



Confronting the Unbelief of Degrading Shame

2 Timothy 1:7–12

“I am Not”

Simon Peter and John followed Jesus from the garden to the courtyard of the high priest.

John spoke to the servant girl and brought Peter inside.

“The servant girl at the door said to Peter, ‘You also are not one of this man's disciples, are you?’ He said, ‘I am not.’” (John 18:17).

Lies and denial come from subtle **shame**.

Struggling with Shame

Shame becomes a problem when we **degrade** ourselves and others.

“I am not worth much, because I cannot resist sin.”

If we are **ashamed of the Gospel**, what are we doing or thinking to cause this?

Some shame is helpful and some is not.

Should you feel shame for immodesty or filthy language? Should you feel shame for Christ?

There is a helpless shame when someone feels shame as a victim.

No Shame

Should mature Christians still struggle with **the shame** of past sin?

There is no shame in sins anymore when believers are forgiven (Col 2:12–13; 1 John 1:9).

There is **no shame** in trusting in Christ.

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame” (Isa 28:16; cf. Rom 9:33; 10:11).

Ashamed of Christ?

Why are some people **ashamed of Christ?**

Do they see that Jesus offends people?

Do their lives not match Christ's teachings?

Are you ashamed of Christ?

“For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels” (Luke 9:26).

“I Know Whom I Believe”

What can Christians gain from Paul’s declaration in **2 Timothy 1:7–12**?

God gave us **a spirit not of shame** but of power, love, and self-control (2 Tim 1:7).

Paul urged **not to shame the testimony of the Lord** even to suffer for the Gospel (2 Tim 1:8).

Christians need **no shame because Jesus destroyed death and brought life** through the Gospel (2 Tim 1:10).

Paul has no shame for the Gospel because **he knows whom he believes and is convinced of Christ** (2 Tim 1:12).

No Shame in Christian

There is no shame in **suffering as a Christian.**

“Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?” (1 Pet 4:16–17).

For the believer, there is **no shame in repentance, persecution, or evangelism?**

Avoiding Shame

Christians can **avoid shame** by rightly handling God's Word.

“Remind them of these things, and charge them before God not to quarrel about words, which does no good, but only ruins the hearers. Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth. But avoid irreverent babble, for it will lead people into more and more ungodliness, and their talk will spread like gangrene” (2 Tim 2:14–17a).

Where is Shame?

Where is **the shame** in overcoming sin?

“But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death” (Rom 6:21).

There is **shame** in justifying sin.

“Do not be deceived: ‘Bad company ruins good morals.’ Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame” (1 Cor 15:33–34; cf. 6:5–6).

Sexual sins bring shame upon a person’s body and disregards the resurrection (1 Cor 6:12–20).

Better to Confess Christ

You are **better to confess Christ** than deny Him.

When Peter was in the courtyard, another asked if he was a disciple of Christ.

“But Peter said, ‘Man, I am not.’ And after an interval of about an hour still another insisted, saying, ‘Certainly this man also was with him, for he too is a Galilean.’ But Peter said, ‘Man, I do not know what you are talking about.’ And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how he had said to him, ‘Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times.’ And he went out and wept bitterly”
(Luke 22:59–62).

Challenge to Change

Faith overcomes shame.

“But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me” (2 Tim 1:12).

Show no shame to carry your Bible, pray when you eat out, or confess the source of your morality.

Develop a **higher view** of the Gospel because Christ has conquered death and brought life.

Confession and Salvation

Confessing Christ is essential to salvation
(Rom 10:9–10).

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek”
(Rom 1:16).

Baptism is a burial into Christ’s death Christ to rise into newness of life.

“For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his” (Rom 6:5).



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