

# Shame

by Mitch Kuhn

Here is a modern definition of shame:

A painful feeling of humiliation or distress caused by the consciousness of wrong for foolish behavior. Dictionary.com

The truth is that we are all created naked, which is symbolic of our sinful condition.

Isa 47:3 **Thy nakedness shall be uncovered, yea, thy shame shall be seen:** I will take vengeance, and I will not meet thee as a man.

Rev 3:18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, **and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear;** and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

Babies are born naked and it takes time for them to realize that to be naked is shameful. The very same thing happened to Adam and Eve in the garden.

Gen 2:25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, **and were not ashamed.**

Adam and Eve were naked, but they just did not realize it. In order to be saved, we have to come to realize that we are in need of being saved. Therefore God gives us laws that we will transgress, which gives us knowledge of our sin.

Rom 3:19 Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.

Rom 3:20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be Justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

Here is the first law ever given.

Gen 2:16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree Of the garden thou mayest freely eat:

Gen 2:17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt Not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

Here is how God used it to manifest the sinful condition of Adam and Eve.

Gen 3:6 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.

Gen 3:7 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.

This correlated exactly to these verses in 1 John.

1Jn 2:16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

**Lust of the flesh**= good for food

**Lust of the eyes**= pleasant to the eyes

**Pride of life**= to make one wise

God knew that through Jesus Christ he created Adam and Eve marred.

Jer 18:4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.

Rom 8:20 For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope,

This was all planned from the very beginning.

Rev 13:8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

Psa 139:16 Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.

Let's examine further what is shameful about our natural condition. We start off as children of disobedience, following the ways of the world, and thus are enemies of God and are children of wrath.

Eph 2:1 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

Eph 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the **children of disobedience**:

Eph 2:3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in

The lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

Children naturally despise correction, and we are the exact same way.

Pro 13:18 Poverty **and shame will come to him who disdains correction**, But he who regards a rebuke will be honored.

When we ignore God's laws and correction, he will chasten us and put us to great shame.

Pro 14:11 **The house of the wicked shall be overthrown**: but the tabernacle of the upright shall flourish.

Pro 14:12 There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, **but the end thereof are the ways of death**.

Psa 78:65 CLV Then Yahweh awoke as from sleep, like a master jubilant from wine.

Psa 78:66 He smote His foes backward; He gave them an eonian reproach (shame).

When we are disobedient, we are God's enemies (foes).

It is shameful when we seek things that are worthless and false, because in due time God will destroy all that is false and worthless and we will be left with nothing and quite ashamed.

Psa 4:2 NKJV How long, O you sons of men, **Will you turn my glory to shame? How long will you love worthlessness And seek falsehood?** Selah

Here is a parable that explains this process.

Mat 7:24 NKJV "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock:

Mat 7:25 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew And beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

Mat 7:26 "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand:

Mat 7:27 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. **And great was its fall.**"

Anything we trust in or build our life upon other than the doctrine of Jesus Christ and faith in God, will be put to shame in due time. Isaiah 44 makes this quite clear.

Isa 44:6 "Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, And his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: 'I am the First and I am the Last; **Besides Me there is No God.**

Isa 44:7 And who can proclaim as I do? Then let him declare it and set it in order for Me, Since I appointed the ancient people. And the things that are coming and shall come, Let them show these to them.

Who has power other than God the Father and his son Jesus Christ through whom he works all things? Not one.

Eph 1:11 NKJV In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will,

Isa 44:8 NKJV Do not fear, nor be afraid; Have I not told you from that time, and declared it? You are My witnesses. Is there a God besides Me? Indeed there is no other Rock; I know not one.' "

Isa 44:9 Those who make an image, all of them are useless, And their precious things shall not profit; They are their own witnesses; They neither see nor know, **that they may be ashamed.**

Isa 44:10 Who would form a god or mold an image That profits him nothing?

Isa 44:11 Surely all his companions would be ashamed; And the workmen, they are mere men. Let them all be gathered together, Let them stand up; Yet they shall fear, **They shall be ashamed together.**

There are many things that we cling to as idols for protection other than the Lord. There are many problems in our world today, just as there have been since the creation of the world. There has always been a temptation to trust in physical riches for safety and security. It is certainly wise to plan ahead and store up in the summer months for the winter, but our ultimate security does not come from physical possessions.

1Ti 6:17 NKJV Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, **nor to trust in uncertain riches** but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy.

As I explained in the study on Obedience, we have a banking system that is not backed by any physical asset of value. In the past, most currency was backed by Gold, so you could take your money to a bank and be given a certain amount of Gold. Many people today are suggesting that we should not store our wealth in a currency, like the U.S. dollar for example, which is nothing more than a piece of paper and society at large agrees that it has value. There certainly is wisdom in possessing something like gold or silver that is a real tangible asset, but this is still uncertain riches.

God can at any moment use the leaders he has placed over us to take anything we have. He can send thieves to steal our possessions, natural disasters to destroy them, or use our own foolishness to cause us to lose what we have. We should still be diligent to provide for ourselves and our families, but always remember that God is our true security.

Psa 18:2 The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Psa 18:3 I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised; So shall I be saved from my enemies.

Psa 91:2 I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust."

Psa 91:3 Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler And from the perilous pestilence.

Psa 91:4 He shall cover you with His feathers, And under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth shall be your shield and buckler.

Here is a parable that explains this very principle.

Luk 12:16 Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully.

Luk 12:17 And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?'

Luk 12:18 So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods.

Luk 12:19 And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry." '

Luk 12:20 But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?'

Luk 12:21 "So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

We will reap what we sow. If we spend our lives trying to only store up physical riches for our future security, then we will be destitute in the spirit and be put to shame in due time.

Gal 6:7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.

Gal 6:8 For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

Christ goes on in Luke 22 to explain how we should think about our physical lives and needs.

Luk 12:22 Then He said to His disciples, "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; nor about the body, what you will put on.

Luk 12:23 Life is more than food, and the body is more than clothing.

Luk 12:24 Consider the ravens, for they neither sow nor reap, which have neither storehouse nor barn; and God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds?

Luk 12:25 And which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?

Luk 12:26 If you then are not able to do the least, why are you anxious for the rest?

Luk 12:27 Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

Luk 12:28 If then God so clothes the grass, which today is in the field and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will He clothe you, O you of little faith?

It ultimately comes down to faith. Faith in God is our security. If we have been given faith, then we will not be anxious.

Luk 12:29 "And do not seek what you should eat or what you should drink, nor have an anxious mind.

Luk 12:30 For all these things the nations of the world seek after, and Your Father knows that you need these things.

Luk 12:31 But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you.

Luk 12:32 "Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

Christ also tells us that sharing what we have with others will help us to store up treasure in our heavens.

Luk 12:33 Sell what you have and give alms; provide yourselves money bags which do not grow old, a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches nor moth destroys.

Luk 12:34 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Always keep this in mind as well.

2Co 9:7 NKJV So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

1Ti 5:8 NKJV But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

There is value in work and in planning ahead for the future. We just have to be careful to be generous towards God and not make riches an idol, lest we be ashamed. God will work this out within us in due time.

Php 2:12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;  
Php 2:13 for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His Good pleasure.

Another great temptation is to protect ourselves physically with weapons. There is a great deal of discussion in the US right now about gun control. Many people are quite upset about the government's attempts to take guns away from the American people. There is great fear that without weapons we will have no way to defend ourselves.

The truth is that God is causing all of these things, and no weapon fashioned against us will stand.

Isa 54:16 Behold, I have created the smith that bloweth the coals in the fire, and that bringeth forth an instrument for his work; and I have created the waster to destroy.  
Isa 54:17 No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.

God will put to shame those that trust in the idols of physical weapons, while those that trust in him will be secure and not put to shame.

Rom 10:11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

Isa 54:4 "Do not fear, for you will not be ashamed; Neither be disgraced, for you will not be put to shame; For you will forget the shame of your youth, And will not remember the reproach of your widowhood anymore.

I realize that I am focusing on some very physical applications of the Word of God. I feel the need to do this because this world is filled with great trials, and there is a great temptation to be fearful and cling to these physical idols. Regardless of where you live or what is going on in your country, God is your refuge.

Remember what happened when Peter tried to protect Christ with his sword.

Joh 18:10 Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high

priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus.

Joh 18:11 So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?"

Just like Christ, we must not resist evil, but rather accept the cup the Lord is giving us to drink in this life.

Heb 10:34 for you had compassion on me in my chains, **and joyfully accepted the plundering of your goods**, knowing that you have a better and an enduring possession for yourselves in heaven.

The cup we are to drink is to joyfully accept the plundering of our good, and to love our enemies. We will never be put to shame for doing that.

Mat 5:39 But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also.

Mat 5:40 If anyone wants to sue you and take away your tunic, let him have your cloak also.

Mat 5:41 And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two.

Mat 5:42 Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to borrow from you do not turn away.

Mat 5:43 "You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR and hate your enemy.'

Mat 5:44 But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,

Mat 5:45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

Mat 5:46 For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do Not even the tax collectors do the same?

Mat 5:47 And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so?

Mat 5:48 Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

It is truly a miracle to love our enemies and to joyfully accept the plundering of our goods. This is certainly not natural for us to do. We will indeed drink the cup, because we will be drug to Christ.

Mat 20:20 Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to Him with her sons, kneeling down and asking something from Him.

Mat 20:21 And He said to her, "What do you wish?" She said to Him, "Grant that these two sons of mine may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on the left, in Your kingdom."



Mat 20:22 But Jesus answered and said, "You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They said to Him, "We are able."

Mat 20:23 So He said to them, "**You will indeed drink My cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with**; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared by My Father."

## G1670

ἐλκίω, ἔλκω

helkuō helkō *hel-koo'-o, hel'-ko*

Probably akin to [G138](#); to *drag* (literally or figuratively): - draw. Compare [G1667](#).

Joh 6:44 No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me **draws** (G1670) him; and I will raise him up at the last day.

Joh 12:32 And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will **draw** (G1670) all peoples to Myself."

It is true that obeying God's commands will result in our salvation and never being put to shame, however it is very difficult to obey his commands in this life because it seems foolish to our natural mind and to all the carnally minded in the world around us.

1Co 2:14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, **for they are foolishness to him**; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

As we begin to renounce shameful disobedience, we will suffer great persecution.

2Co 4:2 NKJV But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

This is Paul explaining to Timothy what he should expect as he lives by Christ's doctrine.

2Ti 3:10 But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance,

2Ti 3:11 persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra—what persecutions I endured. And out of them all the Lord delivered me.

2Ti 3:12 **Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will**

**suffer persecution.**

2Ti 3:13 But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse,  
Deceiving and being deceived.

2Ti 3:14 But you must continue in the things which you have learned  
And been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them,

There is a great temptation to deny Christ and become ashamed of his doctrine because of the great persecution that comes with following him. Paul encourages Timothy in this regard, because Paul himself was fearful at times and denied Christ.

2Ti 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

2Ti 1:8 **Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord,** nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God,

Act 16:1 Then came he to Derbe and Lystra: and, behold, a certain Disciple was there, named Timotheus, the son of a certain woman, which was a Jewess, and believed; but his father was a Greek:

Act 16:2 Which was well reported of by the brethren that were at Lystra and Iconium.

Act 16:3 Him would Paul have to go forth with him; and took and circumcised him because of the Jews which were in those quarters: for they knew all that his father was a Greek.

Paul himself tells the Galatians that if we be circumcised to follow the law, then Christ shall profit us nothing.

Gal 5:2 Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing.

Gal 5:3 For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law.

Paul knew firsthand how violently the Jews opposed the doctrine of Christ, so it was only natural for him to become fearful of this persecution and be tempted to deny Christ.

Act 14:19 And there came thither certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, **and, having stoned Paul, drew him out of the city, supposing he had been dead.**

Here is another example in Acts 21

Act 21:17 And when we had come to Jerusalem, the brethren received us

gladly.

Act 21:18 On the following day Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present.

Act 21:19 When he had greeted them, he told in detail those things which God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry.

Act 21:20 And when they heard it, they glorified the Lord. And they said To him, "You see, brother, how many myriads of Jews there are who have believed, and they are all zealous for the law;

Act 21:21 but they have been informed about you that you teach all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, saying that they Ought not to circumcise their children nor to walk according to the customs.

Act 21:22 What then? The assembly must certainly meet, for they will Hear that you have come.

Act 21:23 Therefore do what we tell you: We have four men who have taken a vow.

Act 21:24 Take them and be purified with them, and pay their expenses so that they may shave their heads, and that all may know that those things of which they were informed concerning you are nothing, but that you yourself also walk orderly and keep the law.

Act 21:25 But concerning the Gentiles who believe, we have written and decided that they should observe no such thing, except that they should keep themselves from things offered to idols, from blood, from things strangled, and from sexual immorality."

Act 21:26 Then Paul took the men, and the next day, having been Purified with them, entered the temple to announce the expiration of the days of purification, at which time an offering should be made for each one of them.

Act 21:27 Now when the seven days were almost ended, the Jews from Asia, seeing him in the temple, stirred up the whole crowd and laid hands on him,

Act 21:28 crying out, "Men of Israel, help! This is the man who teaches all men everywhere against the people, the law, and this place; and furthermore he also brought Greeks into the temple and has defiled this holy place."

Act 21:29 (For they had previously seen Trophimus the Ephesian with him in the city, whom they supposed that Paul had brought into the temple.)

Act 21:30 And all the city was disturbed; and the people ran together, seized Paul, and dragged him out of the temple; and immediately the doors were shut.

Act 21:31 Now as they were seeking to kill him, news came to the commander of the garrison that all Jerusalem was in an uproar.

Act 21:32 He immediately took soldiers and centurions, and ran down to them. And when they saw the commander and the soldiers, they stopped beating Paul.

This study covers this topic in far greater detail.

[http://aionios.com/2012-06/1-corinthians-1-13\\_17](http://aionios.com/2012-06/1-corinthians-1-13_17)

It is easy to speak boldly in the name of Christ when there is no persecution. We will all be like Peter and boldly pledge our allegiance to Christ before we deny him when the persecution comes.

Joh 13:36 Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, where are You going?" Jesus answered him, "Where I am going you cannot follow Me now, but you shall follow Me afterward."

Joh 13:37 Peter said to Him, "Lord, why can I not follow You now? I will Lay down my life for Your sake."

Joh 13:38 Jesus answered him, "Will you lay down your life for My sake? Most assuredly, I say to you, the rooster shall not crow till you have Denied me three times.

Mat 26:69 Now Peter sat outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl Came to him, saying, "You also were with Jesus of Galilee."

Mat 26:70 But he denied it before them all, saying, "I do not know what you are saying."

Mat 26:71 And when he had gone out to the gateway, another girl saw him and said to those who were there, "This fellow also was with Jesus of Nazareth."

Mat 26:72 But again he denied with an oath, "I do not know the Man!"

Mat 26:73 And a little later those who stood by came up and said to Peter, "Surely you also are one of them, for your speech betrays you."

Mat 26:74 Then he began to curse and swear, saying, "I do not know the man!" Immediately a rooster crowed.

Mat 26:75 And Peter remembered the word of Jesus who had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." So he went out and wept bitterly.

Christ restored Peter and he goes on to be a powerful witness for Christ. We must all go through this same process of denying Christ before we stand with him. We eventually grow to despise the shame that the world feels towards God's commands, and like Christ we are able to then endure the cross.

Heb 12:2 NKJV 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, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Christ was given the power through the Spirit of God to not care what the world thought about him. He was concerned about what his Father wanted

him to do. In due time, we will be given this same power to overcome our old carnal nature, and despise the shame as well.

This is a very difficult process, because it requires us to lose our life. Our lives, before coming to Christ, consist of an intricate web of idols that we rely upon to meet our needs, and things that we value more than Christ.

Mat 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.  
Mat 16:25 For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.

See this study for more on the topic.

<http://aionios.com/2013-01/why-am-i-significant-part-1/>

Here are some examples of what was required of the Apostles.

Peter gave up his career as a fisherman.

Mat 4:18 And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen.  
Mat 4:19 Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Joh 21:11 Simon Peter went up, and drew the net to land full of great fishes, an hundred and fifty and three: and for all there were so many, yet was not the net broken.

Joh 21:12 Jesus said to them, "Come and eat breakfast." Yet none of the disciples dared ask Him, "Who are You?"—knowing that it was the Lord.

Joh 21:13 Jesus then came and took the bread and gave it to them, and likewise the fish.

Joh 21:14 This is now the third time Jesus showed Himself to His disciples after He was raised from the dead.

Joh 21:15 So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him,

"Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Feed My lambs."

Joh 21:16 He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My sheep."

Joh 21:17 He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third

time, "Do you love me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep.

Paul gave up his status as a well respected Jew and Pharisee.

Php 3:4 though I also might have confidence in the flesh. If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so:

Php 3:5 circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; concerning the law, a Pharisee;

Php 3:6 concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.

Php 3:7 But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.

The Lord will also bring division between us and our families.

Mat 10:34 "Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword.

Mat 10:35 For I have come to 'SET A MAN AGAINST HIS FATHER, A DAUGHTER AGAINST HER MOTHER, AND A DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AGAINST HER MOTHER-IN-LAW';

Mat 10:36 and 'A MAN'S ENEMIES WILL BE THOSE OF HIS OWN HOUSEHOLD.'

Mat 10:37 He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.

As we begin to obey the doctrines of Christ we will suffer persecution.

Joh 15:18 "If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you.

Joh 15:19 If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.

Joh 15:20 Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also.

Followers of Christ are different than the rest of the world, and the longer we talk with him the more manifest that will become. We no longer run to the same excess of riot as the rest of the world and they the world finds this strange.

1Pe 4:3 For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries:

1Pe 4:4 Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you:

One of the most common things that separates us from others is when we stop celebrating all of the holidays of the world and the Church. Most families spend time together around the holidays, so when Christ convicts us that we should esteem all days alike, many people think we are quite strange.

This is just one example of the many things that cause us to be separated from others. Even if we are able to maintain relationships with our family and people in the world, it is never quite the same, because we no longer love the same things.

The more others know about our doctrine, the more their carnal mind will reject the Christ in us. God's people believe that all men will be saved, that we have no free will, that Christ was created, that the doctrine of the Trinity is false, that we should obey the laws of the land, that we should love our enemies, that we should not go to war, that we should not resist evil, and that God causes all things both good and evil, etc.

Any one of these doctrines can be extremely offensive to the carnal mind.

In due time we will become ashamed of our old carnal ways, and will be given the ability to overcome them.

Rom 6:21 What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death.

Looking back we will see that we are actually enemies of the cross of Christ, before we are delivered.

Php 3:18 NKJV For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: Php 3:19 whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame—who set their mind on earthly things.

Here is a description of us when we are enemies of Christ.

Jud 1:11 NKJV Woe to them! For they have gone in the way of Cain, have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit, and perished in the rebellion of Korah.

Jud 1:12 These are spots in your love feasts, while they feast with you without fear, serving only themselves. They are clouds without water, carried about by the winds; late autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, pulled up by the roots;

Jud 1:13 raging waves of the sea, **foaming up their own shame**;  
wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.

Cain committed the first murder by killing his brother Abel. He was angry that his brother's sacrifice to God was accepted and his was not (Gen 4).

Gen 4:3 NKJV And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD.

Gen 4:4 Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering,

Gen 4:5 but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.

Gen 4:6 So the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen?"

Gen 4:7 If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it."

Gen 4:8 Now Cain talked with Abel his brother; and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him.

Christ reveals to us that being unjustly angry with our brothers, as Cain was with Abel, will put us in danger of judgment.

Mat 5:21 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment:

Mat 5:22 But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca (you fool), shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

Here is a study series for more on judgment.

<http://aionios.com/2012-05/6th-milk-doctrine-eternal-judgment-part-1/>

Balaam was a diviner, who would pronounce blessings or curses upon people for money. He was hired by Balak king of Moab to curse Israel, but the Lord caused Balaam to bless Israel instead of curse them.

Jos 13:22 NKJV Balaam also, the son of Beor, the one who practiced divination, was killed with the sword by the people of Israel among the rest of their slain.

Neh 13:1 NKJV On that day they read from the Book of Moses in the hearing of the people. And in it was found written that no Ammonite or Moabite should ever enter the assembly of God,



Neh 13:2 for they did not meet the people of Israel with bread and water, **but hired Balaam against them to curse them**--yet our God turned the curse into a blessing.

Neh 13:3 as soon as the people heard the law, they separated from Israel all those of foreign descent.

We are just like Balaam before we are converted; we all "have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit".

1Ti 6:9 NKJV But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition.

1Ti 6:10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

We seek to be rich in the things that satisfy the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. Some of us actually sold God's word for money, while others cursed the Truth of God while pursuing our own lusts. This is much like Paul on the road to Damascus to kill Christians. He thought he was serving God, but was instead cursing Christ and his body.

Korah tried to begin a rebellion against Moses and Aaron claiming that the people did not need leaders, because the whole congregation was holy.

Num 16:3 NKJV They gathered together against Moses and Aaron, and said to them, "You take too much upon yourselves, for all the congregation is holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among them. Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the LORD?"

God has appointed different people to different roles within Israel. When Korah did not respect the leadership that God has put in place, he was actually rebelling against the Lord.

Num 16:11 NKJV Therefore you and all your company are gathered together against the LORD. And what is Aaron that you complain against him?"

Num 16:19 NKJV And Korah gathered all the congregation against them at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. Then the glory of the LORD appeared to all the congregation.

Num 16:20 And the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying,

Num 16:21 "Separate yourselves from among this congregation, that I may consume them in a moment."

Num 16:22 Then they fell on their faces, and said, "O God, the God of the spirits of all flesh, shall one man sin, and You be angry with all the

congregation?"

Num 16:23 So the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

Num 16:24 "Speak to the congregation, saying, 'Get away from the tents of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram.' "

Num 16:25 Then Moses rose and went to Dathan and Abiram, and the elders of Israel followed him.

Num 16:26 And he spoke to the congregation, saying, "Depart now from the tents of these wicked men! Touch nothing of theirs, lest you be consumed in all their sins."

Num 16:27 So they got away from around the tents of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram; and Dathan and Abiram came out and stood at the door of their tents, with their wives, their sons, and their little children.

Num 16:28 And Moses said: "By this you shall know that the LORD has sent me to do all these works, for I have not done them of my own will.

Num 16:29 If these men die naturally like all men, or if they are visited by the common fate of all men, then the LORD has not sent me.

Num 16:30 But if the LORD creates a new thing, and the earth opens its mouth and swallows them up with all that belongs to them, and they go down alive into the pit, then you will understand that these men have rejected the LORD."

Num 16:31 Now it came to pass, as he finished speaking all these words, that the ground split apart under them,

Num 16:32 and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, with their households and all the men with Korah, with all their goods.

Num 16:33 So they and all those with them went down alive into the pit; the earth closed over them, and they perished from among the assembly.

Num 16:34 Then all Israel who were around them fled at their cry, for they said, "Lest the earth swallow us up also!"

Num 16:35 And a fire came out from the LORD and consumed the two hundred and fifty men who were offering incense.

In the Body of Christ, God has appointed different people to different roles, just as he did in Israel. These roles are established by God for the good of the fellowship.

Eph 4:11 NKJV And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

Eph 4:12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

Eph 4:13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

Eph 4:14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,

We should recognize those who labor among us, and be grateful for the work that God is causing them to do for our benefit.

1Th 5:12 NKJV And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you,  
1Th 5:13 and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. Be at peace among yourselves.

These men that labor among us do not have domination over us, but rather are used by God to serve others and help their joy.

2Co 1:24 NKJV Not for that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy: for by faith ye stand.

Every member of the Body of Christ is important, but not all are given the same role inside of the body. We should not rebel against those that God has sent to us to help us grow in the faith.

1Co 12:29 NKJV Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles?  
1Co 12:30 Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret?  
1Co 12:31 But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way.

Our natural tendency is to despise authority and to follow after the rebellion of Korah. We will live by every word, so we will fall into the pit spiritually and reap the fruits of our rebellion, before we are delivered and given the ability to be persuaded by those God sends with his Word.

Here is what we should do regarding our leaders.

Heb 13:17 CLV Be persuaded by your leaders, and be deferring to them, for they are vigilant for the sake of your souls, as having to render an account, that they may be doing this with joy, and not with groaning, for this is disadvantageous for you."

Heb 13:17 ESV Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

In looking at the Greek, the best translation of these verses should be "be persuaded of those you esteem". We will see the good fruits of those that shepherd the flock, that they rightfully divide the Word and then they obey God's commands. We should be persuaded to listen to these men.

When we are going the way of Cain, Balaam or Korah, we are foaming up and making manifest our own shame. The Lord causes this, so that we can see that we are dead spiritually and in need of being saved.

Jud 1:11 NKJV Woe to them! For they have gone in the way of Cain, have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit, and perished in the rebellion of Korah.

Jud 1:12 These are spots in your love feasts, while they feast with you without fear, serving only themselves. They are clouds without water, carried about by the winds; late autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, pulled up by the roots;

Jud 1:13 raging waves of the sea, **foaming up their own shame**; wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.

Just as Adam and Eve, we will come to see the shame of our nakedness and desire to be clothed. The clothing we will desire is the righteousness of Christ.

So when you feel ashamed, consider why you feel that way. Are you ashamed of your evil behavior? If so, then repent and beg God for forgiveness and deliverance. He will work it for your good and his glory.

Are you ashamed because you are seeking to follow Christ but the world looks at your obedience as being foolish? If so, beg God for faith and strength to be obedient and not care what people think of you.

Are you afraid that God will put you to shame if you obey his commands? I greatly feared for quite a long time that if I was generous towards God and his people that disaster would come and that I would not be able to provide for myself. I had plenty to meet my own needs, but my fear of the future caused me not to want to help a brother or sister destitute of daily food.

I kept imagining all these different scenarios where I would lose my job, be unemployed for a long time, spend all my savings, and have to ask my father for help. I imagined how he would ridicule me for helping others and not storing up more for my own future needs. There is certainly value in having savings, but we cannot continue to save when a brother or sister is destitute of daily food, or has other urgent needs.

Jas 2:15 If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food,  
Jas 2:16 And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?  
Jas 2:17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

I knew I had to obey these verses in James, but I was plagued with this fear

of being put to shame. The Lord then led me to these verses which began to lift the fear and replace it with faith and boldness.

Rom 10:11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

Isa 54:4 Fear not; for thou shalt not be ashamed: neither be thou confounded; for thou shalt not be put to shame: for thou shalt forget the shame of thy youth, and shalt not remember the reproach of thy widowhood any more.

Pro 19:17 He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.

Pro 3:9 Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase:

Pro 3:10 So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

2Co 8:12 For if there is first a willing mind, it is accepted according to what one has, and not according to what he does not have.

2Co 8:13 For I do not mean that others should be eased and you burdened;

2Co 8:14 but by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may supply their lack, that their abundance also may supply your lack—that there may be equality.

2Co 8:15 As it is written, "HE WHO GATHERED MUCH HAD NOTHING LEFT OVER, AND HE WHO GATHERED LITTLE HAD NO LACK."

2Co 9:11 Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God.

2Co 9:12 For the administration of this service not only supplies the needs of the saints, but also is abounding through many thanksgivings to God,

2Co 9:13 while, through the proof of this ministry, they glorify God for the obedience of your confession to the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal sharing with them and all men,

2Co 9:14 and by their prayer for you, who long for you because of the exceeding grace of God in you.

These verses are talking about physical needs and also meeting others spiritual needs as well by sharing the truth of the Gospel. God will supply us each in different ways to serve the fellowship. If you don't have something physical to share, don't worry, God has given you other spiritual riches to share that are of far more worth than any physical possession.

We will all experience the fear of being put to shame in different ways. Whatever you fear, remember that it is GOD you are serving. He will never be put to shame, nor will he put his children to shame.

1Co 1:27 But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;

1Co 1:28 And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are:

**1Co 1:29 That no flesh should glory in his presence.**

Walking in the Spirit will bring glory, but walking in the flesh great shame.