



WHOEVER IS ASHAMED OF ME AND MY WORDS

MARK 8:38-9:1

—The Warning—

Jesus' inclusion of "My words" does not limit the warning simply to statements He has made;

2 TIMOTHY 3:16

¹⁶ *All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness...*

"Shame" is synonymous with denial and rejection, and the opposite is acceptance and claiming;

PSALM 25:3

³ *Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.*

PSALM 119:6

⁶ *Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.*

ISAIAH 41:10-11

¹⁰ *...fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. ¹¹ Behold, all who are incensed against you shall be put to shame and confounded; those who strive against you shall be as nothing and shall perish.*

Christ spoke these words with the intention of a forceful impact upon His hearers;

MATTHEW 7:21-23

²¹ *"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²² On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' ²³ And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'"*

The one before whom we feel shame is pointing an undeniable finger at that which the soul values; at whether we are saving life or laying life down, at whether are seeing the old man on the cross with Christ or not.

The fear of man: one of fallen mankind's most powerful temptations;

PROVERBS 29:25

²⁵ *The fear of man lays a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD is safe.*

ISAIAH 41:13

¹³ *For I, the LORD your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, "Fear not, I am the one who helps you."*

ISAIAH 51:12

¹² *"I, I am he who comforts you; who are you that you are afraid of man who dies, of the son of man who is made like grass..."*

Embracing Christ's words also means embracing His shame;

HEBREWS 13:13-14

¹³ *Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. ¹⁴ For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come.*

Escape from shame is not an option. The question is: From whom will we feel shame, sinful man, or our Maker?

Although we are worthy of great shame, Christ will feel no shame over us, because He is one with us;

HEBREWS 2:11

¹¹ For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified [are one]. *That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers...*

2 TIMOTHY 2:11-13

¹¹ The saying is trustworthy, for: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; ¹² if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us; ¹³ if we are faithless, he remains faithful— *for he cannot deny himself.*

—The Promise—

Two other instances of Jesus' foretelling of future events with an attached timeframe;

MATTHEW 10:21-23

²¹ Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, ²² and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. ²³ When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, *you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.*

MATTHEW 24:3-4, 29-34

³ As he sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be, and *what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?*" ⁴ And Jesus answered them, "See that no one leads you astray...²⁹ "Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ³⁰ *Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.* ³¹ And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. ³² "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. ³³ So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁴ Truly, I say to you, *this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.*

"Power" in the New Testament, and how it relates to believers;

ACTS 1:6-8

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

The boldness and effectiveness of speech about Christ;

ACTS 2:11

¹¹ " ...we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God."

ACTS 2:17-18

¹⁷ "And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; ¹⁸ even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

ACTS 3:12-14

¹² And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? ¹³ The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. ¹⁴ *But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you...*"

The message that saves lost sinners;

ROMANS 1:16

¹⁶ 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.*

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18

¹⁸ For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, *but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.*

Peace and contentedness in the face of persecution and tribulation

2 CORINTHIANS 12:8-10

⁸ Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. ⁹ But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, *for my power is made perfect in weakness.*” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰ *For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*

PHILIPPIANS 3:8-10

⁸ Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰ that I may know him and the *power of his resurrection*, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death.

PHILIPPIANS 4:11-13

¹¹ Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹² I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³ I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Two encouraging verses;

2 TIMOTHY 1:12

¹² ...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.

PHILIPPIANS 1:6

⁶ And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.