



"Does God Shame Us?"

Romans 8:1 (NKJV)

"There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit..."

In 1850 Nathaniel Hawthorne wrote what has turned out to be a classic book "The Scarlet Letter." By committing the crime of adultery, the main character, Hester, has broken a great moral law and a long-established social convention. Society, therefore, condemns her with the three hours standing on the scaffold and with the life-long wearing of the scarlet letter of an "A" on her bosom to mark her shame. The story is filled with shame, guilt and revenge.

But the scarlet letter has long been identified as a symbol of shame.

Shame is highly cultural

Shame is determined by the culture in which you were raised and the culture in which you live.

Have you ever been shamed?

Does God Shame us?

John 4 - woman at the well. When Jesus had an opportunity to shame someone, He did not.

Shame does not come from God.

Romans 8:1

"There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit..."

Guilt and shame and condemnation do not come from God for the believer

It comes from "the accuser of the brethren" as Satan is identified in **Revelation 12:10**.

Revelation 12:10

Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

Psalm 71:1

"In you, O Lord, I put my trust; Let me never be put to shame."

Romans 9:33

"Behold I lay in Zion a stumbling stone and rock of offense, and whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame."

Romans 10:11

"For the Scripture says, Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame."

I Peter 2:6

"Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, 'Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, elect, precious, and he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame.'"

Why? Jesus bore our shame.

Hebrews 12:2

"...looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame..."

Shame does not come from God.

We are saved from condemnation and guilt. God is the only one who can declare us not guilty and remove the stain of guilt, as well. "Cleanses us from all unrighteousness."

Conviction

Conviction comes from the Lord but He always leads us to hope and repentance and change. Conviction always looks to the future.

Condemnation

Condemnation, shame, guilt leads us downward...looking backward, hopeless, and it is from Satan.

Have you ever had a stain on your clothes?

Been shamed walking around with it?

I John 1:9

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Isaiah 61:10

"I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, My soul shall be joyful in my God;
For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me
with the robe of righteousness, As a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments,
And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels."

Galatians 3: 27

"For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ"

Ephesians 4:24

"...and that you have put on the new man which was created
according to God, in righteousness and true holiness."

Ephesians 6:14

"breastplate of righteousness"