

SINGLE ALLIANCE

08/31/01

SEARCH FOR SIGNIFICANCE- "THE MIRROR OF FREEDOM"

I. Introduction

A. Last week we looked at the third lie of Satan that he likes to use to hold people in bondage

B. This week we will finish this series and talk about the fourth lie of Satan concerning our identity.

C. This lie is, "I am hopeless, I cannot and will never change"

D. Satan lies to us are very tricky. He lies in first person present tense, and makes us believe it is our own thoughts!

E. This lie is founded in a shame based mentality

F. Satan tries to make people feel ashamed for what they have done or what others said about them. His goal is to get a person to move from feeling shame for what they have done to feeling shameful about themselves as a person.

G. The answer to lie #1 is justification. The answer to lie #2 is reconciliation. The answer #3 lie is propitiation. The answer to lie #4 is regeneration. We are new people equipped to live new lives!

II. Free from shame

A. Having a proper view of your identity is key to how you will live.

B. **Prov. 23:7**- As you think you will be

C. God has made animals to act from instinct. Human behavior comes from beliefs and ways we think.

D. **You actually have never seen your face.** You have only seen reflections of your face. You must look at your reflection and take it by faith that it is the way you look.

E. There are two different mirrors that will reflect your identity. One is false and the other is truth.

F. Satan's word is a mirror that he wants you to believe is your true identity. This mirror is based upon lies but if you believe

that mirror about your identity it will cause you to live in line and in response to that.

G. Many people believe they are shameful and ugly based upon this mirror that Satan shows them. This mirror is the mirror of shame. It reflects upon our past.

H. It is very interesting to see where the word “shame” got its origin. The word shame comes from the Greek word **aischune**. This word came from Greek mythology. Aischune was actually the name of a beautiful goddess. In Greek mythology this goddess Aischune was so beautiful that other goddesses were jealous of her. Aphrodite was so jealous of her that she put a curse upon her. She put a curse on her that when she looked at her reflection she saw that she was horribly disfigured. When Aischune saw her reflection she was so ashamed she put a cover over her head and lived in seclusion. The problem was that she had exquisite beauty the whole time. Only her reflection was disfigured. She believed the mirror she looked into.

I. This is how shame works with us. Satan has a cursed mirror that shows a reflection of us based upon our past. It casts a disfigured reflection of us based upon what others have told us and words of curses.

J. We have a different mirror we can look to. **James 1:25**

K. This mirror casts a reflection of a person who is free from sin, condemnation, sickness, poverty, and oppression. This is the mirror of liberty or freedom. We can either look into the mirror of shame or the mirror of freedom! Which one we believe will determine our beliefs, thoughts, and ultimately our actions.

III. **New Life**

A. In this mirror of freedom we see that we are totally a new person. The old person has passed away.

B. **2 Cor. 5:17**- The old person you used to be with all his old things have passed away. That old person died! The new has become. The old you passed away! The new have been born!

- C. We have been regenerated. **Titus 3:5**
- D. We are new person that is righteous and holy-**Eph. 4:24**
- E. Many have not given their old self a proper burial
- F. Many are guilty of committing identity theft. They are taking on the identity of a dead person- the old person who died according to **Romans 6:6!**
- G. God sees us totally a new person. When we enter into heaven we will be given a new name. This is because we are not the old person we used to be. **Rev. 2:17** God does not change it now because the government would not understand!
- H. God desires we walk in the newness of life. **Romans 6:4** We are actually equipped to walk free and holy because of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God.
- I. How can we walk in the newness of life? It is by renewing our mind. **Romans 12:2**- Metamorphosis- This greek word means take on an outward form that is indicative of the inner nature. Much like a butterfly! It starts out a maggot but inside that maggot is a butterfly. It metamorphosis's into what it is already on the inside.
- J. We are transformed by turning away from Satan's mirror and looking into God's mirror. **2 Cor. 3:18**
- K. We outwardly become what we behold. If we behold Satan's mirror we will be conformed to that image. If we behold God's mirror we will be transformed into that image of the Spirit of God.
- L. **1 John 3:2**- We become like him when we behold him as he is

IV. Conclusion

- A. We have a choice which mirror we will give heed to.
- B. If we have looked in one mirror all our lives it seems wrong, dishonest, and awkward to start looking a different mirror that shows a different reflection of us.
- C. So many have looked into the mirror of shame so long that is what they believe about themselves. We will live in line with

what we believe in our hearts. It is our set point. We will subconsciously bring ourselves to the level of what we believe about ourselves.

- D. You are a new person, with a new heart and spirit. You have a new identity. We need to verbally acknowledge who we are now each and every day.
- E. Daily time spent looking into the Word of God and especially the N.T. epistles will bring transformation if we believe it, speak it, and act on it.
- F. Pray