

You Can't Keep A Captive's Shame When You Have A Deliverer's Destiny!

You are either a captive or a deliverer!

Genesis 2:25 tells us that when man was created he was naked and he knew no shame because he was innocent of evil.

The Hebrew word for fig leaves is "ta'aniyah"... It means, sorrow, lamentation, shame!

The problem with shame is that most Christians don't know what to do with it because we have failed to understand the purpose of shame in our lives!

We have said in previous weeks that...

You can't keep a captive's mind, lifestyle, excuses, character, identity, desires, words or discouragement when you have a deliverer's destiny!

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The trick with sin is that it is a package deal... Along with sin comes shame!

I. What is the result of ungodly shame?

Shame has become a huge barrier in the spiritual development of many of God's people and has negatively affected their relationship with God!

Shame can be immobilizing!

Shame keeps us from being a threat to the devil!

Shame keeps us from being an asset to the kingdom of God!

Shame essentially keeps us from doing anything really worth doing!

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James 1:13-16

13. When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone;

14. but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed.

15. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

16. Don't be deceived, my dear brothers.

When we feel like a failure, we usually quit! The problem is we usually quit the wrong thing! Rather than pressing on and moving through it, we go back to what's comfortable... Even if it's a miserable place, because at least we're familiar with it! And misery doesn't mind because "Misery loves company"!

When you use something in a way other than what it was intended for, you will probably find that ultimate result is the opposite of the desired effect!

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Shame is the depression of our spiritual lives!

The problem is that YOU'VE been living your life instead of letting Him live His life through you!

Shame keeps you in an unrepentant state and becomes a wall between you and God!

When you allow shame to rule your life you kick God out of your heart and then wonder why He deserted you!

Shame keeps us from seeing God's heart!

When you use something in a way other than that which it was intended you will probably find that the ultimate result is the opposite of the desired effect!

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Two extremes in many Christians when it comes to sin...

The first is ... Sin is justified because the person rationalizes that their sin is really no big deal...

The second extreme is... Allowing shame to keep you from accepting and receiving the grace of God!

People cannot experience the fullness of His love and mercy because they consider themselves to be unworthy of it!

When unrepentant shame takes hold of our hearts, we cannot feel the love and grace He offers because we view our own mistakes as being greater than the love or mercy of God!

With this we essentially reject the power of the cross and the significance of the sacrifice of Jesus; because, we somehow allow ourselves to believe that our sin is greater than His sacrifice!

Because truthfully, unrepentant shame is a result of a lack of faith in the grace of God!

As long as we hold on to shame, we will not break away from the habit of sin!

When you use something in a way other than that which it was intended for, you probably will find that the ultimate result is the opposite of the desired effect!

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Romans 10:9-15

9. That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

10. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

11. As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame."

12. For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile--the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him,

13. for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

14. How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?

15. And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Those who trust in God will never be put to shame!

We may sin, but unrepentant shame comes from a lack of faith in Jesus sacrifice to wash away that sin!

Jesus won't take your SHAME away from you by force any more than He'll take your SIN from you by force!

II. What is the intended purpose of shame?

Sin makes way for shame which is then supposed to create in us a godly sorrow that leads us to repentance so that we can change our ways and draw nearer to God!

2 Cor. 7:10 - Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.

When we allow ourselves to hold on to shame longer than is necessary to draw us near to God, then that shame becomes not a tool from God, but a trap from the devil!

We must learn to use shame as it was intended so that it draws us TO God instead of forcing us AWAY from Him!

Shame is a tool from God, but it is only effective when we are willing to let go of it!

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