

And if the bugler doesn't make a clear call, how will the soldiers know they are being called to battle?

1st Corinthians 14:8 NLV

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First Love Ministries, Inc.

PRAYER STUDY #109

THE MEPHIBOSHETH COMPANY: DEALING WITH SHAME

WHAT IS THE LORD DOING TODAY?

Preparing and gathering His remnant

The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between His feet, until Shiloh come, and unto Him [Shiloh or Jesus] shall the gathering of the people be. Genesis 49:10

Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto Him, that ye be not soon shaken in mind or be troubled neither by spirit nor by word nor by letter as from us, as that the day of the Lord is present. 2nd Thessalonians 2:1

WHO IS BEING GATHERED?

The Elijah Company with the father heart (Malachi 4), the Joshua Company with its warrior saints crossing the Jordan River (the book of Joshua), the righteous Priestly Company whose filthy garments are taken away (Zechariah 3), The Outcast of Israel with broken hearts and wounds and ready for healing (Psalm 147:2-3), the overcoming Zion Company-the place of God's dwelling (Joel 3:21), Gideon's Army that walks in fearlessness (Judges 7), the joyful remnant left to rebuild the wall (Nehemiah), the repentant and separated remnant left to rebuild the temple (Ezra), the small remnant of which, unlike Sodom and Gomorrah, walks in purity (Isaiah), the Dry Bones Company which becomes prophetically alive (Ezekiel 37), the Third Day Church raised up to intimately know the Lord (Hosea 6), the Latter House filled with glory and peace (Haggai 2), the Wise Virgins' Company which is watchful and ready (Matthew 25), and the Mephibosheths called because of grace to the King's table and freed from shame (2nd Samuel 9:1).

THE MEPHIBOSHETH COMPANY

Mephibosheth, whose name means *DESTROYING SHAME*, was the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul. He is also called *Meribbaal*, meaning a striver against Baal.

Jonathan, Saul's son, had a son who was lame in his feet. He was five years old when the news about Saul and Jonathan came from Jezreel; and his nurse took him up and fled. And it happened, as she made haste to flee, that he fell and became lame. His name was Mephibosheth. 2nd Samuel 4:4

Now when Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, had come to David, he fell on his face and prostrated himself. Then David said, "Mephibosheth?" And he answered, "Here is your servant!" So David said unto him, Do not fear, for I will surely show you kindness for Jonathan, your father's sake, and will restore to you all the land of Saul your grandfather, and you shall eat bread at my table continually." Then he bowed himself and said, "What is your servant, that you should look upon such a dead dog as I?" And the king called to Zeba, Saul's servant and said to him, "I have given to your master's son all that belonged to Saul and to all his house. You, therefore, and your sons and your servants, shall work the land for him, and you shall bring in the harvest that your master's son may have food to eat. But Mephibosheth, your master's son, shall eat bread at my table always.... 2nd Samuel 9:6-13

DO YOU HAVE SHAME IN YOUR LIFE?

1. **What is shame?** A painful emotion caused by consciousness of guilt, shortcoming, or impropriety; a condition of humiliating disgrace or disrepute; something that brings strong regret, censure or reproach.
2. **It comes from the enemy.** *There is therefore no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit (Romans 8:1). My dishonor is continually before me, and the shame of my face has covered me, because of the voice of him who reproaches and reviles, because of the enemy and the avenger (Psalm 44:15-16).*
3. **What opens us up to shame?**
 - a. **Lying:** *Psalm 4:4-How long, O you sons of men, will you turn my glory into shame? How long will you love worthlessness and see*

falsehood? Proverbs 13:5-A righteous man hates lying, but a wicked man is loathsome and comes to shame.

b. **Denial of God:** Psalm 14:1-*The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God."* Proverbs 3:35-*The wise shall inherit glory, but shame shall be the legacy of fools.*

c. **Pride:** Proverbs 11:2 *When pride comes, then comes shame. But with the humble is wisdom.*

d. **Rebellion:** Proverbs 13:18-*Poverty and shame will come to him who disdains correction, but he who regards a rebuke will be honored.*

e. **Foolish Things You Did in Your Youth:** Isaiah 54:4 *Do not fear, for you will not be ashamed; neither be disgraced, for you will not be put to shame for you will forget the shame of your youth....*

f. **Disobedience:** Jeremiah 3:25- *We lie down in shame, and our reproach covers us. For we have sinned against the Lord our God, we and our fathers, from our youth even to this day and have not obeyed the voice of the Lord our God.*

g. **Generational Curse:** Exodus 20:4-6 *You shall not make for yourself a carved image-any likeness of anything that is in heaven above or that is in earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them, for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands to those who love Me and keep My commandments.*

4. THE GOOD NEWS

Isaiah 53:5: *But He was wounded for our transgressions. He was bruised for our iniquities. The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.*

Isaiah 61:7 *Instead of your shame we shall have double honor, and instead of confusion they shall rejoice in their portion. Therefore, in their land they shall possess double; everlasting joy shall be theirs.*

IT'S BEGINNING TO RAIN
Bill and Gloria Gaither and Aaron Wilburn

The turtledove is singing its sweet song of morning
The leaves on the trees turn their silver cups to the sky
The silent clouds above are beginning to gather.
The barren land is thirsty and so am I

The young man's eyes start to shine as he tells of his vision.
The old understands what he sees for he's dreamed his dreams.
With the thrill of being alive they reach for each other
And they dance in the rain with the joy of the things that they've seen.

At the first drop of rain that you hear, throw open the windows;
Go call all your children together and throw wide the door;
When the rains of the Spirit are falling fill ev'ry vessel,
For he who drinks his fill will thirst no more.

CHORUS

It's beginning to rain-hear the voice of the Father
Saying, "Whosoever will, come drink of this water;
I have promised to pour my Spirit out on your sons and daughters."
If you're thirsty and dry, look up to the sky-
It's beginning to rain.