Are You Ashamed?

Intro: Sometimes we live in such a way that it brings shame to us and rightly so. Likewise, there are some times in which we have shame when we should not. *Shame* is defined as: “a painful feeling of humiliation or distress caused by the consciousness of wrong or foolish behavior.” Let us consider some aspects of being ashamed.

I. **Some Things In Which We Should Not Be Ashamed.**
   A. We should not be ashamed of our Lord.
      1. Consider all that He did for us.
         a. Phi. 2:6-7 “6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men;”
         b. Left heaven and all that that means.
         c. Became man and lived as a human.
         d. Died the death of the cross to save sinful mankind.
      2. Mat. 10:32-33 “32 Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. 33 But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.”
      3. The apostles were not even though persecuted; Acts 5:41-42 “41 And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name. 42 And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.”
      4. Luke 9:26 “26 For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father’s, and of the holy angels.”
   B. We should not be ashamed of the Gospel.
      1. Closely akin to the preceding: Luke 9:26 “26 For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father’s, and of the holy angels.”
      2. Rom. 1:16 “16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.”
      3. 1 Cor. 1:18 “18 For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.”
      4. 1 Cor. 15:1-4 “1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; 2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. 3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:”
   C. We should not be ashamed of our family’s spiritual name.
      1. 1 Pet. 4:16 “16 Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.”
      2. It is that name that was given by God.
         a. Isa. 62:2 “2 And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD shall name.”
         b. Acts 11:26 “26 And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.”
D. We should not be ashamed to live a wholesome Christian life.
1. Tit. 2:7-8, 10 “In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you. Exhort servants to be obedient unto their own masters, and to please them well in all things; not answering again: Not purloining, but shewing all good fidelity; that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things.”
2. We shame those who speak evil of us by living that life; 1 Pet. 3:16 “Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ.”

E. We should not be ashamed in defending and upholding God’s Word.
1. Phi. 1:27 “Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;”
2. Jude 3 “Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.”
3. Would we be ashamed of visiting a Christian in prison for the cause of Christ;
   a. 2 Tim. 1:16-18 “The Lord give mercy unto the house of Onesiphorus; for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain: But, when he was in Rome, he sought me out very diligently, and found me. The Lord grant unto him that he may find mercy of the Lord in that day: and in how many things he ministered unto me at Ephesus, thou knowest very well.”
   b. 2 Tim. 4:10, 16 “For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia… At my first answer no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge.”
4. We should always be ready with an answer; 1 Pet. 3:15 “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:”

F. No one should be ashamed of the sex God made us.
1. It is sad that this even has to be mentioned.
2. However, some mentally unstable people have ungodly desires.
   a. Transvestites, transgendered or transsexual.
   b. Sex change surgeries (does not change the chromosomes).
   c. Homosexuals
3. Gen. 1:27 “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.”

II. Some Things Those Guilty Should Be Ashamed.
A. Those who live immoral lives.
1. Adam and Eve tried to hide from God because of sin; Gen. 3:6-10 “And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.”
2. Rom. 6:20-21 “For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness. What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death.”
3. Eph. 5:11-12 “11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. 12 For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret.”

4. Ezra was ashamed at the sin of Israel; Ezra 9:6 “6 And said, O my God, I am ashamed and blush to lift up my face to thee, my God: for our iniquities are increased over our head, and our trespass is grown up unto the heavens.”

5. Some have become so wicked and hardened by sin they can no longer blush.
   a. Jer. 6:15 “15 Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore they shall fall among them that fall: at the time that I visit them they shall be cast down, saith the LORD.”
   b. Zep. 3:5 “5 The just LORD is in the midst thereof; he will not do iniquity: every morning doth he bring his judgment to light, he faileth not; but the unjust knoweth no shame.”
   c. It appears as if the majority of our nation has reached this point.

B. Those who attempt to find fault with the Son of God.

1. Luke 13:10-17 “10 And he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. 11 And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself. 12 And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and said unto her, Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity. 13 And he laid his hands on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God. 14 And the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because that Jesus had healed on the sabbath day, and said unto the people, There are six days in which men ought to work: in them therefore come and be healed, and not on the sabbath day. 15 The Lord then answered him, and said, Thou hypocrite, doth not each one of you on the sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and lead him away to watering? 16 And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day? 17 And when he had said these things, all his adversaries were ashamed: and all the people rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by him.”

2. When they claimed He cast out devils by Beelzebub; Mat. 12:22-24 “22 Then was brought unto him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb: and he healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw. 23 And all the people were amazed, and said, Is not this the son of David? 24 But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, This fellow doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils.”

3. Sometimes they tried to find fault with Him by attacking His disciples; Mat. 15:1-2 “1 Then came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying, 2 Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread.”

C. Those whom the church has had to withdraw fellowship should be ashamed.

1. 2 The. 3:14-15 “14 And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed. 15 Yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.”

2. 1 Cor. 5:4-5 “4 In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, 5 To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.”

3. One of the purposes of withdrawal is to make the person ashamed of their actions and repent.

D. Those who have little Bible knowledge should be ashamed.

1. Hos. 4:6 “6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.”

2. We each of the obligation to study God’s Word.
   a. 2 Tim. 2:15 “15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”
b. Acts 17:11 “11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.”

E. Able-bodied people who rely on society rather than earn their own living should be ashamed.

1. We are to be benevolent.
   a. Mat. 5:42 “42 Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.”
   b. Mat. 19:21 “21 Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.”
   c. Gal. 2:10 “10 Only they would that we should remember the poor; the same which I also was forward to do.”
   d. Gal. 6:10 “10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.”

2. Yet, these have taken advantage of the good will of others.
   a. Luke 16:3 “3 Then the steward said within himself, What shall I do? for my lord taketh away from me the stewardship: I cannot dig; to beg I am ashamed.”
   b. 2 The. 3:10 “10 For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.”

III. LIVE SO THE GODHEAD WILL NOT BE ASHAMED OF US.

A. The Godhead:

1. Heb. 11:16 “16 But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.”

2. Christ will not be ashamed to call us brethren; Heb. 2:11 “11 For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren,”

3. We become God’s people and He our God.
   a. 2 Cor. 6:17-18 “17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, 18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.”
   b. 1 Pet. 2:10-11 “10 Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy. 11 Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;”
   c. It is when we become children of God and live that separated life as strangers and pilgrims.
      (1) Gal. 3:26-27 “26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”
      (2) 2 Cor. 5:17 “17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

B. Those who fall away bring shame to God and His name.

1. Heb. 6:6 “6 If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.”

2. Mark 8:38 “38 Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”
Conclusion: Let us make sure we live in such a way that we will never be ashamed and have the hope of eternity with God; 1 John 2:28 “And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.”

Dub Mowery’s Introduction:

Four young men were standing on a college campus talking, when a dilapidated unpainted automobile chugged to a stop nearby. One of the students had been watching the car approach and when it stopped he ran to it. He grabbed the elderly man who had driven the car and affectionately hugged him. Calling his classmates, he introduced them to his father. The father had driven to the campus from the family home some hundred miles away.

There was a sack of apples, cookies, and other desirable things from home. After spending an hour or two of visiting the elderly father started his uncertain trip back home in his old worn out car. One of the classmates jokingly commented, “That’s a dilapidated old car your father is driving. Do you recon he will make it back to the farm?” The son did not answer for several moments, and then he said a little huskily, “I love every rattle in that old car. My father is sending me to college with the money he might have used to buy a better car!”