

t h r e s h o l d



s k a n d a l o n ' s d o o r

This will take a minute, but please don't miss it.

It is THE Threshold.

If we think we can have it both ways we will NOT make the choice Moses did: give up the comfort of “all men speak well of you.”

“Yeah but, why can't I” (have it both ways, be a good Christian and still avoid being accused, slandered, misunderstood).

This is the verse that I woke up thinking about. Skandalon is a defining CHOICE.

“By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.”

Skándalon (σκάνδαλον) is one of the most provocative words in the New Testament.

At its root, skándalon refers to the trigger of a trap—the small piece that, once touched, causes the whole mechanism to snap shut. Let that sink in.

- a stumbling block
- an offense that trips someone up
- something that causes a fall, rejection, or turning away

It’s not just irritation—it’s the moment where truth collides with expectation... and a person must decide whether to fall away or step deeper in.

Dying to comfort and reputation, dying to caring (very much) if you are misunderstood or accused... CHOOSING to be accused: Skandalon.

I woke up thinking about this Truth of Eternity, Hebrews 11:24–26. Moses messed it up, and he had a lot to learn over the next “40 years”, but it describes his heart all along.

Moses’ choice: “By faith, with abandoned persuasion, Moses, when he came to maturity, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter; choosing rather to suffer affliction, to share persecution and ill treatment with the people of God, rather than to enjoy (ἁμαρτία hamartia, sin: missing the calling) pleasure, comfort, and reputation for a season; esteeming,

ALLOWING himself to be led into the reproach (ὄνειδισμός, insult, defamation) of Christ, the anointed One who will anoint with the Spirit, instead of greater riches than all the treasures in Egypt...”

The message of the “take up your OWN cross” is “skandalon.”

The cross is offensive because it dismantles human systems:

Power is replaced by surrender;

Having a reputation and our own achievements are replaced by grace ONLY;

Control is replaced by dependence.

It’s not just hard—it’s **structurally offensive** to the human ego.

You cannot follow Christ without facing offense, friction, and contradiction. Jesus will offend your assumptions and control. Or it is religion, not Christianity, not Jesus. By definition.

Skándalon is what happens when a “system” meets a living “ecosystem.” (SystemOrEcosystem.com)

The system resists. The ecosystem invites transformation.

It becomes a decision point.

Every skándalon moment asks: Will I stumble over this and quit... or be reshaped and deepened by it, going to where Jesus really lives, by choice?

This is why Jesus says, “Blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

Not because offense won’t come—but because how you respond determines trajectory.

Properly embraced, skandalon: exposes idols we didn’t even know we had. Lucidity. Skandalon breaks false frameworks, deepens dependence, and refines and matures “faith” from a system of belief into the Real “deep calls to deep.”

Improperly handled, skándalon:

- hardens the heart
- justifies withdrawal
- inescapably builds resentment towards others or even towards God

Skándalon is not optional—it's inevitable.

But it is also instrumental. It is the trigger point where:

- religion becomes relationship
- knowledge becomes surrender
- systems collapse... and ecosystems begin

Skandalon is the moment truth becomes costly.

*****And in that moment**—you and your personal “System” either fall away from experiencing Eternity in this Present Age, and settle for building your system out of wood, hay, and stubble...

or finally Seek and finally FIND.

Skándalon. It's a really, really big deal. It allows us to finally Cross the Threshold, or sink back into the slough of despond.

Hebrews 10, 11 and 12: “By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of comfort, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.”

Rom.8:28-29: YHWH planned out before you were born what would give you the best opportunities to transcend biological and molecular life, and be transfigured by skandalon into His shared DNA, the DNA of the Second Adam, the mystery of incarnation, “the mystery of Godliness”.

The **Tetragrammaton**^[note 1] is the four-letter Hebrew-language **theonym** יהוה (transliterated as **YHWH**^[note 2]), the name of **God** in the **Hebrew Bible**. The four Hebrew letters, written and read **from right to left**, are **yod**, **he**, **vav**, and **he**.^{[note 3][1]} The name may be **derived from a verb that means 'to be', 'to exist', 'to cause to become', or 'to come to pass'.**^[2]

The image shows the Tetragrammaton in Hebrew letters, which are יהוה. The letters are arranged from right to left, as is traditional for Hebrew. The first letter on the right is a yod (י), followed by a he (ה), then a vav (ו), and finally another he (ה) on the far left.

The Tetragrammaton in Hebrew letters
' (yod/Y) ה (he/H) ו (vav/W) ה (he/H)

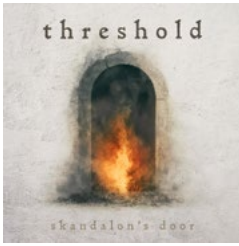
He planned out the things that would give YOU PERSONALLY, with your personal fears and abuses and compensations and experiences, the best chance to die to your framework of self-preservation, to “take up your own Cross” and face the skandalon that transforms from “a little lower than the angels” — to judging angels. That’s a big leap! That’s why it takes Skandalon.

From a follow-up conversation: Following Jesus is not something you figure out. It’s like driving in a snowstorm in the dark: you follow the tail lights in front of you — because there’s no way to see very far forward. But, if Jesus is OK in front of you—and He is—and you don’t take your eyes off of Him, you’ll make it to the Destination—even if you don’t know what that is or how to get there. He does.

Important related video: bit.ly/4cZsIwJ

Important related song: bit.ly/4uCUNzW

Lyrics next page



The cross, a deep offense to flesh
A stone the proud despise
For every throne the ego builds
Must crumble at Christ's rise
The strong are called to humbly bend
The wise become the least
And all the kingdoms built by self
Must perish for His peace

At Skandalon, the threshold stands
Where all my idols burn
Where power kneels to nail-pierced hands
In this place of no return
Control dissolves in trust alone
My striving comes undone
Lord Jesus, You are worth the fires
That You have planned to come

Each wound, each slander, each delay
Each sorrow unforeseen
May be the chisels in the Master's hand
To break what stands between
The systems to preserve one's self
Burn down beneath His flame
Till deep cries out, at last, to Deep
And faith becomes His Name

At Skandalon, the threshold stands
Where all my idols burn
Where power kneels to nail-pierced hands
In this place of no return
Control dissolves in trust alone
My striving comes undone
Lord Jesus, You are worth the fires
That You have planned to come



So I will not retreat in fear
When truth becomes my cost
Nor trade eternal gain for You
For comfort's impure dross
Lead me through the threshold, Lord
Where every false thing dies
For life is found beyond the place
Where my ambition lies

Skandalon, that narrow gate
Where lovers choose to stay
Or turn again toward lesser loves
And quickly drift away
But blessed are the ones that bear
The scandal of the Lamb
For losing all, they enter in
To You, the great I AM

At Skandalon, the threshold stands
Where all my idols burn
Where power kneels to nail-pierced hands
In this place of no return
Control dissolves in trust alone
My striving comes undone
Lord Jesus, You are worth the fires
That You have planned to come

Lord Jesus, I embrace the fires
That You have planned to come