

Christmas from the Secular to the Sacred

- II. The Beauty and Splendor of Christmas Ornaments offer a Reminder to <u>Ponder</u> the Infinite Wonder of the <u>Splendor</u> and <u>Majesty</u> of God
 - A. The <u>Reality</u> of God's Splendor and Majesty
 - 1. <u>Declared</u> by Elihu to Job cf Job 37:22

"Fair weather cometh out of the north; with God (is) awe-inspiring majesty" Job 37:22

- a. The Words 'Fair Weather' (KJV) / Golden Splendor (NASB, E.S.V., N.I.V., N.R.S.V. and N.K.J.; The Hebrew Literally Reads 'from the north comes ☐☐ = zahb = Gold
- b. The Word 'Awesome' English Transliteration yare The First Meaning of This Hebrew Word is 'Fear' Denoting a Disconcerting Emotion Caused by the Belief That Someone or Something Is Dangerous and Presents a Threat to You or That Will Likely Cause You or Others Harm of Gen. 19:30; Deut. 20:1; 2 Sam. 14:15; 1 Ki. 1:51; Neh. 6:9, 14, 19
- To Have <u>Reverence</u> for, <u>Respect</u> for, to Honor of Lev. 19:3, 30;
 Joshua 4:14
- d. Rixture of 'fear', a Sense of Fright and 'astonishment' a sense of wonder created at the Same Time by being nearly Overwhelmed by the Presence of Something Which, or Someone Who Is So Extraordinary and Unexplainable That the Human Mind Cannot Grasp What or Who Is in Their Presence Ex. 34:10; Deut. 10:21; Mt. 17:6; Mk. 16:8; Acts 2:12

- 2. The Psalmist <u>Sings</u> of the Splendor and Majesty of God: "Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, Thou art very great; thou art clothed with honor and majesty." Psalm 104:1.
 - a. The Word 'Bless' (= barak) Piel Stem = Intensive Active Action by the Subject, in This Verse The Psalmist Is the Subject
 - b. The Word 'Bless' (בְּבֶּר) = barak Is an Imperative He Is Commanding
 Himself to Praise the Lord the Word (בְּבֶּר) = barak Can Mean Praise cf 2
 Chr. 6:13; Psalm. 26:12; 34:2; 63:5; 66:8; 95:61; 103:1,2;104:1; 104:35;
 Dan. 6:11
 - c. The Use of the Piel, Imperative Expresses the Psalmist's Intention Is to Give *Thoughtful*, *Heartfelt* Praise of God cf Psalm 103:1-2

"The majesty of God itself goes beyond the capacity of human understanding and cannot be comprehended by it.

We must adore its loftiness rather than investigate it, so that we do remain overwhelmed by so great a splendor."

John Calvin