Who told you you were naked?
God is **not quibbling over what we believe** but rather **who is the source** of what we imagine to be true.
Sin originated with the **father of lies**.

The **lies** that make us **afraid and ashamed** all involve **lies about God**, then by extension **lies about ourselves** that result in malfunction called sins.
Because we are **designed as reflectors to freely receive** in order to freely give, **lies about God will inevitably infect how we view ourselves** and others and then how we act them out.

The root problem with sin is **not merely believing wrong facts** but more a problem of **believing the wrong source**. This is at the core of all sin – **trusting the wrong gods to define reality** for us.

The **nakedness** of Adam had **always been a true fact**, so that was **not the causal lie** that produced sin.
The father of lies seduced Eve and then Adam into **imagining that the God who created them also threatened them** with violence if they crossed His will.
It was **distorted ideas about God's disposition** towards them that led them to view their naked **vulnerability as a liability** they **needed to hide** to **protect themselves** rather than trusting God.
**Being afraid of God** who is only love, light and truth with no darkness at all in Him, is the **underlying cause of sin** and results in **fear and shame**.

This is why **Jesus despised shame**, because **shame is always a lie** and never true under any circumstances. **Shame** means **feeling less than fully loved**, valued and wanted, but is **always a lie**.
**God never participates in shaming** but is always seeking to restore value, love and peace.
**Shame produces dis-ease** and leads to suffering, dissonance and finally death.
**Jesus came to counteract the shame messages** with truth, life, love and liberation from fear.
Jesus is the **only safe Source of identity** that **saves us from the lies of shame** that make us afraid.

One of the **greatest lies** to be saved from is that our **value comes from what we do**.
**Shame is anchored** in this core lie about our **value** being **tied to** our **performance**.
The **truth that sets us free** from this core lie of behavior-based identity is **agape love**.
God is agape and nothing less.

God created each one of us to believe and receive His life to **reflect His unconditional love**.

Our **relationships and behaviors** are **indicators of what we believe**. They signal what **we imagine to be true** about ourselves and by projection what we imagine to be God's disposition towards us.
This is what is meant when Jesus says we will be **judged by our works**.

Our works, our behavior are only **symptoms** that expose **what we actually believe** to be true.
We must **not confuse effect with cause**, for that leads to confusion and fear and **lies that bind**.

What is the **mother of all lies**?
That God's **love must be earned through obedience** to His commands.
That **if you offend God** He will use violence to **punish you with death**.

**Jesus is God's answer** to these core lies.
Jesus' new command **reverses the order of the thinking** infected with the lie of earning.
The new command is to **love like Jesus loves** – **by freely receiving** to freely give.

Jesus exposed the truth by **reflecting God's disposition** in contrast to the fear of punishment.
Jesus and God **allowed sinners to kill Jesus** without any resistance on His part.
This is **backwards** to the lie that **God will resort to violence** to satisfy 'justice.'
The punishment of sin is the operation of **natural cause and effect**, not artificial.

*The man said, "**I heard your voice** in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." God said, "**Who told you that you were naked?**...."* (Genesis 3:10-11)

*Yahweh said to Cain, "**Where is Abel, your brother?**" He said, "I don't know. Am I my brother's keeper?"* (Genesis 4:9)

*He came there to a cave, and lodged there; and behold, the word of Yahweh came to him, and he said to him, **What are you doing here**, Elijah?* (1 Kings 19:9)

*For surely **I know the plans I have for you**, says the LORD, **plans for your welfare** and not for harm, **to give you a future with hope**.* (Jeremiah 29:11 NRSV)

*When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he had been sick for a long time, he asked him, "**Do you want to be made well?**"* (John 5:6)

*Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that **the kindness of God leads you to repentance**?* (Romans 2:4 NAS95)

*"**I heard your voice** in the garden..."*
*"**Who told you** that **you were naked?***

*Beloved, don't believe every spirit, but **test the spirits, whether they are of God**, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.* (1 John 4:1)

*I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, that you may become rich; and white garments, that you may clothe yourself, and **that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed**; and eye salve to anoint your eyes, that you may see. As many as I love, I reprove and chasten. Be zealous therefore, and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone **hears my voice and opens the door**, then **I will come in to him**, and will **dine with him**, and **he with me**.* (Revelation 3:18-20)

*that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may **have fellowship with us**. Yes, and our **fellowship is with the Father**, and **with his Son**, Jesus Christ. And **we write these things** to you, that our **joy** may be fulfilled. This is the message which we have heard from him and announce to you, that **God is light**, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have **fellowship with him** and walk in the darkness, we lie, and don't tell the truth. But **if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship** with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, **cleanses us from all sin**.* (1 John 1:3-7)