

# Shed Hunting

I didn't realized that there is a subculture to hunting called "shed hunting." No, this is not shopping Lowe's for a backyard structure in which to keep yard implements you will rarely use. "The definition of shed hunting would be the pursuit of finding antlers that have been naturally shed by any antler-bearing mammal such as moose, caribou, elk and deer" (*Shed Hunting* 101, 2/25/2025, Gamekeepers Magazine). In fact, in some areas, shed hunters pay up to \$2500 to work an area known to contain sheds; and with dogs trained for that particular goal!

Why would people engage in such a hobby as this? Well, one reason is the record keeping. In the Hill Country, several game ranches keep track of their deer, recording and preserving the sheds as a growth metric, similar to the marks on a door frame as reminders of the growth of children.

Now, we should not dwell on the past to the degree that it drags us down with remorse and regret (cf. Philippians 3:13-14), but personal history has lessons to teach. God certainly used His people's history to remind them of poor choices, kind of a training manual for better behavior. Paul admonished the Corinthians, in the midst of condemning their behavior, *"Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers..."* (1 Corinthians 10:1), and went on to tell them about the mistakes of the Israelites (cf. 10:2-10). Paul's conclusion? *"Now these things happened to them for ensamples; and they are written for our admonition..."* (v. 11). So, keeping track of history, in order to avoid repeating errors, is not only wise but scriptural! What is the old saying: "Continuing to do the same thing, expecting a different result, is the definition of insanity."

It is helpful, occasionally, to do some shed hunting, seeing where we were and how far we've come; what a great opportunity to be grateful. Who we were, we are not now. The speech and conduct that is unchristian has been jettisoned for a new way of living. Paul even black book's an "ugly list," not to denigrate or demoralize, but to encourage them to do better. *"And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of God"* (1 Corinthians 6:11).