

# The Bulletin

## Meeks Street Church of Christ

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**August 14, 2022**

### ***"The Meaning of Modesty"***

By Mark Mayberry



Introduction: Immodesty is a significant problem, especially during the summer months. Modesty is inversely proportional to the heat: as temperatures rise, modesty falls. What does God's word say on this subject?

#### **God Wants Our Clothing to be Modest.**

God wants our clothing to be modest (1 Tim. 2:9-10). He is not always satisfied with our choices. In their original ignorant and innocent state, the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed (Gen. 2:25). Yet, after eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, Adam and Eve realized they were naked and were ashamed (Gen. 3:6-7). Please note that nakedness is not something shameful in the private and personal relationship of a husband and wife (Heb. 13:4). Rather, shame and embarrassment occurs when third parties are present. Adam and Eve were ashamed when God came to visit with them in the cool of the evening (Gen. 3:8-10).

When Adam and Even realized they were naked, they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings (Gen. 3:7). Some Bible versions say "aprons" (KJV, ASV, RSV), while others read "coverings" (NKJ), "loin coverings" (NAS), or "loincloths" (NRS).

Yet, their original efforts to correct this problem were wholly inadequate. Adam and Eve still felt ashamed at their naked condition even though they had made some effort to cover their bodies (Gen. 3:7, 10). Moreover, the Lord was not satisfied with their feeble efforts. To correct this deficiency, God gave them modest clothing (Gen. 3:21).

According to the KJV and the ASV, God made "coats of skins" for Adam and Eve and clothed them. The RSV, NASB and NRS say that God made "garments of skins." The NKJ says that He made "tunics of skin, and clothed them."

How were the God-made garments different from the loincloths of Adam and Eve? First of all, animal skins were more permanent than fig leaves. Secondly, they were more effective in covering the body. The concealment afforded by fig leaves was flimsy and faulty, but animal skins provided an opaque, nontransparent covering. Finally, while the fig leaves covered only the generative portions of the body, the tunics that God made covered the body from the shoulders to the knees. In the third chapter of Genesis, God established clothing - specifically, modest clothing - as a permanent institution among men and women.

#### **The Bible Condemns All Forms of Public Nakedness.**

The Hebrew and Greek words that are translated "naked" or "nakedness" have several distinct meanings: First, they may refer to one who is completely nude and bereft of any clothing (Gen. 2:25; 3:7; Job 1:21; Eccl. 5:15; Mark 14:51-52). Secondly, they may refer to a state of partial nakedness or inadequate dress. Often they are used to describe someone who is raggedly, poorly or inadequately clad (Gen. 3:10; Deut. 28:48; Job 22:6; 24:7, 10; Isa. 58:7; Ezek. 18:7, 18; Matt. 25:35-44; Acts 19:16; Rom. 8:35; 1 Cor. 4:11; 2 Cor. 11:27; James 2:15).

Even after Adam and Eve sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin coverings, the man said, "*I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself*" (Gen. 3:7-10). They recognized their attempt at covering themselves was inadequate.

Public nakedness is counted as shameful in both the Old and New Testaments (Gen. 3:6-11; Isa. 47:3; Mic. 1:11; Rev. 3:18-19). Christians must exercise caution regarding their clothing, avoiding attire that is lascivious and sexually suggestive (Prov. 7:10; 1 Tim. 2:9-10). Christian women (and by extension, men also) should wear clothing that reflects their chaste and respectful behavior (1 Pet. 3:1-4).

### **Clothing that is Too Short.**

Christians should avoid clothing that is too short. Modest clothing will conceal the thighs.

In addition to their official robes, the Levitical priests wore linen breeches to cover their bare flesh; these garments reached from the loins even to the thighs, i.e., from the waist to the knees (Exod. 28:40-43). Furthermore, the Lord said, *"You shall not go up by steps to My altar, so that your nakedness will not be exposed on it"* (Exod. 20:22-26, esp. vs. 26). In other words, this prohibition ensured that the priests were modest from all angles.

Offering a lamentation over Babylon, the prophet Isaiah said, *"Come down and sit in the dust, O virgin daughter of Babylon; Sit on the ground without a throne, O daughter of the Chaldeans! For you shall no longer be called tender and delicate. Take the millstones and grind meal. Remove your veil, strip off the skirt, uncover the leg, cross the rivers. Your nakedness will be uncovered, your shame also will be exposed; I will take vengeance and will not spare a man"* (Isa. 47:1-3).

Thomas defines kethoneth or kuttoneth, translated "coat," "dress," "garment(s)," or "tunic(s)," as "a tunic" [Thomas ]. BDB say a tunic was the "principal ordinary garment of man and woman." Tunics were worn next to a person, with long skirts and (sometimes) sleeves constructed of skin or cloth. Gesenius says a tunic was an inner garment next to the skin; also worn by women; generally with sleeves, coming down to the knees, rarely to the ankles. Holladay says it was a "long shirt-like (under-) garment" of linen or skins, worn by both men, women and priests.

### **Clothing that is Too Tight.**

Christians should avoid clothing that is too tight. Modest clothing will conceal the hips. Consider the humiliation subjected upon David's ambassadors by Hanun of Moab, who took David's servants and shaved off half of their beards, and cut off their garments in the middle as far as their hips, and sent them away (2 Sam. 10:1-5). Some clothing is too short, exposing the thigh and even the hips; other clothing is too tight, revealing the underlying form of the body.

Skinny jeans, yoga pants, spandex, leggings, tights, etc. only change the color of a person's skin. Tight clothing reveals the form of the body rather than concealing it, drawing the eyes of those who observe, sexualizing encounters rather than promoting and preserving chastity.

In recent years, public school officials across the country have been banning yoga pants and other tight leggings because they are distracting to male students. School faculties recognize that male students are inattentive to classroom instruction when girls wear skin-tight clothing. These rules are designed to help avoid the sexualization of students, and create a better learning environment.

Both men and women have a responsibility in this regard. Jesus warned against looking upon a woman with lust (Matt. 5:28). Job made a covenant with his eyes not to look longingly upon a maiden (Job 31:1). Men must control their thoughts, but women must also be mindful of the need for proper attire. Tight clothing shows a lack of attention to shamefastness, i.e., a necessary sense of shame that is rooted in one's character (1 Tim. 2:9).

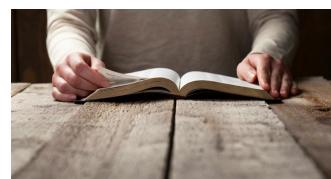
### **Clothing that is Too Low/Loose.**

Christians should avoid clothing that is too low or loose. Modest clothing will conceal the chest. Just as clothing may be too short, or too tight, shirts or blouses may also be too low or loose, exposing or accentuating the breasts. This aspect of our physical being should be reserved for the shared intimacy of marriage (Prov. 5:15-23; Song of Sol. 8:8-14).

## Memory Verse of the Week:

### **Matthew 7:13-14 (NKJB)**

*"Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it."*



**News and Notes:** Sick and recovering: Tim Harris Sr, Tim Harris Jr, Chad Harris, Daniel Holloway, Debbie Keplinger, Sam Johnson, J F Dancer, Robbie, Sheila, Sherry Doles, Nannette Chancellor, Sandi Poole, Nathan Cox, Wesley Trimble,, Sandra Oliver, and Robert Howard (Doug and Pat's son in law), Danny Cottrell,

LuAnne Parrish had her surgery last Tuesday and is now at Tishomongo Manor for rehabilitation— Room A3.

Kenny Moorer, the preacher at College view, had a bad accident while mowing grass. Bethany Fields (Brandi Meade's sister in law) lost their home to a fire Friday night.

### Those Who Serve:

#### Sunday Morning 9:00 A.M. Service:

<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Tim Harris Sr.
<b>Preaching:</b>	Brian Meade
<b>Sermon #1:</b>	"Mistakes Of "Successful" Men"

<b>Auditorium Bible Class: 9:35am:</b>	Jerry Kennemur
<b>Workbook:</b>	Ephesians (Chris Reeves)
<b>Starting Page &amp; Question:</b>	Page #42, Question #17

#### Sunday Morning 10:30 A.M. Service:

<b>Announcements:</b>	Paul Johnson
<b>Opening Prayer &amp; Scripture Reading:</b>	Danny Sheffield <i>Ephesians 3:4-6</i>
<b>Song Leader:</b>	Lee Busby
<b>Lord's Supper:</b>	Doug George
<b>Assisting:</b>	—
<b>Preaching:</b>	Brian Meade
<b>Sermon #2:</b>	"Reformation Versus Restoration Pt. 3"
<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	Fred Johnson

#### Wednesday Evening: 7:00 P.M.

August 17th:

<b>Auditorium Bible Class:</b>	Paul Johnson
<b>Workbook:</b>	Jeremiah & Lamentations (John Humphries)
<b>Starting Page &amp; Question:</b>	Page #53, Question #1
<b>Invitation:</b>	Dan Cottrell
<b>Song Leader:</b>	Paul Busby
<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	Tim Harris Sr.



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# **Mistakes Of “Successful” Men**

**Lesson Text: Proverbs 3:1-4 (ESV).**

Success Means Different Things To Different People:

1. To The Worldly- It means having everything you want and desire in life.
2. To The Godly- It means having the Lord in your life- **1 Timothy 6:6.**

## **I. Samson.**

- He was a man of great strength and a war hero in Israel- **Judges 15.**
- But with all his great strength, he was weak spiritually because of his desires.
- Samson desired the Philistine women, rather than the Israelite- **Judges 14:1-3.**
- His Mistake: He loved & trusted an unworthy woman with his secret- **Judges 16.**
- The Lord had departed from him- **Judges 16:20.**

## **II. King Saul.**

- Saul was chosen by God to be the first king of Israel- **1 Samuel 9:1-2.**
- He disobeyed God out of fear of men- **1 Samuel 13:8-12; Samuel 15:10.**
- His Mistake: He let Jealousy, Envy, And Pride consume him- **1 Samuel 18:6-11.**
- The Lord departed from him- **1 Samuel 18:12-15.**

## **III. King Solomon.**

- David's son, next to rule in peace and safety/build the Temple- **1 Chron. 22:6-10.**
- He was exceedingly wealthy- **1 Kings 10:14-23; vs. 27.**
- He Had asked for wisdom from the Lord- **1 Kings 3:5-9; 1 Kings 10:24.**
- His Greatest Mistake: He married many heathen women who turned his heart away after idolatry- **1 Kings 11:1-8.**

## **IV. The Rich Farmer.**

- **Luke 12:16-21.**
- He was a great success as a farmer.
- He was thrifty, he was planning, and preparing all for himself.
- He was likely admired as a man of success in the community.
- His Mistake: He foolishly laid up treasure for himself, and wasn't rich toward God.

## **V. The Rich Man Of Luke 16.**

- **Luke 16:19-31.**
- He was likely the envy of many who saw his great wealth.
- He had the best of everything and never lived in want!
- His Mistake: Not being a kind and generous person who helped others.

## **VI. The Rich Young Ruler.**

- **Matthew 19:16-22.**
- He was rich, religious, and young- **Luke 18:23; 18:18; Matthew 19:20.**
- Even Jesus loved him- **Mark 10:21.**
- His Mistake: He loved his possessions too much to part with them- **Matt. 19:22.**

# ***“Reformation Versus Restoration Pt. 3”***

Lesson Text: **Ephesians 3:4-6.**

## **I. What Brought About A Reformation Period?**

- Apparent Corruptions of the Catholic Church.
- The Bible Translated In The Language of Common People.
  - John Wycliffe (1328-1388). Wycliffe Bible (1388-1395). Began to see differences!
  - John Huss 1370-1415) Continued advocating reform to Catholic Church.  
He was burned at the stake on July 6, 1415.
  - Johannes Gutenberg (1400-1468); Printing Press (1440); Gutenberg Bible.
  - Martin Luther (1483-1546) Translated The Bible Into The German Language.
  - William Tyndale (1494-1536) The First English Bible; Influenced KJB 1611.
- Having The Bible In Their Hands, Many Saw The Departures Of Truth Themselves!

## **II. What Was This Reformation About Specifically?**

- Martin Luther (1483-1546) and His 95 Thesis's.
  - The Lutheran Denomination began Because of his Efforts.
- Ulrich Zwingli (1484-1531) Reform in Switzerland.
- John Calvin (1509-1564) French Reformer/Five Points Of Calvinism.
  - Presbyterian Church adopted his teachings as their Creed; John Knox Founded...
- Henry The VIII (1491-1547) Broke Away From Catholic Church For Annulment.
  - Anglican Church began in England, and Later Episcopalian Church in the US.

## **III. Did It Just Reform Or Restore God's Ways?**

- At First, Martin Luther Wanted Change Or Reform To The Catholic Church Corruption.
- This explains some similarities:
  - Continued The Formation of Creeds and Manual for Lutheran Church.
  - Changed Priest—Laity to Pastor—Laity System. Retained title of “Reverend.”
  - Replaced Pope For Church President.
  - Fought Works Based Salvation to Adopt “Faith Alone” Salvation.
  - Replaced Transubstantiation For Consubstantiation in the Lord’s Supper.
  - Continued Belief In Original Sin Doctrine of Catholic Church.
  - Continued Infant Baptism (3-6 months).
  - Continued Instrumental Music In Worship.
  - He, And Others, Protested and Reformed Abuses To Start New Sects.
  - But Did They Go Back Far Enough To Restore What Was Lost?
    - Painting— Restored or Reformed Illustration.

## **IV. How Would We Restore N.T. Christianity?**

- Get Back To The Bible Only As Our Rule And Guide— **2 Timothy 3:16-17.**
- Use Bible Terms For Bible Ways, Do Bible Things In Bible Ways- **1 Peter 4:11.**
- Do Not Look At God’s Silence As Permission To Legislate Rules And Laws-
  - **Colossians 3:17; Hebrews 7:12-14; Acts 15:24.**
- Look At Division As Sinful And A Work of the Flesh- **Gal. 5:19-21; 1 Cor, 1:10-13.**
- Respect The Authority Of Christ As Head Of The Church- **Matt. 28:18; Eph. 5:23-24.**