

2 Corinthians 4:6, NIV – “For God, who said, ‘Let light shine out of darkness,’ made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.”

2 Corinthians 4:7, NIV – “But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.”

- A hypocrite is someone who makes an appearance that things are a certain way, when on the inside, they are a different way

WE NEED TO CHANGE THE RULES WE LIVE BY

2 Corinthians 10:5, NIV – “We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”

- Allow your thoughts to be obedient to Christ, not to some shame-based rules that were put on you

SOME TRUTH’S TO BASE YOUR NEW RULES ON

1. You Need To Know About Yourself:

- Everyone is just like you
- No one is perfect
- We’re all in process of change
- Nothing that has happened to you is a statement of your personal worth
- You don’t have to remain where you are
- You choices reflect the rules you’re following

2. You Need To Know About Other People:

- You’re not responsible FOR other people, you’re responsible TO other people
- If you can’t say no to others, you still haven’t chosen to say yes

3. You Need To Know About God:

- God is not like your parents
- God loves you for who you are, but He loves you too much to let you stay that way you are
- God calls us to love and serve Him, not other people
- God builds His church out of bruised and broken people, just like you and me

Colossians 3:27, NIV – “To [Christians] God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.”

FREEDOM FROM SHAME # 3 – How Shame Blocks God’s Glory

David Hibbert – October 5, 2003

REVIEW

1 John 2:27-28, NASB – “(27) And as for you, the anointing which you received from Him abides in you ...and just as it has taught you, you abide in Him. (28) And now, little children, abide in Him, so that when He appears, we may have confidence and not shrink away from Him in shame at His coming.”

- Guilt is a feeling that says, “I made a mistake; I did something wrong”
- Shame is a feeling that says, “I am a mistake, I am something wrong”
- Guilt is a feeling of wrongness of action – “I did something wrong – I made a mistake”
- Shame is a feeling of wrongness of being – “I am something wrong – I am a mistake”
- Shame is a life-controlling feeling on the inside, that governs what we do, and how we act, and how we relate to other people and to the Lord

JESUS WANTS US ALL TO EXPERIENCE AND SEE GOD’S GLORY

JOHN 17:22-24, NIV – “(22) I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: (23) I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. (24) Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.”

WE ARE CALLED TO MINISTER GOD’S GLORY

1. New Covenant Ministry Is By The Spirit

2 Corinthians 3:6, NIV – “(6) [Jesus] has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant – not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.”

2. New Covenant Ministry Comes With Glory

2 Corinthians 3:7-8, NIV – “(7) Now if the ministry that brought death, which was engraved in letters on stone, came with glory, so that the Israelites could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of its glory, fading though it was, (8) will not the ministry of the Spirit be even more glorious?”

3. New Covenant Ministry Abounds In Glory

2 Corinthians 3:9-11, NIV – “(9) If the ministry that condemns men is glorious, how much more glorious [abounding in glory] is the ministry that brings righteousness! (10) For what was glorious has no glory now in comparison with the surpassing glory. (11) And if what was fading away came with glory, how much greater is the glory of that which lasts!”

THE PROBLEM OF THE VEIL

1. When We Experience God’s Glory, We Are Moved To Boldness

2 Corinthians 3:12, NIV – “(12) Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold.”

2. The Veil Keeps People From Seeing God’s Glory

2 Corinthians 3:13, NIV – “(13) We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to keep the Israelites from gazing at it while the radiance was fading away.”

3. Spiritual Veils Are Only Removed By Christ

2 Corinthians 3:14-17, NIV – “(14) But their minds were made dull [hardened], for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away. (15) Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. (16) But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. (17) Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.”

4. The Absence Of Veils Allow Us To Reflect God’s Glory And Be Transformed

2 Corinthians 3:18, NIV – “(18) And we, who with unveiled faces all [behold and] reflect the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”

5. New Covenant Ministry Is Unveiled Ministry

2 Corinthians 4:1, NIV – “(1) Therefore, since through God’s mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart.”

HOW DO WE ATTAIN UNVEILED FACES AND HEARTS?

1. Refuse To Hide Any Longer

2 Corinthians 4:2, NASB – “(2) but we have renounced the things hidden [veiled] because of shame, not walking in craftiness or adulterating the word of

God, but by the manifestation of truth commending ourselves to every man’s conscience in the sight of God.”

□ In veiling ourselves, our hearts, we veil God’s glory, which is in our hearts

□ “Hidden” (Greek) = “To cover up, to hide, to veil, to conceal”

2. Refuse To Pretend Any Longer

2 Corinthians 4:2, NASB – “(2) but we have renounced the things hidden [veiled] because of shame, not walking in craftiness or adulterating the word of God, but by the manifestation of truth commending ourselves to every man’s conscience in the sight of God.”

□ “Craftiness” (Greek) = “craftiness, cleverness, trickery, deception”

□ You develop a sophisticated system of appearance management in your life to make everything look okay, even though you don’t feel okay

3. Refuse To Misuse God’s Word Any Longer

2 Corinthians 4:2, NASB – “(2) but we have renounced the things hidden [veiled] because of shame, not walking in craftiness or adulterating [acting deceptively using] the word of God, but by the manifestation of truth commending ourselves to every man’s conscience in the sight of God.”

□ Adulterate (Greek) = “doulo” = to adulterate, ensnare or mingle the word of God with false doctrines and ideas of men, for the purpose of deceiving or giving a false understanding

□ We mix God’s word with worldly logic, in order to justify doing those deceitful things we feel we need to do, to cover up all the stuff inside, that we feel shameful about

2 Corinthians 4:2, NASB – “(2) but we have renounced the things hidden [veiled] because of shame, not walking in craftiness or adulterating the word of God, but by the manifestation of truth commending ourselves to every man’s conscience in the sight of God.”

SHAME COVERS THE GLORY OF THE GOSPEL IN US

2 Corinthians 4:3-5, NIV – “(3) And even if our gospel is veiled [hidden], it is veiled to those who are perishing. (4) The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. (5) For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus’ sake.

□ In hiding our shame, we also hide the glory of Christ, the light of the gospel within us