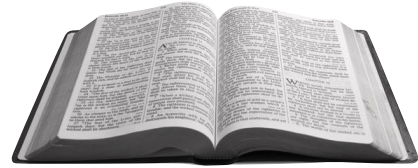


THE BEREANS

ACTS 17:11

Revelation 12:10-11
Lesson #31
Freedom from Shame
08/25/2019

How to read the Old Testament



shame

1

Revelation 12

¹⁰ Now the salvation, and the power, and kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for **the accuser of our brethren** has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our God day and night.

¹¹ For **they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony**, and they did not love their life even when faced with death."

What does it mean
to be an overcomer?



2

Revelation 12

¹⁰ Now the salvation, and the power, and kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for **the accuser of our brethren** has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our God day and night.

¹¹ For **they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony**, and they did not love their life even when faced with death."

- The context suggests that this refers to the **accusations leveled against Christians** concerning their justification before God.
- The believer's defense is not their obedience but their **fearless testimony of the Cross**.

3



Genesis 3:10
"I was afraid
because I was
naked; so I
hid myself."

shame

"concealed guilt"

4

BLAME

is anger directed outward.

shame

is anger directed inward.

5

Shame correlates positively with:

- lying,
- bullying,
- violence,
- addictions,
- depression,
- social isolation,
- eating disorders,
- self loathing behavior

6

"Shame is the most powerful, master emotion. It's the fear that we're not good enough."

DARING GREATLY

Brene Brown

7

"We're tired of the national conversation centering on 'What should we fear?' and 'Who should we blame?'."

Brene Brown

8

Shame is deeper than Guilt.

GUILT	SHAME
Specific	General
"I did a bad thing."	"I am a bad person."
This is a violation of the Rules	This is a corrupted nature
This is addressed by obeying the Rules	This is addressed by baptism into Christ's death
(repentance, obedience, self discipline)	(REPENTANCE and abiding faith)

9

 **Responding to shame**

Old Covenant	No Covenant	New Covenant
Obey the Law	Repress the Law	Die to the Law
Legalism	License	The Cross

10

Denying sin does not remove shame.

1 John 1

"⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us."

Confession = vulnerability = courageous exposure = draining the "swampland" of the soul

11

Shame was present before the Law came.

Romans 5

“¹² Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned – ¹³ for **until the Law sin was in the world**; but sin is not imputed when there is no law. ¹⁴ Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.”

Three types of sin

Imputed sin from Adam

We are united with and in Adam, sharing his guilt and shame.

Inherited sin from nature

We inherit a sin nature before we actually do anything wrong.

initiated sin from volition

We make choices that reflect our fallen nature.

12

shame

is a good gift from God,
but only when it -

1. confirms God's image in us.

Inner Conscience

13

“My argument against God was that the universe seemed so cruel and unjust. But how had I got this idea of just and unjust?”

C.S. Lewis



14

shame

is a good gift from God,
but only when it -

1. confirms God's image in us.

2. clarifies Christ's Cross for us.

15

The Gentiles repressed their shame and thus were blind to the Gospel.

Romans 2

“¹⁴ For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves, ¹⁵ in that **they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness, and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them,**”

The Jews had the same experience.

Matthew 23:27

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the **outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness.**”

16

Shame is an open window to the Gospel.

Understanding the human dilemma

- **“Made in God's image”** - Every human is hardwired to hear and respond to God.
- **“Shame”** bears witness to this fact.
- **“Total depravity”** - Every area of life is compromised but not incapacitated by our “old” sin nature.
- **“Repression”** - When we ignore our shame, we also shut our eyes to the Gospel (Word of the Cross).

17

Matthew 5:3

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."



Matthew 5:6

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied."

18

How do we come to a sense of being
"poor in spirit"?



- * Circumstances
- * Confrontation
- * Conscience

19

Shame is removed by **exposing our sin** to the **Word of the Cross** (the Gospel).

1 John 1

"8 If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 **If we confess our sins**, He is faithful and righteous to forgive our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

1 John 2

"1 And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; 2 and **He Himself is the propitiation for our sins**; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.

20

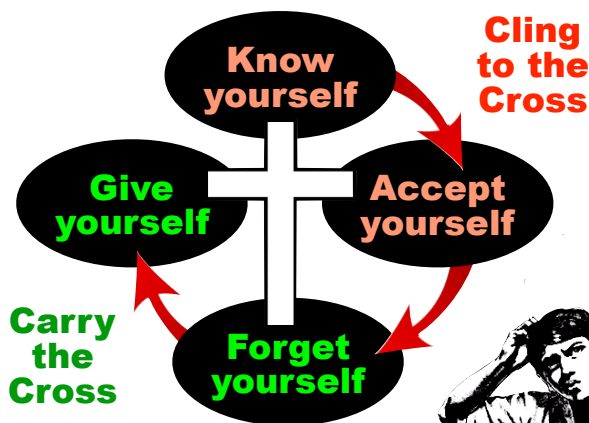
How should we respond to shame?

- **Take our baptism seriously** - find a secure place "in Christ" by faith.
- **Be vulnerable** - come out from hiding, confess sins, acknowledge weaknesses.
- **Resist Satan** - don't give Satan reasons to accuse you.



21

How should we respond to shame?



22

Psalms 32

"1 How blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, Whose sin is covered! 2 How blessed is the man to whom the Lord does not impute iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit! 3 When I kept silent *about my sin*, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. 4 For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my vitality was drained away as with the fever heat of summer. *Selah*.

5 I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I did not hide; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord"; and You forgave the guilt of my sin. *Selah*.

6 Therefore, let everyone who is godly pray to You in a time when You may be found; surely in a flood of great waters they will not reach him. 7 You are my hiding place; You preserve me from trouble; you surround me with songs of deliverance. *Selah*."

23

Small talk Shop talk Shield talk Steer talk

"I am afraid and sorry."

Straight talk Search talk

"Me to!"

CONNECTING
WITH SELF AND OTHERS
Sharon Miller
Daniel Wackman
Glenn Nummally
Phyllis Miller

24

shame

is Satan's tool after salvation:

1. when it drives us into fear & hiding.
2. when it drives us away from Christ and one another.

25

"So when the devil throws your sins in your face and declares that you deserve death and hell, tell him this: 'I admit that I deserve death and hell, what of it? For I know One who suffered and made satisfaction on my behalf. His name is Jesus Christ, Son of God, and where He is there I shall be also!'"

Martin Luther

26

Mary and Eve

Two women tell the story of humanity's shame and hope.

Sister Grace Remington, OCSO, Our Lady of the Mississippi Abbey.

27