

## Series: **Not Ashamed**

Intro: In Romans 5:

- vs. 2 – By Jesus- by faith we “**rejoice in hope of the glory of God**”
- #1 - vs. 5 - “**hope maketh not ashamed!**”

Then week #2 - Romans 1:16 – “I am **not ashamed of the gospel of Christ**”

Today: “**I am not ashamed**” – **A Testimony Of Triumph!**

2 Timothy 1:12

*For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.*

### **I. The Tests Of Life.**

**“For the which cause I also suffer these things:”**

**The Author - Paul:**

**Had written** (as far as we know) Hebrews 12:1-2

*“let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and **let us run with patience the race** that is set before us, **Looking unto Jesus...**”*

**Now - this letter to Timothy**- His last written words. 2 Timothy 4:6-7

6. For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

7. I have fought a good fight, I have finished **my course**, I have kept the faith:

**2 Great Tests: Pleasure and Pain.**

- **What do we do when we are offered a good time now, pleasures for a season, and have to choose between Him and them?**
- **What do we do when it hurts, or inconveniences, or costs to love and serve Jesus?**

**Text: Paul Writes From A Place of Perspective.**

**It is almost over.**

**To the very end – troubles.**

**Text:**

1:8 – Don't be ashamed that I am in prison.

Rumors. Criminal #1.

1:15 – Most in Asia – embarrassed by Paul and “turned away”

1:16 – Onesiphorus – “refreshed me and was not ashamed”

4:10+

Demas forsaken, having loved this present world

Others

Alone. Cold. Facing death.

### **2 Corinthians 11 (NLT)- A quick list of the price he paid –**

23. ... I have worked harder, been put in prison more often, been whipped times without number, and faced death again and again.

24. Five different times the Jewish leaders gave me thirty-nine lashes.

25. Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked. Once I spent a whole night and a day adrift at sea.

26. I have traveled on many long journeys. I have faced danger from rivers and from robbers. I have faced danger from my own people, the Jews, as well as from the Gentiles. I have faced danger in the cities, in the deserts, and on the seas. And I have faced danger from men who claim to be believers but are not.

27. I have worked hard and long, enduring many sleepless nights. I have been hungry and thirsty and have often gone without food. I have shivered in the cold, without enough clothing to keep me warm.

28. Then, besides all this, I have the daily burden of my concern for all the churches.

**Think of it as an interview with Paul:**

***“Paul, you wrote that we would not be ashamed of the hope we have in Christ – the hope of glory.***

***It doesn't look like it is working out well for you...”***

**Where is the glorious? It seems more gory than glory**

No Pleasure. Lots of Pain and Problems!

***What about it? Was what you wrote and hoped- really true?***

## **II. Testimony.**

*"nevertheless, I am not ashamed:"*

**What?**

**"Ashamed":**

Disadvantaged. Embarrassed. Disfigured or handicapped. "SHAMED".

**Paul-**

*Not the day I met Jesus.*

*Actually- the only shame Paul continually references is the life he lived without Jesus!*

*Not since that day I met Jesus.*

*Not now.*

*Not ever!*

**How???**

## **III. Truths**

**Paul had written -**

Romans 1:16 – "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ..."

Roman 10:11 – "For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed."

**Now –**

- **The gospel had never failed!**
- **No one had ever trusted Jesus and been ashamed!**

**Jesus – Never failed!**

*"I know whom" – It's personal!*

cf. 4:17- *"Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me"*

*"I have believed"*

*"am persuaded"* – Confidence. Assurance.

*"He is able..."*

*"to keep"*

*"against that day"* – Future perspective.

4:8 – **"Henceforth** *there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness which the Lord the righteous judge, shall give me at that day"*

**So what?**

How can we live unashamed, confident, bold...  
In such a way that we will pass the tests of life

- Pleasures
- Pains/Problems/Price

*Have you ever been really ashamed of something you did?*

- None – when we chose Jesus!
- All – when we deviated and did it “our way”

How can this reality be ours? “I am not ashamed”

### 1. Know.

Critical.  
Promises  
Proofs

### 2. Choose.

Knowing is not enough.

What we do, or don't do, with what we know is critical.

Our choices today (create currents that) lead to our realities tomorrow.

- Students
- Relationships
- Pursuits
- Every arena of life!

### 3. Choose Jesus.

His Pleasure. **If it makes Him smile it will one day make us smile.**

His Word. “Thy word is a light unto my feet and a lamp unto my path”

His Way. **Like Jesus. – Live like Jesus. Love like Jesus.**

His Will. **“good, acceptable, and perfect”**