

Youth 83

Make These
Your
'Good Old
Days'

Being a Teen
in New Zealand

Hurt Feelings?
Who Needs Them?

Love, Marriage & Sex
Part 4
By Herbert W. Armstrong

Love, Marriage and Sex

Why Humans

Have the Sense of

SHAME

What is the real source of the attitude of shame in humans? Part four.

By Herbert W. Armstrong

In the Western World we take for granted that the sense of shame came from the teachings of the Bible. Indeed it does stem from the forbidden fruit incident in the Garden of Eden — but the real author of shame is not God!

Genesis 3 reveals who the real author is!

The incident in the Garden of Eden set the course of human history from that moment. It determined the direction followed by humanity from the beginning until now.

God had told the first man, Adam, that he, as a man, was wholly physical. Here was the newly created man. Grasp the significance if you can! Suddenly, a full-grown adult MAN received consciousness.

He looked around. Everywhere he saw BEAUTY!

There were colorful flowers, stately trees, green lawns, entrancing shrubs, shimmering pools, the audible laughter of a rippling stream. He was sur-



rounded by breathtaking magnificence. Then the man looked at himself. He must have wondered, "WHAT AM I?" Once, I remember, I fainted. Then, when consciousness again came suddenly, the question was gasped, involuntarily, "Where *am I*?" But Adam must have wondered, not only where, but *WHAT!*

And God told him. "You are DUST." After the man had sinned, God said, "...out of [the ground] wast thou taken: for DUST THOU ART, and unto dust shalt THOU return."

God did *not* say, "Dust your BODY is." He said the conscious MAN was dust — composed of matter. The revelation of God is plain: "God formed MAN of the dust of the ground" (Genesis 2:7).

This man, composed of physical matter from the ground, *became* a soul (same verse). This scripture does not say God put an immortal soul *into* a material body. It says God breathed BREATH into his nostrils — into the MAN'S lungs. God breathed this breath — this air — into the man's nostrils, just as all men breathe air in and out of their nostrils — just as dumb animals do!

This man, composed of matter out of the ground, *became* a breathing, living soul. The soul, then, came out of the ground. The *soul* is composed of *matter*, not spirit. The word *soul* is translated from the Hebrew *nepesh*. It means "life of animals."

But what has all this to do with

Nothing in God's instruction [to Adam and Eve] had caused them to experience any sense of shame in regard to sex.

the origin of this teaching that sex is evil?

IT HAS *EVERYTHING* TO DO WITH IT!

History's first recorded lie

Satan uttered the first recorded lie in the history of mankind. He told mother Eve she would *not* surely die — or, in other words, that she was an “immortal soul.” But GOD says souls that sin *SHALL DIE* (Ezekiel 18:4 and Ezekiel 18:20). God said to Adam and Eve that if they took of the

forbidden fruit, “Thou shalt surely die.”

Notice how SATAN HIMSELF put in human minds the sense of shame and guilt toward sex.

In the creation chapter, Genesis 1, it is written that in creating man, God created the physical sex organs — “. . . male and female created he them” (verse 27). “And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was *VERY GOOD*” (verse 31). The physical organs of sex, then, God pronounced “*VERY GOOD*.”

God gave the first man and his wife full instruction in regard to His intended purposes and uses of sex, as we shall cover in detail later. God *ended* His instruction — His teaching — of necessary basic spiritual *and* physical knowledge, as recorded in Genesis 2:24:

“Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.”

Then follows verse 25, “And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.”

NOTICE CAREFULLY! God had been personally *with* Adam and Eve. The three had been talking together. Adam and Eve were naked. *Nothing* in God's instruction regarding husband-and-wife relationship had caused them to experience any sense of shame in regard to sex. In the privacy of this one married couple, bound in marriage by the Holy God who was speaking with them, there was absolutely no sense of shame in regard to sex.

Now continue right on — next verse! See what now happened!

Remember, as originally inspired and written, the Bible was not divided into chapters and verses. These were added by uninspired men much later, as a matter of convenience in biblical study. The very next verse, continuing immediately, is verse 1 of chapter 3:

“Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of

every tree of the garden?”

Immediately Satan begins to discredit revelation as the fountain source of knowledge — that is, God's teaching. He subtly and craftily implies: “Look! God knows better than that! God was misrepresenting!”

God had told Adam and Eve that the wages of sin is *DEATH* — for eternity — *ETERNAL* punishment! God told them they were *MORTAL*, and could *DIE*! Satan uttered the first recorded lie of history:

“Ye shall not *SURELY* die!”

In other words: “Why, God was deceiving you. He knew you are *IMMORTAL SOULS*!”

Satan implants sense of shame

The Genesis account is exceedingly brief and condensed. It merely *summarizes*, in fewest words, these conversations and events. We learn much from later passages, and from history.

Filling in the omitted gaps and details, what Satan said becomes clear.

As soon as Satan got in his lying, deceptive talk, and the woman had obeyed him, eating the forbidden fruit, and her husband deliberately had eaten it with her, the next verses tell us this:

“And the eyes of them both were opened, and *they knew that they were naked*; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons” (verse 7).

Now continue, next verse:

“And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden. And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, *WHERE ART THOU?* And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I WAS AFRAID, BECAUSE I WAS *NAKED*; and I hid myself” (verses 8-10).

Notice God's answer!

“*WHO TOLD THEE THAT THOU WAST NAKED?*” (verse 11).

Yes, *WHO* put the sense of
(Continued on page 16)



Satan lied to Eve, discrediting God's instructions. Satan's influence led Adam and Eve to take the forbidden fruit, and to feel ashamed of their physical bodies that God said were “very good.”

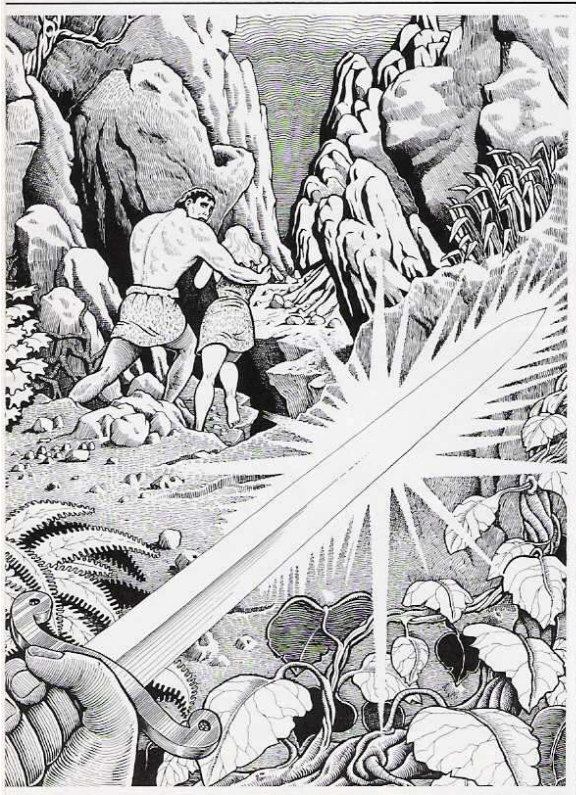
... the origin of
the concept that
sex is evil and
shameful
originated with
Satan — and not
from God!

(Continued from page 2)
shame about sex in the minds of
Adam and Eve?

It was SATAN who had been
telling them things!

GOD DIDN'T!

All the time GOD had been
talking to them, instructing them
in true and right knowledge, they
were naked. But NOTHING in all
God taught them gave them any
sense of shame toward sex. This
idea that sex is evil CAME FROM
SATAN. It was an accusation
against GOD — an attempt to
make what GOD designed appear



After they took the only fruit that God told
them not to take, Adam and Eve had to be
evicted from the Garden of Eden by an
angel with a flaming sword.

to be contaminated and degrad-
ing. It was inextricably tied up
with the false “immortal soul”
lie!

WHY God covered them

But absolutely *nothing* in what
you have just read justifies
nudism, or nudist colonies. That
is not the teaching of God at all!
Rather, God Himself *clothed*
Adam and Eve. Let's now learn
how — under what circum-
stances, and WHY!

When God had talked with
Adam and Eve, immediately
following their very creation, He
was instructing them in a situa-
tion of husband-and-wife privacy.
As long as they were *the only*
humans, alone by themselves (so
far as any other humans are
concerned), God gave them no
instruction to cover their bodies.

God is *everywhere* present at
all times — *omnipresent!* When a
husband and wife, today, are
alone in the privacy of their own
bedroom, GOD is invisibly pres-
ent!

But, when their children, and
other people — the PUBLIC —
“ALL LIVING” — are introduced,
then, we read that GOD HIMSELF
clothed Adam and Eve. Notice it!
It appears later, in the same
chapter:

“And Adam called his wife's
name Eve; because she was the
mother of ALL LIVING [her
children — their family — the
public]. Unto Adam also and to
his wife did the Lord God make
coats of skins, and clothed them”
(Genesis 3:20-21).

Notice the expression, “The
Lord God . . . clothed them.” The
Hebrew word God inspired
Moses to write here, for
“clothed,” is *labash*. It does *not*
mean to cover shameful-
ness — to hide nakedness — or any such
meaning.

The Hebrew word meaning to
conceal nakedness is *kasah*. But
the word Moses was inspired to
write, *labash*, means, rather, the
donning of apparel, raiment. It
refers rather to *outer* garments
than underclothing.

It implies the idea of adorning
or decorating or displaying, rath-

er than concealing or covering
over or hiding.

In the incident of Noah's
drunkenness, Shem and Japheth,
sons of Noah, *backed up* with a
garment on their shoulders, and
“covered the nakedness” of their
father (Genesis 9:23). They were
hiding, concealing, the result of a
sinful act by Canaan, son of
Ham. Here the Hebrew word for
“covered” is *kasah*.

So notice, God did NOT *kasah*
Adam and Eve — did *not* hide
shamefulness, conceal nakedness,
but rather He *labashed* them —
adorned, clothed them.

Of course this clothing *did*
cover nakedness. The difference
between the two Hebrew words,
labash and *kasah*, is one of
purpose and intent, rather than
the *fact* of being covered. Both do
cover nudity. But the Hebrew
kasah carries the connotation of
concealing, or *hiding* something
that might be shameful, while
labash includes no such meaning,
and implies *adding* attractiveness
rather than *hiding* shameful-
ness. In other words, although God's
clothing did cover their bodies, it
DID NOT imply any sense of
shame in what God designed.

This *does not* mean, under any
circumstances, that God would
approve public nudity. NOT AT
ALL. God CLOTHED man! God
intended man to KEEP CLOTHED!
God intended the pubic region of
our bodies for the privacy of
marriage — but THE REASON is
not because the pubic region that
GOD designed and made is
degrading or evil, *but rather*, as a
matter of proper modesty and
decorum!

Clothing necessary

There are two additional rea-
sons.

God designed sex for use *only*
between a husband and wife
whom GOD has joined in holy
wedlock. He designed sex for
righteous uses — and one of them
is to bind husband and wife
together in a *loving* relationship
unshared with any other. The
very *privacy* of this marriage
relationship makes it *sacred*,
makes husband and wife *dear* to

each other in a *special* way never shared with another in adultery. This entire loving, sacred, precious relationship is greatly impaired, *or destroyed*, when shared with any other. That is why fornication and adultery are so harmful to their participants, and therefore CAPITAL SINS.

The second additional reason for avoiding indecent or lewd exposure is that undue exposure of the female body is lust-arousing to the carnal male mind.

Nevertheless, these passages in Genesis show positively that the origin of the concept that sex is evil and shameful originated with SATAN — and not from God!

The pagan world accepted this lie. As a teaching, or doctrine, it became a universally accepted dogma. This fable was popularized by the Greek philosopher Plato, founder of the curricular system of education. Plato wrote it in his book *The Phaedo*.

“Shame” tied to “immortal, soul” lie

It was from this “immortal soul” doctrine that the concept of sex as evil in itself stemmed.

Notice how it developed!

This “immortal soul” doctrine teaches that man is DUAL. While it claims falsely that the “immortal soul” is the real man, and the body is merely the prison in which he is held, yet it teaches inconsistently that man is DUAL — both soul and body.

Thus, the real MAN is represented as being *spiritual*, pure, good, righteous, already having immortality. It represents the body — the FLESH — as being essentially evil, filthy, nasty. Sex organs and sex functioning are physical — of the BODY, and therefore fleshly, sensual and evil.

Thus, Satan has implanted the concept that what GOD designed and created is evil, while man is righteous.

Remember Satan is a *spirit person* — the former archangel, the cherub Lucifer — with no physical body — no sex or power of reproducing himself. Therefore

he is envious of these attributes bestowed on man. He tries to discredit them and represent them as evil — yet also to glorify them as objects of lust. Satan is the real author of prudish dualism. He also goes to the opposite extreme today. He also is the real author of the so-called “New Morality,” which is in fact gross IMMORALITY. In this extreme, Satan deceives people into accepting sex as an IDOL of lust.

In both extremes, he deceives humanity into EVILS by which he seeks to DESTROY the human race!

This satanic doctrine of dualism is the very antithesis of GOD’S revelation of the true FACTS. It is a diabolical LIE!

God formed MAN of the dust of the ground. MAN IS FLESH — matter. And God beheld everything that He had made, and, behold, IT WAS VERY GOOD! It is what man thinks and *does* that is sinful. But Satan blasphemes the Holy GOD by saying that what *God made* was very filthy, nasty, evil and sinful.

This is the satanic dualism injected into the original Babylonian religion (Genesis 10). It spread into the pagan religions, and into Egypt. From there it flowed into ancient Greece and then the Roman world. We have already covered its injection into post-apostolic Christianity. □

(To be continued)

Dasytus Digs

(Continued from page 12)

lo’s covering protects him from scrapes and cuts when digging or when running through the thick brush where he builds his home. Without it, the armadillo would not survive.

All these specialized features raise a question for evolution: If the armadillo needed these features to survive, how did it survive before it “evolved” them?

“Evolution” of the armadillo

Let’s look far into the “evolutionary” past at Armadon the unevolved armadillo. Armadon

has no armor, is constantly out of breath and has a poor sense of smell since he has only begun to “evolve.” His tongue has evolved already, but tends to stick to the roof of his mouth.

Armadon suddenly has the urge to stay up all night looking for bugs. Not knowing which way to go, since he has terrible eyesight and it’s dark outside anyway, he stumbles into a thicket. Branches rip and tear his soft skin.

For no apparent reason, Armadon feels inspired to dig. Quickly, he paws at the ground with his clawless feet. As the dust begins to rise, he starts to sneeze and cough. Soon, his eyes are watering and he is gasping for air. Determined not to fail, Armadon continues to dig and soon throws his back out of place from the effort.

Ridiculous? You bet!

Creation demands a Creator

As you can see, the armadillo couldn’t make it unless he “developed” all his physical characteristics at one time. He obviously had to be created fully equipped to survive.

What good would claws and strong legs do if the back wasn’t specially designed to withstand the strain of digging? Or if the armadillo hadn’t “developed” the increased lung capacity that keeps him from choking on the dust he produces? And if he could survive without these features, then why did they develop?

Evolution is man’s attempt to explain creation without recognizing the Creator. God speaks out strongly to men who devise fables to discredit Him.

“For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made [like the armadillo], even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse” (Romans 1:20).

If you want to understand more about the true Creator, write for our free booklet, *Does God Exist?* The addresses and phone numbers are on the inside front cover. □