

Does God Care How I Dress?

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Introduction: God has given us a complete revelation that applies to every generation and nationality that arises. **(Matt 28:20)**

- A. The revelation of God covers every area of our hearts and our lives! **(Heb 4:12-13)**
 - 1. The challenge we face is our willingness to allow Jesus to rule in every area.
 - 2. Too often men will only allow their “religion” to involve certain things. Any other involvement of God’s word is “off limits”.
- B. In the area of our dress we face great pressures. **(1 John 2:15-16)**
 - 1. This is a highly personal area in which **many are sensitive**.
 - 2. This is an area where there is great **peer-pressure**.
 - 3. This is also an area that **greatly affects our young** during a critical time of their lives.
 - 4. I believe as a whole we are loosing the battle of teaching future generations about this subject. Will you weigh the evidence?

I. The Bible Teaches that We are to Dress Modestly.

A. The way we dress should reflect on the character within us. **(1 Tim 2:9-10) KJV**
(1 Timothy 2:9-10 KJV) In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in **modest** apparel, with **shamefacedness** and **sobriety**; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; *{10}* But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works.

- 1. **Modest** - (kosmios) - of good behaviour , well arranged, seemly.
 - 2. **Shamefacedness** - (aidos) - perhaps ..through the idea of downcast eyes; a sense of shame or honour, modesty, bashfulness, reverence, regard for others, respect.
 - 3. **sobriety** - (sophrosune) 1) soundness of mind 2) self-control
- B. A Godly woman is not to be seeking attention but rather have a meek and quiet spirit. **(1 Pet 3:3-4)**
- 1. Our women face tremendous pressures from the world to conform.
 - 2. The modern day women’s movement scorns the Bible teaching of character. Immorality is openly encouraged and praised.
 - 3. What does a woman face when she goes against the modern fashion?
 - 4. God made men and women different therefore you will see emphasis towards women in these areas. Men are very stimulated by sight. **(Mt 5:27-30)**
(Ex. How many “Adult” magazines are toward men?)
 - 5. Women you may be wearing clothing that is an invitation to ungodliness and you not be aware of it! Sadly some are aware. **(Prov 7:10; Gen 38:13-15)** (Ex. Fish)
 - 6. We need fathers to take a strong stand in these areas! Do you give in?

II. The Bible Teaches that Nakedness Should Produce Shame in Us.

- A. The Bible has always expected men and women to be ashamed in their nakedness. **(Rev 3:17-18)**
- 1. Often the verses are making a spiritual application with the understanding of an underlying principle of the shame of physical nakedness.
 - 2. Shame however is something that can be lost! **(Jer 6:15; 8:12)**
 - 3. We are facing a problem in the church where men and women are making judgments on how they feel and not on the word of God! This is a mark of

apostasy! (Ex. Liberal Services.)

B. What is “nakedness” according to the Bible?

1. **(Gen 2:25)** - Adam and Eve were naked when they had **no clothes**.
2. **(Gen 3:7,10-11)** - They were **still naked** when they made the equivalent of men’s swimming trunks!
3. **(Gen 3:21)** - They were no longer naked when God made them “tunics of skin”. These are defined as: "generally with sleeves, coming down to the knees" (v. 21; Gesenius, Hebrew & Chaldee Lexicon, 420).
4. “God replaced their shorts with garments covering from the shoulders down to the knees to cover the shame of their nakedness.”
5. **(Ex 28:41-42; Isa 47:2-3)** - God was very concerned with improper clothing that still left one naked! How much was covered? Look at the passages!
6. Have you lost your shame concerning nakedness?

III. How Should We Apply These Truths?

A. What is not the issue:

1. Whether or not small children are included. They are not.
2. Whether or not the place one is in determines modest dress. It does.
3. Whether or not social customs effect how a Christian dresses, They do.
4. Whether Christians are to be modest and different from the world in appearance and action. They are.
5. Whether clothing that produces sensuality is wrong. It is.

B. What the issue is:

1. What constitutes modest apparel?
2. Bathing Suits? Halters? Shorts? Tight fitting clothes? Low cut dresses? Low buttoned shirts? Slits up skirts?
3. It does not become immodest because of what we call the garment, but by what the garment covers and what it communicates to others.
4. Dress is only part of the picture. A person can dress modestly and act immodest!

IV. Some Common Objections

A. everyone is doing it. **(Matt 7:13-14)**

B. You cannot say this is definitely immodest. **(1 Tim 2:9)**

C. This give me more comfort. **(Rom 3:8)**

D. Evil is in the eye of the beholder. **(Matt 18:6-7)**

E. I am (old, fat, ugly...) so I will wear what I want. **(1 Tim 2:9, Titus 2:3-5)**

F. Others will make fun of me. I will not make the team, play, etc..**(Heb 11:24-26)**

G. These clothes are all that I have.

Conclusion: Do you care what you wear before God?

A. What kind of attitude do you have? Do you get as close to the border as possible?

B. Why not have this attitude: “How can I best dress to be recognized as a servant of God?” **(Ruth 3:11)**