

I AM NOT ASHAMED

Billy Bland

TEXT:

“Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles. For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day” (2Timothy 1:11-12).

Purpose: To help us serve God unashamedly.

Introduction:

- 1) It is not always easy to live the Christian life. (opposition)
- 2) We need courage & conviction in serving the Lord,
- 3) Young people Have you ever been ashamed to let it be known that you were a Christian? - Older people?
- 4) Shame has a way of intimidating us.
- 5) However, we ought not to be ashamed. (read text)
- 6) God is not ashamed of us, when we do His will.
 - (1) “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,” (Hebrews 2:11).
 - (2) “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” (Hebrews 11:16).
- 7) Paul gives this admonition. “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2Timothy 2:15).
- 8) Let us resolve: "I am not ashamed..."

I. I AM NOT ASHAMED OF CHRIST

- 1) “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” (Mark 8:38).
- 2) Jesus Christ came to bring light into the world. “Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life” (John 8:12).
- 3) Jesus has a different standard from the world.

4) Some ashamed of Christ. "Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God" (John 12:42-43).

5) Jesus' warning. "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" (Mark 8:38).

6) Why ashamed? "in the adulterous and sinful generation."

7) We must make a choice.

II. I AM NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST

1) "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" (Romans 1:16).

2) Paul was ready to preach the gospel to Rome (capital) "I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise. So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also" (Romans 1:14-15).

3) Notice that Jesus put Himself and His words together. "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" (Mark 8:38).

4) One cannot not have the Christ without His words (the gospel).

5) Let us not be ashamed of the teachings of Christ.

- (1) Whether it is on the nature of God.
- (2) The church.
- (3) Sin, etc.

III. I AM NOT ASHAMED WHEN I SUFFER AS A CHRISTIAN

1) "Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf" (1Peter 4:16).

2) When suffering as a Christian, we feel the marked contrast between the world and God.

3) Paul suffered greatly as a Christian.

(I) "According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. But if I live in the flesh, this is the fruit of my labour: yet what I shall choose I wot not. For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better: Nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful for you" (Philippians 1:20-24) (in prison).

(2) Encouraged Timothy not to be ashamed. "Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;" (2Timothy 1:8).

(3) Paul wasn't ashamed. "For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day. Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus" (2Timothy 1:12-13).

(4) Onesiphorus wasn't ashamed of Paul's condition. "The Lord give mercy unto the house of Onesiphorus; for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain:" (2Timothy 1:16).

4) It would have been much easier on Paul had he quietly slipped into obscurity - but he preached & defended the truth. (had opposition)

CONCLUSION:

1) Let us not be ashamed:

- (1) Of the person of Christ.
- (2) The Gospel of Christ.
- (3) Or of the persecution of Christ.

2) If we are ashamed - He will be ashamed of us. "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" (Luke 9:26).

3) Christ is coming back, and if we abide in Him we will not be ashamed before Him at His coming. "And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world" (1John 2:2).