

HOW WE DRESS

Scripture Reading: Matthew 5:27-30

07/21/19

Introduction:

1. Improper dress is a common problem within our culture.
2. We must be careful of how we dress before others.

I. THE TROUBLE

A. CULTURE IS CONFUSED ABOUT MODESTY

1. E.g. -Losing weight to fit into a swimsuit.
2. People have forgotten how to blush -Je 6:15
 - a. "People used to blush when embarrassed, now they are embarrassed when they blush"
 - b. Some wish to find the tree of knowledge of Good and Evil so they will know they are naked.
3. We are not of this world -1Jn 2:15; Ja 4:4; Ro 12:2

B. LUST OF THE EYE

1. Man desires his wife by God's design
 - a. Leave father and mother and cleave to his wife -Ge 2:23, 24
 - b. Indicated by Solomon -Pr 5:18, 19
2. The desire for one not his wife is evil -Mt 5:28; Job 31:1

C. MAN'S JUSTIFICATION

1. Cultural differences
 - a. Some may require more covering (ie. Wrong for a woman to show her ankle)
 - b. Other cultures may require less
 - c. We remember our allegiance is to God not culture -Ac 5:29
2. It doesn't bother me
 - a. Some forgot how to blush -Je 6:15
 - b. We will be judged by the words of Christ, not what or what does not bother us -Jn 12:48
3. We're just dressing for a sport or activity. If it violates God's law, it is wrong.
4. Some will lust no matter what I wear. True, but you will not be the one initiating the problem.
5. One cannot go to the grocery store (Wal-Mart) by this reasoning.
6. No one pays any attention to it anymore.
7. No one would lust after me.

II. THE SOLUTION

A. LOOK TO GOD'S WORD

1. Adam and Eve in the garden
 - a. Their eyes were open -Ge 2:7
 - 1) They made coverings for themselves
 - 2) The word "coverings" means "loin cloth" or "girdle"
 - b. They hid from the Lord for they knew they were naked -vs. 8-11
 - 1) They were wearing the loin cloth.
 - 2) They stated they were naked; the Lord did not contradict them.
 - c. The Lord made them tunics of skin -3:21
 - 1) The tunic was a "long shirt-like garment", like a robe
 - 2) This covered from the shoulders to the knees.
2. The priesthood -Ex 28:40-42
 - a. The linen trousers would cover them from the waist to the thighs -vs. 42
 - b. Some versions read, "to the knees".
3. Paul's writing -1Ti 2:9, 10
 - a. Modest – Orderly; well-arranged; descent
 - b. Propriety – shamefaced; shame
 - c. Proper for women professing godliness
 - d. Titus 2:5 - They were to be chaste
4. E.g. -Woodrow Wilson

B. CONSIDER OTHERS

1. We do not want to be a stumbling block for others -Mt 5:28; Lk 17:1
2. E.g. King David -2Sa 11 (cf. 2Sa 21:15-17)
3. Some claim only the one who lust is sinning...
 - a. We become a stumbling block for them.
 - b. Paul stated he would not eat meat... -1Co 8:12, 13

C. REMEMBER THE CHURCH

1. We are written epistles (ie. "walking bibles") -2Co 3:2
 - a. What I do reflects either good or bad upon the church.
 - b. All our defense of the gospel can be lost by the way we dress.
2. Jesus wants His church to be spotless -Ep 5:25-27

Conclusion:

1. We want to always remember that we represent Christ everywhere we go.
2. Therefore, we want to dress in such a way that our Christianity is always showing.