

THEOLOGY GUIDE

GUILT

SHAME

FEAR

PROLEGOMENA

Society	Individualistic	Collectivistic	Animistic
Existential Question	How can my sins be forgiven to be assured of heaven?	How can I be a part of the community to be respected?	How can I access the power to control life?
Christian Theology	Augustinian, Reformed	Undeveloped	Pentecostal, Charismatic
Principle Metaphor	Courtroom (legal)	Community (relational)	Combat (military)
Primary Location	West (Europe, N. America)	East (Middle East, Asia)	South (Africa, tribal)
Christian Status	Historically Christian	Minimally Christian	Recently Christian

GOD

God	Lawgiver & Judge (sinless, perfect, just)	Father & Patron (glorious, superior, faithful)	Ruler & Deliverer (sovereign, transcendent)
God's Holiness	He alone perfectly keeps the absolute moral standard	He alone is infinitely glorious, deserving all reverence	He alone created and stands above all things and beings
God's Sovereignty	Forgives transgressors and enacts our future salvation	Honors lowly mortals and humbles the falsely proud	Defeats spiritual opposition and rules the world
God's Righteousness	Punitive justice	Covenantal Faithfulness	Cosmic Power

SIN

Sin	Transgression & Lawbreaking	Disloyalty & Rebellion	Usurpation & Idolatry
Sinfulness	Total depravity	Complete unacceptability	Utter vulnerability
Violation	God's laws and justice	God's face and glory	God's power and authority
Sinners	Condemned	Rejected	Cursed
Consequences of Sin	Judgment and punishment	Disgrace and humiliation	Domination and bondage
Emotions of Sin	Regret	Unworthiness	Anxiety
The Fall (Gen. 3)	Shifted blame	Covered nakedness	Hid in fear
Cultural Solutions	Justify, confess, restitution	Cover, flee, abandon	Animism, black magic
False Hope	Morality, works, merit	Identity, connections, name	Rituals, knowledge
The OT laws reveals	Our moral failure	Our defilement/separation	Our idolatry

JESUS

Christ	Substitute & Sacrifice	Mediator & Brother	Conqueror & Liberator
Incarnation	Jesus becomes fully human to pay our debt	Jesus leaves glory to glorify the Father and us	Jesus arrives to destroy the works of the devil.
Jesus' Life	Lived sinlessly	Healed the impure, ate with outcasts, welcomed Gentiles	Cast out demons, worked miracles, signs & wonders
Jesus' Death	Bears the punishment for our moral transgressions	Removes our shame and restores God's face/honor	Defeats spirits and powers
The Cross	Appeases God's wrath	Changes God's evaluation	Establishes God's power
Atonement Theory	Penal Substitution	Satisfaction (Anselm)	Christus Victor
Jesus' Resurrection	Assurance of future salvation	Divine honor for the shamed	Victory over Satan and death

SALVATION			
Salvation	Innocence & Forgiveness	Honor & Face	Power & Freedom
Sphere	Next world	This world	Unseen world
Repentance	From works-righteousness (stop trying to please God with perfection deeds)	From boasting (resist using cultural systems to promote your status)	From idolatry (abandon false powers and magical rituals)
Grace (overcomes)	Wickedness	Worthlessness	Weakness
Forgiveness	Pardons wrongs	Reconciles relationships	Removes strongholds
At God's Right Hand	Acceptance and intimacy	Prestige and status	Power and authority
Reconciliation w/ God leads to peace w/	Self (soul, conscience)	People (family, community)	Creation (nature, spirits)
Discipleship	Obedience	Loyalty	Submission
Holy Spirit	Guidance for behavior	Communion with Trinity	Empowerment for battle
Ethics	Loving Others	Honoring Others	Blessings Others
Assurance	Am I saved and morally acceptable?	Am I a part of the right community?	Do I have enough power to overcome dark powers?
Missiology	Truth encounter	Community Encounter	Power encounter
Ephesians	2:1-10	2:11-22	6:10-17

EVANGELISTIC SUMMARY

The intention of God	God loves us and has a wonderful plan for our life	God created us as children with his honor and glory	God is sovereign and offers spiritual authority to us
The human problem	Our personal sin creates a barrier between us and God/God's plan for our life	Our disloyalty dishonors God, so we are shamefully orphaned.	Our idolatry separates us from divine power and places us under the curse of darkness
The solution of Jesus	As a perfect sacrifice for our sins, Jesus bore the wrath of God's punishment	As our mediator, Jesus bore our shame, rose to glory, and restored glory to God's name	Jesus conquered death and evil powers so we could access God's power and blessings.
Salvific Response	Accept Jesus as our personal Savior and pray for forgiveness, turn from human morality	Give allegiance to God, receive adoption into His family, turn from false face & status	Trust in Jesus' alone for protection and power, turn from magic & syncretism

SUMMARY

	GUILT	SHAME	FEAR
Metaphor	Courtroom	Community	Combat
God	Lawgiver & Judge	Father & Patron	Ruler & Creator
Sin	Lawbreaking	Disloyalty	Idolatry
Christ	Sacrifice	Mediator	Conqueror
Salvation	Forgiveness	Honor/Face	Peace/Freedom
Mission	Truth	Community	Power

To learn the culture type of your group, take the free assessment at www.TheCultureTest.com.

View the e-book [THE 3D GOSPEL: Ministry in Guilt, Shame, and Fear Cultures](#)

