

# Jeremiah 6:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination?  
nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush:  
therefore they shall fall among them that fall: at the time that  
I visit them they shall be cast down, saith the LORD.

## Analysis

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The rhetorical question expects a negative answer: they are not ashamed of their abominations. The phrase 'neither could they blush' indicates such deep corruption that natural moral sense is deadened. Therefore, judgment is certain: 'they shall fall among them that fall' and 'be cast down' at the time of divine visitation. This illustrates the Reformed doctrine of the seared conscience (1 Timothy 4:2)—persistent sin hardens the heart until shame itself disappears. The inability to blush represents complete moral corruption. Such shamelessness removes the last restraint, making judgment inevitable.

## Historical Context

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By Jeremiah's time, practices that should have horrified covenant people (child sacrifice, temple prostitution, syncretism) were practiced openly without shame. This moral numbness preceded national collapse.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

## **Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth**

## Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

1. What are signs that a culture or individual has lost the capacity for moral shame?
2. How does persistent sin gradually erode natural moral sensibility and conscience?
3. What role does shame play in God's design for recognizing and turning from sin?

## Interlinear Text

בְּ וְשֹׁאַל	עֲשֵׂה	תֹּעַבְתָּ הַ	כִּי	הַבְּשָׂרֶב
Were they ashamed	H3588	abomination	when they had committed	nay
H3001		H8441	H6213	H1571
				H954
לֹא	בְּנֶפֶל יִם	לְכִי	לְכִי עַז	בְּנֶפֶל יִם
H3808	ashamed	nay	they blush	among them that fall
H954	H1571	H3637	H3808	H3651
				H5307
אֵם ר	יכַּשֵּׁל ו	פְּקַדְתָּ יִם	בְּנֶפֶל יִם	בְּעֵת
among them that fall	at the time	that I visit	them they shall be cast down	saith
H5307	H6256	H6485	H3782	H559

## Additional Cross-References

**Jeremiah 8:12** (References Lord): Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush:

therefore shall they fall among them that fall: in the time of their visitation they shall be cast down, saith the LORD.

**Jeremiah 3:3** (Parallel theme): Therefore the showers have been withholden, and there hath been no latter rain; and thou hadst a whore's forehead, thou refusedst to be ashamed.

**Matthew 15:14** (Parallel theme): Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.

**Philippians 3:19** (Parallel theme): Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.)

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