

1. We all know the sad experience of being ashamed or disappointed in someone very close to us.

- a. There will be times in every one of our lives when this will happen, and there will also be times when "we will do" things that will cause those to whom we are very close ... to be ashamed of us.
 - i. *I can't help thinking of Adam and Eve, who were so very close to God after they were created, they were friends of God, they walked with God, but after they sinned, "they hid themselves (in shame) from the presence of the Lord God behind the trees of the garden".*
- b. Being ashamed when you and I sin is what we should be as Christians, especially because our sin is first and foremost against God, and very dishonoring to the Lord Jesus Christ, who suffered and died for our sins!

2. Yours and my spiritual goal every single day should be to turn away from every sin that presents itself to us! 1 John 2:1

- a. But we all have bad days don't we... when we fail miserably, days in which we are ashamed of ourselves!
- b. But as bad as you may have failed today or yesterday, the Lord Jesus IS NOT ASHAMED to call you, His brethren. I'm not telling you this to ease the shame that you feel when you sin, if you're not ashamed of your sins, that is a problem..... but what I am telling is ... ON YOUR WORST DAY, God will not cast you off as His dear child, and Jesus IS STILL not ashamed to call you, His brethren. *Hebrews 2:11-13*
 - i. *(V11): "For both He that sanctifies, (Jesus) and they who are sanctified, (you, dear Christian) ARE ALL OF (or from) ONE".*
- c. Beloved, you and the Lord Jesus ARE from Adam. "The Sanctifier" and "the sanctified" share in the same humanity! *Luke 3:23,38*
 - i. *Jesus had to become a Man, (not only to redeem us) but also to fully identify with us (and for us) in all our struggles, our failures, and to be there for us when we do fall into sin!*

3. THERE REALLY IS something to ... genuinely sympathizing with someone in their struggles because you've gone through the same trials or struggles.

- a. I've heard people say, "you don't know what I am feeling, because you haven't experienced what I am going through"!
- b. THAT'S TRUE, but Jesus does know, because HE experienced every difficulty, every temptation, and every human struggle that you have or will ever experience in your life, and there is NO ONE whom you can go to among your earthly friends that can say that!

- c. THIS IS WHY (in your struggles and temptations), you must go to Jesus, as your Lord, brother, and your best Helper and Friend, because in His humanity, He endured everything that you will, but He did not fail or fall into sin! Proverbs 17:17, 18:24

4. Listen to me: What good is it to seek for help from someone who was tempted, failed, and sinned in their trials and adversities?

- a. The Lord Jesus is the ONLY ONE who can really help you in your struggles, for He is the only One who did not fail or sin, and therefore, He is the Only One who has THE RIGHT ANSWERS for you! Hebrews 2:16-18
- b. Even though (in our minds) we think of Jesus being ashamed of us when we fail and fall into sin, know that He is not ashamed of you dear Christian, instead, He loves you, and He will continue to come to your aid, as your sympathizing Brother/Kinsmen Redeemer! Hebrews 4:14-16

5. Not only is Jesus our Redeemer and not ashamed to call us His brethren... Look at (V12). This is from Psalm 22 and was written prophetically of the terrible and agonizing sufferings of the Lord Jesus on His cross.

- a. But in Psalm 22:22, the Psalmist began to write of Jesus arising from the darkness and agony of Calvary, seeing US, who are the joy and the rejoicing of His heart, His redeemed, whom He again calls brethren!
- i. I want you to see that these are Jesus' Words, "I will declare Thy Name (God's Name) unto My Brethren (that's you Christian), in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee"!
- b. This hasn't ceased! In all your weaknesses, frailty, and failings, on your worst day, dear Christian, Jesus is not ashamed to call "My brethren"!

6. And last, Hebrews 2:13: "And again, I will put MY TRUST in Him."

- a. These are Jesus' Words! SEE HERE, dear Christian that your Elder Brother identified with you in the weakness of His humanity ... when He was tempted and struggled Jesus TRUSTED in His Father!
- b. Are you struggling with trusting God? GO TO THE ONLY ONE, who in His life TRUSTED in His Father, He is the Only One who can completely understand you, sympathize with you, comfort you, and rightly teach you how to trust God! Jesus, in your brother born for adversity! Hebrews 2:17
- i. And (V13b): "Behold, (that is what) I (did in my humanity), and that is what the children whom thou hast given me" are to do, every day of their earthly humanity, for they are my brethren!
1. Hebrews 5:7-9, 2:11-13