## **GOD OF MAJESTY**

God's majesty is the regal and powerful aspect of His Person that thrills us with holy awe and wonder.

SCRIPTURE*	MUSIC†
Psalm 2 Psalm 77:16-20 Psalm 115 Psalm 135 Psalm 145 1 Chronicles 29:10-19 2 Chronicles 6:1-7:7 2 Chronicles 7:1-4 Ephesians 1:1-14 Revelation 4-5 Revelation 21:1-8	All Hail the Power of Jesus Name Behold Our God Behold Our God (arr. McDonald) SATB Blessed Be the Name Glorious, Indescribable (Berry) SATB How Great Thou Art How Majestic Is Thy Name O God Beyond All Praising O God, My Joy O Worship the King Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
2 Chronicles 6:1-7:7 2 Chronicles 7:1-4 Ephesians 1:1-14 Revelation 4-5	How Majestic Is Thy Name O God Beyond All Praising O God, My Joy O Worship the King





<sup>\*</sup> Daily preparatory readings shown in **bold**.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup> There are many more hymns that fit this theme. Published choral and vocal music shown in **bold**.

## PRESENTING & PROMOTING THIS THEME

## TEMPLE DEDICATION

Something that is majestic is unknowable, awe-inspiring, and great. Royalty is often referred to as "Your majesty." David, a king that could be considered majestic, acknowledged the majesty of Another. After collecting riches for the building of the future temple, he prays and ascribes all majesty to God (I Chron. 29:11). His son Solomon, who was the most majestic king in the history of the nation Israel, witnessed the majesty of God on display. II Chron. 6 tells the story of Solomon's temple dedication. This wonderful building was completed, and all the people gathered to see it. Solomon, the greatest king bowed himself down before God and prayed to dedicate it. When he finished, God's fire fell from heaven. Solomon offered 22.000 oxen and 120,000 sheep, but God overwhelmed the greatness of the sacrifice with His glory. The reasonable response to God's majesty is sacrifice.

**Promotional Post:** Kings are often announced as "His Majesty," for their exalted position in comparison to those in their court and realm. But two important kings in Scripture demonstrate by their words and actions that they see an infinitely greater majesty in the God of Heaven.

Join us Sunday to gaze in awe and worship at our God of Majesty. These Scriptures can prepare you for worship:

[Insert preparatory Scripture readings.]

## WONDERS OF CREATION<sup>‡</sup>

[Infer from reading.]

When we think of God's majesty, it seems natural to think of it as connected to His creation, and specifically the wonders that we see in the sky and space. Thousands of years ago, David said, "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows His handiwork" (Psalm 19:1). David wrote particularly about seeing God's majesty and glory in the heavens in Psalm 8: "O LORD, our Lord, how excellent is Your name in all the earth, Who have set Your glory above the heavens! When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained, what is man that You are mindful of him?"

Other Christian men throughout history have also expressed their awe at seeing evidence of God's majesty. One such man was Sir Isaac Newton, who lived from the mid-

<sup>\*</sup> Material taken from "Answers in Genesis" http://www.answersingenesis.org/articles/am/v3/n1/majesty-of-god

1600s to the early 1700s. Newton was certainly among the greatest scientific geniuses of all times. He made major contributions to mathematics, optics, physics, and astronomy. He discovered the law of gravitation, formulated the basic laws of motion, developed calculus, and analyzed the nature of white light. Behind all his science was the conviction that God made the universe with a mathematical structure and He gifted human beings' minds to understand that structure. He believed that the very orderliness and design of the universe spoke of God's awesome majesty and wisdom. Many scholars would agree that Newton had no equal in the history of science, yet he recognized that the greatness of God is beyond our comprehension. Newton said, "I must confess to a feeling of profound humility in the presence of a universe which transcends us at almost every point. I feel like a child who while playing by the seashore has found a few bright colored shells and a few pebbles while the whole vast ocean of truth stretches out almost untouched and unruffled before my eager fingers."

Now think about the knowledge that we are privileged to possess in our day and age. Hundreds of thousands of remarkable space photos have been taken by the Hubble telescope since its launch in 1990. As technology advances, we learn more and more about the utter vastness of space. What would David or Sir Isaac Newton think if he were alive today? When we see God's heavens, do we recognize, as they did, His majesty and greatness? The next time you look skyward remember the all-wise and loving God who brought forth the heavenly bodies, and sustains them from day to day. Catch a greater glimpse of His glory and earthly concerns will not seem so daunting! (James Tilson)