UNMASKED · PART 3

Face to Face

Fully seen, fully known, fully loved

"I tore off my mask so as not to lose one of her tears... and she did not run away!... and she did not die!... She remained alive, weeping over me, weeping with me. We cried together! I have tasted all the happiness the world can offer."

ERIK · THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

01 WEARING A MASK CURSES OTHERS

33 Then Isaac trembled very violently and said, "Who was it then that hunted game and brought
it to me, and I ate it all before you came, and I have blessed him? Yes, and he shall be blessed."
34 As soon as Esau heard the words of his father, he cried out with an exceedingly great and
bitter cry and said to his father, "Bless me, even me also, O my father!" 35 But he said, "Your
brother came deceitfully, and he has taken away your blessing." 36 Esau said, "Is he not rightly
named Jacob? For he has cheated me these two times. He took away my birthright, and behold,
now he has taken away my blessing." Then he said, "Have you not reserved a blessing for me?"
37 Isaac answered and said to Esau, "Behold, I have made him lord over you, and all his brothers I
have given to him for servants, and with grain and wine I have sustained him. What then can I
do for you, my son?" 38 Esau said to his father, "Have you but one blessing, my father? Bless me,
even me also, O my father." And Esau lifted up his voice and wept.

39 Then Isaac his father answered and said to him:

"Behold, away from the fatness of the earth shall your dwelling be,
and away from the dew of heaven on high.
40 By your sword you shall live,
and you shall serve your brother;
but when you grow restless
you shall break his yoke from your neck."

GENESIS 27:33–40

MY NOTES

02 IT INFURIATES CHRIST

27 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which
outwardly appear beautiful, but within are full of dead people’s bones and all uncleanness. 28 So
you also outwardly appear righteous to others, but within you are full of hypocrisy and
lawlessness.

29 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and
decorate the monuments of the righteous, 30 saying, ‘If we had lived in the days of our fathers,
we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.’ 31 Thus you
witness against yourselves that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. 32 Fill up,
then, the measure of your fathers. 33 You serpents, you brood of vipers, how are you to escape
being sentenced to hell?

MATTHEW 23:27–33

MY NOTES

03 IT BRINGS SHAME

6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes,
and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also
gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. 7 Then the eyes of both were opened,
and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves
loincloths.

8 And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the
man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the
garden. 9 But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” 10 And he said, “I
heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.”
11 He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I
commanded you not to eat?” 12 The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she
gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” 13 Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that
you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

GENESIS 3:6–13

MY NOTES

04 YOUR SIN WON'T CHANGE GOD'S PLAN

23 And the Lord said to her,

"Two nations are in your womb,
and two peoples from within you shall be divided;
the one shall be stronger than the other,
the older shall serve the younger."

GENESIS 25:23

MY NOTES

05 AUTHENTICITY BRINGS UNITY

1 Then Joseph could not control himself before all those who stood by him. He cried, “Make
everyone go out from me.” So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his
brothers. 2 And he wept aloud, so that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh
heard it. 3 And Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?” But his brothers
could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence.

4 So Joseph said to his brothers, “Come near to me, please.” And they came near. And he said, “I
am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. 5 And now do not be distressed or angry
with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. 6 For the
famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be
neither plowing nor harvest. 7 And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on
earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. 8 So it was not you who sent me here, but God.
He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of
Egypt. 9 Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made
me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; do not tarry. 10 You shall dwell in the land of Goshen,
and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, and your flocks,
your herds, and all that you have. 11 There I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of
famine to come, so that you and your household, and all that you have, do not come to poverty.’
12 And now your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth that
speaks to you. 13 You must tell my father of all my honor in Egypt, and of all that you have seen.
Hurry and bring my father down here.” 14 Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and
wept, and Benjamin wept upon his neck. 15 And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them.
After that his brothers talked with him.

GENESIS 45:1–15

5 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Your father and your brothers have come to you. 6 The land of
Egypt is before you. Settle your father and your brothers in the best of the land. Let them settle
in the land of Goshen, and if you know any able men among them, put them in charge of my
livestock.”

GENESIS 47:5–6

11 Then Joseph settled his father and his brothers and gave them a possession in the land of
Egypt, in the best of the land, in the land of Rameses, as Pharaoh had commanded. 12 And Joseph
provided his father, his brothers, and all his father’s household with food, according to the
number of their dependents.

GENESIS 47:11–12

MY NOTES

06 WE GET TO EXPERIENCE GOD FULLY

3 For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.
4 For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Selah

5 I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my iniquity;
I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,”
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah

PSALM 32:3–5

18 And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

2 CORINTHIANS 3:18

MY NOTES

→ REMOVE THE MASK AND WRITE A NEW STORY

17 I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. This is the sign of genuineness in every letter of mine; it is the way I write.

2 THESSALONIANS 3:17

MY NOTES

RECAP

01
WEARING A MASK CURSES OTHERS
Genesis 27:33–40

02
IT INFURIATES CHRIST
Matthew 23:27–33

03
IT BRINGS SHAME
Genesis 3:6–13

04
YOUR SIN WON'T CHANGE GOD'S PLAN
Genesis 25:23

05
AUTHENTICITY BRINGS UNITY
Genesis 45:1–15, Genesis 47:5–6, Genesis 47:11–12

06
WE GET TO EXPERIENCE GOD FULLY
Psalm 32:3–5, 2 Corinthians 3:18

REFLECT

1. What mask have I been wearing, and who else has it cost?

2. Where do I need to stop hiding and be fully known, first by God and then by someone I trust?

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