

## **The Wednesday Word, March 20, 0019: Not Ashamed! - Part 1**

*They looked unto Him and were lightened and their faces were not ashamed Psalm 34:5.*

We've all done things of which we are ashamed. Although we have been forgiven through the blood of Christ, we wish we could go back in time and erase all manner of sins and failures.

However, there are certain things of which we need not be ashamed, mortified or embarrassed. First, and foremost, we are not ashamed of Jesus. For example,

### **We are not Ashamed of His Birth.**

He was Virgin born. Sceptics through the centuries have railed at this magnificent truth. Even during His lifetime Christ was taunted about His birth. In John 8:41, His enemies mockingly said, "We were not born of fornication." In other words, they were calling Him a bastard.

But we believe it just the way it was foretold. The angel said to Mary,  
"The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee"  
(Luke 1:35).

It was a miracle act of paternity. The scoffers may not like it, but Yahweh had always signalled His intention to become human. According to the Law, if someone was to be redeemed (bought back) and have their debts paid, they could only be redeemed by a Kinsman (Leviticus 25:47-55). The redeemer had to be related. He had to be a Kinsman Redeemer. Thus, Yahweh announced in Isaiah 43:15 (and other places), that He was the "Gaal," the Kinsman Redeemer of His people.

This means, every time He refers to Himself as the Gaal, the Lord was prophesying that He would become a man. Consequently, the Virgin Birth present us with no problems.

I am not ashamed of His birth. Are you?

### **As Believers, we are not Ashamed of His Miracles.**

He was a real faith healer. There was no money angle. There was no sham or pretence. In Christ we had an invasion of supernatural reality. Unfortunately, today if you talk about miracles, people think you're 'away with the fairies.' But we Christians believe in His miracles ... every single one. We are not embarrassed by them. We don't feel we have to explain them.

He healed blind eyes.

He raised people from the dead.

He ruined every funeral He ever attended.

I am not ashamed of His miracles ... Are you?

### **As Believers, we are not Ashamed of His Claims.**

Jesus claimed the most remarkable things. He claimed,

"I and the Father are one" (John 10:30).

"Before Abraham was I am" (John 8:58).

"No man comes to the Father but by me" (John 14:6).

Jesus by this last statement claimed to be both intolerant and exclusive.

Why intolerant? Because, He didn't tolerate any other claiming to be the way to God. He is the Way! But, it wasn't an unkind intolerance. Parents get intolerant and, because of the dangers, forbid their children from playing in the middle of the street. No one in their right mind would say their intolerance was hateful.

Why exclusive? Because He excludes all other mediators. Buddha is out, Joseph Smith and Brigham Young are Out, Mohammed is out. Christ alone is the revelation and truth of God. Because of love, He is both exclusive and intolerant. I am not ashamed of His claims. Are you?

**As Believers, we are not Ashamed of His Silence.**

Jesus stood before His accusers and answered them not a word (Matthew 26:62-63).

Why?

He stood before His accusers much in the same way we would have had to stand before God. As unredeemed sinners we would have had nothing to say before Him (Romans 3:19). \

He stood in silence, but it was not the silence of guilt. No indeed, this silence was prophesied in Isaiah 53:7 "*... he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he opened not his mouth.*"

He stood in silence in our place as we would have had to stand before God. He could have defended Himself, but He stood in silence because He was the Substitute.

Are you ashamed of His silence? I'm not!

And that's the Gospel Truth!