

Hiding from God

TEXT: Genesis 3:8

INTRODUCTION:

- A. AS CHILDREN, ALL HAVE TRIED TO HIDE SOMETHING FROM OUR PARENTS. SOONER OR LATER WE WERE FOUND OUT.
- B. WHEN ADAM & EVE SINNED THEY TRIED TO HIDE THEIR NAKEDNESS AND SHAME. **THEY WERE FOUND OUT, TOO.**
- C. IT'S THE NATURE OF MAN TO HIDE HIS SIN(**John 3:19-20**).
 1. Sometimes this works when trying to hide from man.
 2. Danger comes when do something wrong and think that God will not see it.
- D. WHY WOULD MEN AND WOMEN BE SO FOOLISH AS TO TRY TO HIDE SIN FROM AN ALL-KNOWING GOD.

I. GUILT.

A. **FEELINGS OF GUILT - SHAME.**

1. **Shame:** "A painful feeling of guilt, embarrassment, or disgrace. Something that is unfortunate or regrettable"(**Webster**).
2. Shame can be overwhelming(**Ezra 9:6**).
 - a. David, even after being forgiven(**Psa. 51:1-17**).
 - b. Peter(**Matt. 26:74-75**).
 - c. Judas(**Matt. 27:3-5**).
3. A necessary quality(**1 Tim. 2:9**). **Shamefastness, *aidos***, "a sense of shame, modesty,...Shamefastness is that modesty which is 'fast' or rooted in the character..."(**Vine's**)
4. But one that is lost(**Phil. 3:19; Jude 1:13; 1 Cor. 6:5; 15:34; Isa 3:9**).
5. We should sorrow in our shame(**James 4:6-10; 2 Cor. 7:10**).

B. **JUDICIAL GUILT AND FEAR OF PUNISHMENT.**

1. "I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself"(**Gen. 3:10**).
 - a. He had done something against God and knew it was wrong.
 - b. He was fearful of what God was going to do to him(**2:16-17**).
2. **Heb. 10:31.** "It is a fearful thing." (**Matt. 10:28**).
 - a. God knows our secrets(**Psa. 139:1-2; Heb. 4:12-13**).
 - b. A perfect judge and standard(**2 Cor. 5:10; Acts 17:30; John 12:48**).
3. "Be sure your sin will find you out"(**Num 32:23**).

II. THEY THINK GOD IS LIKE MEN(Psa. 50:21).

A. WE MISTAKE GOD'S LONGSUFFERING FOR APPROVAL OR INABILITY TO DISCOVER.

1. God was longsuffering with many:
 - a. **Gen. 6:1-6** - gave man 120 years to repent.
 - b. The Israelites(**Num. 14:11-21**).
 - c. The Ninevites. Gave them another chance(**Jonah 1-4**).
 - d. Is long suffering with us(**2 Pet. 3:9**).
2. **Gal. 6:7-9.** God is aware of what is going on in our lives. Punishment will come to those who do not repent of their sin.
3. **2 Peter 3:9; 2 Tim. 2:11-13.** God keeps his promises to both righteous and unrighteous.

B. IS THERE ANYTHING THAT GOD DOESN'T KNOW?

(**Dan 2:20-22; Prov. 15:3; 2 Chron. 16:9; Jer. 23:23-24**).

III. DISTASTEFUL RESPONSIBILITIES.

A. JONAH'S RELUCTANCE(**Jonah 4:1-3**).

B. THE SLOTH OF THE ONE TALENT MAN(**Matt. 25:24-30**).

CONCLUSION: GOD KNOWS EVERYTHING!

- A. **Heb. 4:11-13.** ALL THINGS ARE OPEN TO HIS SIGHT.
- B. **Psa. 139:7-12.** PROMISE AND WARNING.
- C. **Rev. 3:20.** HIS INVITATION.