

I. THINGS PEOPLE SHOULD BE ASHAMED OF

1. THEIR SINS AGAINST GOD
2. THEIR SINS AGAINST THEIR LOVED ONES
3. THEIR SINS AGAINST HUMANITY AND SOCIETY
4. THEIR SINS AGAINST THEMSELVES
5. THEIR SINS AGAINST THEIR COUNTRY

II. HOW COULD PEOPLE BE ASHAMED OF JESUS?

1. THEY OUGHT TO BE PROUD OF HIM
 - A. BECAUSE HE HAS LOVED THEM SO
 - B. BECAUSE HE DIED FOR THEM
 - C. BECAUSE HE SUSTAINS, PROTECTS, AND GUIDES US DAILY.
2. HOW PEOPLE ARE ASHAMED OF JESUS
 - A. IN SKEPTICAL REJECTION OF HIM AS THE TRUE MESSIAH & SAVIOR
also. that and Dr. letter accused of thought to prison -
 - B. IN AN UNBELIEVING DISREGARD TO HIS DEMANDS AND AUTHORITY
 - C. IN A COMPROMISING CONFORMITY TO THE WORLD.
 - D. IN AVOIDING A PUBLIC PROFESSION OF HIM.
 - E. IN AN UNWILLINGNESS TO CONSECRATE ALL WE ARE AND HAVE TO HIS SERVICE.

3. THEY ARE ASHAMED TO BE IDENTIFIED WITH HIM

- A. BECAUSE OF A SENSE OF UNWORTHINESS
 - (1). THE MYSTERY AND MAJESTY OF HIS PERSON
 - (2). THE SINFULNESS OF YOUR OWN LIFE.
- B. BECAUSE OF A SENSE OF GUILT
- C. BECAUSE OF A SENSE OF PRIDE.
 - (1). THEY ARE HUMBLD BY THE NATURE OF HIS WORK;
IT IS BASED AND PREDICATED ON OUR HELPLESSNESS
 - (2). "THEREFORE HELL HATH ENLARGED HERSELF, AND OPENED HER MOUTH WITHOUT MEASURE: AND THEIR GLORY, AND THEIR MULTITUDE, AND THEIR POMP, AND HE THAT REJOICETH, SHALL DESCEND INTO IT." ISA. 5:14

D. BECAUSE OF A SENSE OF FEAR AND EMBARRASSMENT FROM FRIENDS

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III. THE CONSEQUENCES OF BEING ASHAMED OF JESUS.

1. HE WILL BE ASHAMED OF YOU
2. HE WILL BRING PERPETUAL SHAME UPON YOU,
JER. 23:40, "AND I WILL BRING AN EVERLASTING REPROACH UPON YOU AND A PERPETUAL SHAME, WHICH SHALL NOT BE FORGOTTEN."

IV. A TRUE CHRISTIAN WILL NOT BE ASHAMED OF

1. OF JESUS

2. OF THE GOSPEL, ROM. 1:16

3. OF THE TESTIMONY OF OUR LORD.

A. "BE NOT THOU THEREFORE ASHAMED OF THE TESTIMONY OF OUR LORD." II TIM. 1:8

B. A YOUNG CONVERT GOT UP TO SAY SOMETHING FOR CHRIST IN AN OPEN AIR TESTIMONY MEETING. NOT BEING USED TO PUBLIC SPEAKING, HE STAMMERED AND STUTTERED A GOOD DEAL AT FIRST, AND AN INFIDEL SHOUTED OUT, "YOUNG MAN, YOU OUGHT TO BE ASHAMED OF YOURSELF STANDING AND TALKING LIKE THAT." THE YOUNG MAN REPLIED, "SIR, I AM ASHAMED OF MYSELF, BUT I'M NOT ASHAMED OF JESUS."

THAT WAS A GOOD ANSWER WASN'T IT?

V. IF WE ARE NOT ASHAMED OF JESUS, THEN

1. JESUS WILL NOT BE ASHAMED OF US AND WILL CONFESS US BEFORE THE FATHER, MT. 10:32,33 - *Daniel Curry's dream*

2. GOD WILL NOT BE ASHAMED TO BE CALLED OUR GOD, HEB. 11:16.

PAUL NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL: (Rom. 1:16)

It is easy for the Christian to be hesitant, to maintain cowardly silences and secular compromises, to evade taking a position for Christ, and to be anonymous and try to pass unnoticed in a non-Christian environment.

Sometimes the world can be so intimidating.

Paul had just said that he intends to come to Rome.

Rome, or New York City, or Chicago, or Washington, or London, or Paris, etc., can be so overwhelming.

What could an obscure provincial like Paul of Tarsus bring to such a city swollen with imperial pride?

Its narrow streets swarmed with "a people proud but with little reason, opposing labor and thought, shameless in vices, brutal and bloodthirsty in its pleasures."

What did Paul have to offer? He was not a great orator who could mesmerize an audience by his rhetorical gifts.

He represented One who was known as the son of a carpenter in a small village in a distant province...and who died like a criminal in the company of robbers." How could the news about such a man change a city like Rome?

Oh, but there was great power, dynamite, in that message about that Savior!

2/20/55 - H.M.

H.C. #1, 24 Apr. 60