

Why Wonder?

Luke 2:18

Introduction:

In every encounter of the Gospel (*listed below*) in those first few hours and days people who heard the news are recorded as having a wonder. Even Herod wondered about what was taking place. Nobody could fully comprehend what God was doing in the world at that moment. I believe that wonder is a *healthy* expression of the growing believer. When one loses his wonder about the things of God and specifically the workings of the grace of God imparted at salvation, then his faith and growth deteriorate at a disastrous pace.

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- Zechariah Luke 1:18
 - Mary Luke 1:34
 - Joseph Matthew 1:18-25
 - Shepherds Luke 2:13-15
 - Bethlehem Luke 2:17-18
 - Mary Luke 2:19
 - Simeon Luke 2:25-32
 - Mary & Joseph Luke 2:33-35
 - Temple Luke 2:38
 - Magi Matthew 2:1-12
 - Joseph Matthew 2:13-15

What happens when we don't wonder?

1. Self-reliant for meaning/purpose

- use human experience to interpret meanings of situations
- use logic to rule decisions sometimes contrary to faith in God

2. Place God on human level

- i. believe that we can fully comprehend His character and works

3. Lose fear/reverence/amazement

- i. because we can explain Him and measure Him according to our experience and thinking we move Him down off of His throne and lose our healthy fear, reverence, awe which then infects our adoration and worship and ultimately undermines our faith

4. Stutter in our desire for God

- i. the wonder & mystery draws us close to God not only for answers but for peace

5. We perceive that the inexhaustible power of God is exhaustible and can be defined in human terms

- i. we put God in a box and are prone to "predict" Him, lose significance of serving Him, and then ingratitude results—a self-serving mentality grows