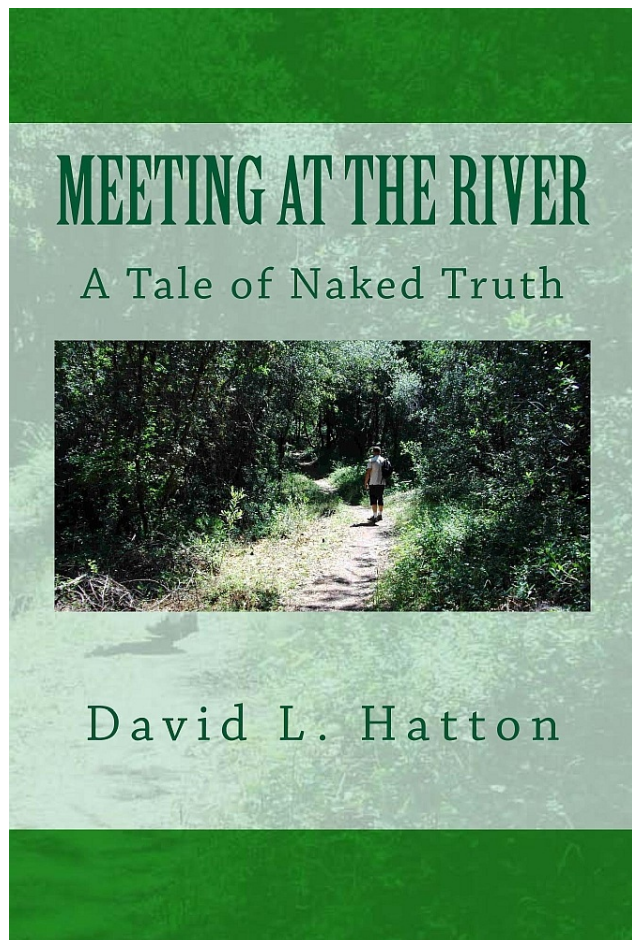


Defeating *body shame* with *body acceptance*

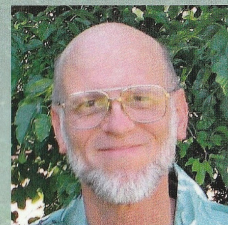


through godly wisdom
from the ancient past

This story and its supplemental material confront modern society's unhealthy body shame with wholesome body acceptance. The central issue in these conflicting attitudes is the naked human body itself. We who routinely see nonsexual nudity—in contexts of healthcare, figurative art and cross-cultural or counter-cultural experience—discover a realistic view of the body. But it's quite a challenge to discuss the liberating truth we've found with those who look at nakedness exclusively as a sexually erotic event or who treat body shame as a "holy" virtue. This book nakedly exposes the ungodliness of both these popular ideas, and it does so in biblically sound and relevant terms.

From the back cover . . .

"Truth's light is the death of darkness. Speak it forth, brother! And if falsehood tries to silence you, shout it all the louder!" — the ancient preacher, Chapter 5



In this semi-autobiographical fantasy, I find myself in a debate with an old preacher from Christian antiquity. His exhortation comes after a long dialogue in which he challenges my divided view of the body with that of the early church.

This fictional novelette actually narrates my real educational journey from 'body shame' to 'body acceptance.' As a bivocational pastor and nurse, I've worked routinely with naked bodies for over 25 years. But, when asked why female nudity fails to bring the sexual temptations predicted by society, I still have no satisfying answer, even for myself. A wall in my mind, separating two opposite attitudes toward nakedness, blocks the simple truth I know as a nurse from ever confronting the stubborn taboos in my upbringing.

My enlightening encounter with a wiser past topples that mental wall, giving me a new perspective on life in Bible times, a much deeper theological understanding of human embodiment, and a pricked conscience about the embarrassing root cause of our culture's obsession with pornography. I will never be the same.

Signed copies of this book are available at
<http://www.pastordavidm.com/files/booksale.html>
NON-signed copies or the *Kindle edition* can be purchased through Amazon:
<http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1490386653>

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