

Now Israel remained in Acacia Grove, and the people began to commit harlotry with the women of Moab. ² They invited the people to the sacrifices of their gods, and the people ate and bowed down to their gods. ³ So Israel was joined to Baal of Peor, and the anger of the Lord was aroused against Israel.

And indeed, one of the children of Israel came and presented to his brethren a Midianite woman in the sight of Moses and in the sight of all the congregation of the children of Israel, who were weeping at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. ⁷ Now when Phinehas the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, saw it, he rose from among the congregation and took a javelin in his hand; ⁸ and he went after the man of Israel into the tent and thrust both of them through, the man of Israel, and the woman through her body. So the plague was stopped among the children of Israel (Numbers 25:1-3;6-8)

Israel didn't have the "know how"

Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination?

No! They were not at all ashamed;

Nor did they know how to blush.

Therefore they shall fall among those who fall;

At the time I punish them,

They shall be cast down," says the Lord (Jer. 6:15)

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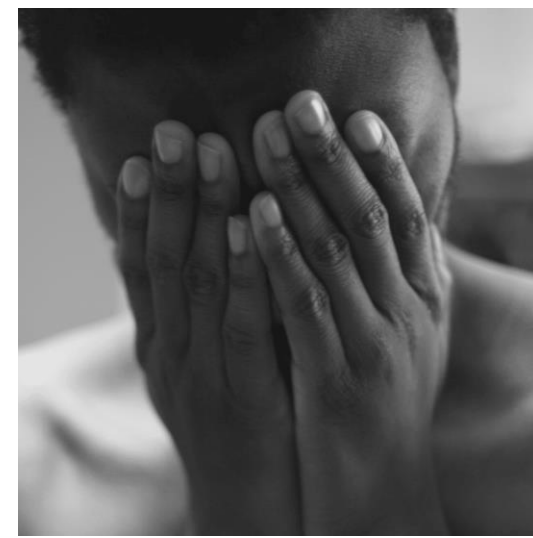
Nor did they know how to blush.

Therefore they shall fall among those who fall;

In the time of their punishment

They shall be cast down," says the Lord (Jer. 8:12)

We need the “know how”



- **Some shame is not helpful**

- That which is brought on by what others have done (2 Sam. 19)

- **Some shame is not lawful**

- That which is brought on by spiritual fear, weakness, failure (Lk. 9:26; Rom. 1:16)

- **Some shame is absolutely indispensable**

- That which causes us to repent (Ezra 9:5; 2 Cor. 7:9ff)

We need the “know how”

- **How do we lose the capacity to feel shame?**

- We begin to covet the wrong things (Jer. 6:13)
- We listen to those who say “it’s ok” (Jer. 6:14)
- We stop looking to the right standard (Jer. 6:10, 16)

