of awe at God's power in creation, His love in salvation & the promise of eternal glory
- The hymn was popularized by George Beverly Shea during Billy Graham's crusades

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder, Consider all the works Thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, Thy power throughout the universe displayed.



- God's creation of the world reveals His immense power & majesty
- 1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:1 NIV)
- The heavens declare the glory of God, displaying His craftsmanship

1 The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands. (Psalm 19:1 NIV)

- The natural world, including the stars & mountains, demonstrates His handiwork
- 26 Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls forth each of them by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing. (Isaiah 40:26 NIV)

- The peacefulness & beauty of nature remind us of God's sustaining presence
 - 16 For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. 17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. (Colossians 1:16-17 NIV)

• We are filled with awe & wonder as we witness the majesty of His creation

14 "Listen to this, Job; stop and consider God's wonders.
15 Do you know how God controls the clouds and makes his lightning flash? 16 Do you know how the clouds hang poised, those wonders of him who has perfect knowledge?" (Job 37:14-16 NIV)

 The hymn invites us to pause & reflect on the grandeur of the world around us & recognize it as a testimony to God's greatness

How Great Thou Art

And when I think, that God, His Son not sparing; Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in; That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing, He bled and died to take away my sin.



 God's love was demonstrated in the sending of His Son, Jesus, to die for our sins

16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16 NIV)

- Jesus' sacrifice on the cross shows the depth of God's love for humanity
 - 8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8 NIV)

• The cross reminds us of our unworthiness & God's grace 24 "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed." (1 Peter 2:24 NIV)

In Christ's death, we see the ultimate act of love & forgiveness

7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace (Ephesians 1:7 NIV)

The resurrection of Jesus from the dead gives us hope & assurance of eternal life

20 But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. 21 For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. 22 For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. (1 Cor. 15:20-22 NIV)

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Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee, How great Thou art, How great Thou art. Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee, How great Thou art, How great Thou art!



- God's greatness is beyond measure, deserving our highest praise
- 3 Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. (Psalm 145:3 NIV)
 • We worship God for His power, love & majesty
 11 Who among the gods is like you, Lord? Who is like you - majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders? (Exodus 15:11 NIV)

• His greatness inspires awe & reverence in our hearts

28 Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. (Isaiah 40:28 NIV)

The greatness of God is shown in both His creation & His redemptive work

(Colossians 1:18-20)

18 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. 19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 20 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 1:18-20 NIV)

- We will eternally praise God for His greatness, both now & forever (Revelation 5:12-13)
- 12 In a loud voice they were saying: "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!" 13 Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying: *"To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise"* and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!" (Revelation 5:12-13 NIV)

Practical Application

- Spend time each day appreciating God's creation, such as trees, birds, or sunsets, as a reminder of His greatness.
- Take a moment to meditate on Jesus' sacrifice on the cross, recognizing how much God loves you and offers grace in every season of life.
- Keep a heart of anticipation for Christ's second coming, trusting that no matter the current trials, He will one day make all things new.

Practical Application

- Share testimonies with others in the facility about times when God's greatness and faithfulness were evident in your life, encouraging mutual faith.
- Incorporate praise into your daily routine, whether through singing hymns, reading Scripture, or silently reflecting on God's greatness and love.

Discussion Questions

- How has God's creation inspired awe and wonder in your life, and what part of creation reminds you of His greatness?
- What does the cross of Jesus mean to you personally, and how does it remind you of God's love and grace in your life?
- How does the promise of Christ's return give you hope during difficult times, especially in your current season of life?

Discussion Questions

- In what ways can we, as a community, remind each other of God's greatness and faithfulness in our daily lives?
- How can reflecting on God's greatness help you cope with physical challenges or emotional struggles in your life?

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