Covered in Shame

the fall of an anointed leader



Possess the Land

"How long will you neglect to take possession...?"

Joshua 18:3



A cry for a worthy leader

"In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes."

Judges 21:25



A cry for a worthy leader

"Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law..."

Joshua 1:7





"Now Jephthah was a mighty man of valour, but he was the son of a harlot..."

Judges 11:1



1. Jephthah accepted the cloak of shame offered to him by his brothers. Shame became his <u>identity</u>.



2. He surrounded himself with "worthless fellows" and became a <u>rebel</u> leader. He does no rule by virtue but by brute <u>force</u>.



3. He was enslaved by the <u>need for validation</u> – leadership and honour was a great temptation.



4. Shame <u>resists unconditional</u> love. Jephthah wanted to "buy favour" from the Lord by sacrifice. Shame-based identity breeds performance-based relationship.



5. Jephthah relates to God as the pagans – a means to power and prosperity, rather than the One Who holds his <u>identity and destiny</u>. He misses that God is the One who called and appointed him to lead.



6. His shame-based identity prevented Jephthah from connecting with the Father Heart of God. He related to God like the Ammonites related Moloch through child-sacrifice.



7. In conflict Jephthah replied with force, and killed 42000 of his own countrymen whom God appointed him to deliver from oppression. He became the oppressor he was anointed to rid Israel of.



³² And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson and Jephthah... ³⁹ These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, ⁴⁰ since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect. (Hebrews 11:32)



"Watch over your heart with all diligence, For from it flow the springs of life." Proverbs 4:23

