

SOUTH HEIGHTS BAPTIST'S WEEKLY

REMINDER

Volume XXI

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Number 9

Modest or Immodest Dress? Q

As Summer temperatures rise standards of modesty seem to fall. Very few people, including many who claim to be Christians, are concerned about modesty.

We live in an age that glorifies immodesty and immorality. On almost every commercial advertisement, whether it be on a billboard, television, or in a magazine, and regardless if the advertised product is food, clothing, perfume, or automobiles, the allurements are not the product itself, but men and women who are dressed immodestly.

Thus, immodesty has become so commonly excepted that it doesn't bother most people. Most people feel no shame if they see someone on television or in public who is dressed immodestly, and wouldn't have any problem dressing the same way.

The Israelites were condemned by God through the prophet Jeremiah because they no longer had any shame. ***“Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore shall they fall among them that fall: in the time of their visitation they shall be cast down, saith the Lord. (Jer. 8:12).*** Are you able to blush at that which is sinful? Do you blush at the shame of immodest dress?

Immodest dress is the type of dress that brings attention to one's body, to expose one's nakedness either by thin, tight, or revealing clothing. Immodest dress has always been sinful in the sight of God. When Adam and Eve's eyes were opened to sin and shame they realized their nakedness and made for themselves aprons of fig leaves and covered their loins and hid from God. But those little aprons they made for themselves, which probably covered up more than many popular swimsuits of today, were not enough to satisfy God; for we are told, ***“Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them” (Gen. 3:7-21).*** With what they had on, God did not consider them to be clothed. What they were wearing was shameful and they had reason to hide. Many today could learn a lesson from Adam and Eve and clothe themselves, covering their nakedness and shame.

Styles of clothes are not specified in God's Word. We don't have to wear tunics and turbans today-- styles change and they are different from nation to nation, age to age, and even person to person. Each person can enjoy different styles of dress as long as they do not violate the principle of God's Word.

However, just because something is “in style” doesn't mean that it is modest. Just because it is hot outside, or because one may be involved in a certain activity doesn't change God's principles and standards. The standards of God never goes out of style-- ***“Heaven and earth shall pass away, but My words shall not pass away” (Mat.24:35).*** The Scriptures declare in I Tim. 2:9, ***“In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel...”*** (These principles also apply to men as well).

If you ever have any trouble choosing proper clothing to wear in public just ask yourself, ***“Would I want to be wearing this if the Lord returned? Would I want to be wearing this as I stood before God in judgment?”*** Knowing that nakedness is shameful and immodesty is sinful, you should be able to dress in a manner pleasing to God regardless of the activity in which you will be involved, or what the temperature is.

- Pastor Paul Smithson

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED

1. **Admit that you are a sinner.**
2. **Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.**
3. **Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.**
4. **You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).**
5. **By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.**



Please Remember To Be Faithful to Give!

As with everything else, the costs of keeping a church going never go down - they always go *up*. Bills wait for no one, and churches are no exception to this. An extra, sacrificial gift today by everyone present would go a long way...

We encourage all of our membership to practice obedience to God by being faithful every payday to give back to Him His tithe (10%). *If every family in our church would practice this one simple discipline, we would never have weeks where we have to put off paying some bills until the following week!*

Everything is expensive, especially for a small church like ours, but ours is a BIG God, and He LOVES to bless His children when they are obedient to Him!

If you are already a tither, we thank you, and encourage you to also give offerings as well. If you're currently not tithing, won't you please start **today - OK?** Thank you.

Church Directory

Todd W. White ----- Pastor
 Mickie Shatwell ----- Pianist
 Lois Mae Floyd ----- Pianist/ Organist
 ----- Greeter
 Shayne Hooper, Brian Crawford, Charity Crawford ----- S.S. Teachers
 Larry & Mary Byars, ----- Outreach
 Bertha Segebarrt ----- Custodian
 Flowers ----- Shirley White, Charity Crawford

NURSERY MINISTRY WORKERS FOR THIS WEEK

10:50 a.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: VOLUNTEER NEEDED!
 Cradle Roll 2: VOLUNTEER NEEDED!
 Sun. Eve. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: VOLUNTEER NEEDED!
 Cradle Roll 2: VOLUNTEER NEEDED!
 Wed. Wed. Eve. Service ---- Cradle Roll 1: VOLUNTEER NEEDED!
 Cradle Roll 2: VOLUNTEER NEEDED!

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

Week of March 20, 2016

Sunday School ----- 21
 Sunday Morning Service ----- 29
 Sunday Evening Service ----- 18
 Wed. Eve. Service, 03/23/16 ----- 21

Week of March 27, 2016

Sunday School ----- 30
 Sunday Morning Service ----- 40
 Sunday Evening Service ----- 17
 Wed. Eve. Service, 03/30/16 ----- 11

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

Week of March 20, 2016

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 639.91
Total Received for Week of 03/20/16: \$ 639.91

Week of March 27, 2016

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 836.00
Total Received for Week of 03/27/16: \$ 836.00

Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed to operate the church EACH WEEK, as a minimum = \$ 1,400.00

LISTEN TO -



ABIDINGRADIO.COM

PLUMBING REPAIR FUND -

Amount For Entire Project ----- \$6,606.99
 Amount Received So Far ----- \$ 867.00
Total STILL NEEDED to pay off: \$5,739.99

NEWS OF INTEREST TO CHRISTIANS

□ **CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER LED TO GODDESS WORSHIP** - Contemplative prayer, which was borrowed from Rome's dark monasticism, has swept through "evangelicalism" in the past 20 years, as we have documented in the free eBook *Evangelicals and Contemplative Prayer*.

Popular contemplative practices include breath prayer, centering prayer, Jesus prayer, entering the silence, and lectio divina. It is an extremely dangerous field that has often led to heresy, apostasy, and even pantheistic concepts of God.

For example, popular author **Sue Monk Kidd**, who was once a Southern Baptist Sunday School teacher, found goddess worship through the path of contemplative prayer. As she began to delve into the worship of ancient goddesses, she traveled to Crete and worshiped in a cave of the goddess Skoteini. She says, "something inside me was calling on the Goddess of the Dark, even though I didn't know her name" (The Dance of the Dissident Daughter, p. 93). Soon Kidd was praying to God as Mother, "the divine feminine presence." Finally, she saw herself as a goddess and began to worship herself. **"To embrace Goddess is simply to discover the Divine in yourself as powerfully and vividly feminine"** (Dance of the Dissident Daughter, p. 141). She set up an altar with a mirror so she can worship herself. She even believes that the world can be saved by the divine mother. **"I know of nothing needed more in the world just now than an image of Divine present that affirms the importance of relationship--a Divine Mother, perhaps, who draws all humanity into her lap and makes us into a global family"** (Dance, p. 155). Sue Monk Kidd's book ends with the words, "She is in us."

□ **CATHOLIC MUSICIAN SAYS CONTEMPORARY MUSIC DISARMS PEOPLE AND OPENS THEM TO ECUMENISM:**

In a recent interview, contemporary Christian musician **Audrey Assad**, who converted to the Roman Catholic Church in 2007, says that she is passionate about musical ecumenism and explains that it "disarms" people.

"Ecumenism, true actual dialogue between different branches of Christianity, is absolutely one of my greatest passions, and so music is a great way to accomplish that. Christians of many different stripes can come together to sing worship songs with each other. It's a good way to open up the potential of dialogue ... And so **I JUST THINK MUSIC IS DISARMING**. I think it paves the way for people to put down their weapons for a minute. ... So I'm just very intentional about making sure we remain in a conversation going to all different kinds of places" ("Audrey Assad Shares Her Inheritance," JesusFreakHideout.com, Feb. 9, 2016).

Assad attends Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Tempe, Arizona, which is devoted to Mary as Queen of Heaven. In 2012, Assad performed at Trinity Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Florida, a prominent independent Baptist congregation, but Trinity's leaders

are far from the only independent Baptists who are too lacking in spiritual discernment to recognize that contemporary worship music "disarms" their people toward the one-world church agenda.

□ **NORTH CAROLINA PUTS STOP TO TRANSGENDER BATHROOMS** - The following is excerpted from "North Carolina Limits Local Governments after Transgender Bathroom Rule," Associated Press, Mar. 24, 2016:

"North Carolina legislators decided to rein in local governments by approving a bill Wednesday that prevents cities and counties from passing their own anti-discrimination rules. Gov. Pat McCrory later signed the legislation, which dealt a blow to the LGBT movement after success with protections in cities across the country. The Republican-controlled General Assembly took action after Charlotte city leaders last month approved a broad anti-discrimination measure. Critics focused on language in the ordinance that allowed transgender people to use the restroom aligned with their gender identity.

McCrory, who was the mayor of Charlotte for 14 years and had criticized the local ordinance, signed the legislation Wednesday night that he said was 'passed by a bipartisan majority to stop this breach of basic privacy and etiquette.' ... Republicans and their allies have said intervening is necessary to protect the safety of women and children from 'radical' action by Charlotte. There have been arguments that any man--perhaps a sex offender--could enter a woman's restroom or locker room simply by calling himself transgender. 'It's common sense--biological men should not be in women's showers, locker rooms and bathrooms,' said GOP Rep. Dean Arp of Monroe before the chamber voted 82-26 for the legislation after nearly three hours of debate."

□ **MUSLIM SHOPKEEPER MURDERED AFTER WISHING SCOTLAND "HAPPY EASTER"** - A Muslim shopkeeper in Glasgow was murdered hours after he tweeted "Happy Easter" to the nation. At 5:10 pm on Friday, 40-year-old Asad Shah tweeted, "Good Friday and a very Happy Easter to my beloved Christian nation. ... Let's follow the real footstep of beloved holy Jesus Christ and get the real success in both worlds" ("Glasgow shopkeeper," Daily Record, Mar. 25, 2016).

Four hours later he was knifed and his head was brutally stomped. He died in the hospital. Breitbart reports that "Police have now confirmed that a 32-year-old Muslim man has been arrested in connection with Mr. Shah's death, which is being treated as religiously prejudiced" ("Muslim Shopkeeper," Breitbart, Mar. 26, 2016).

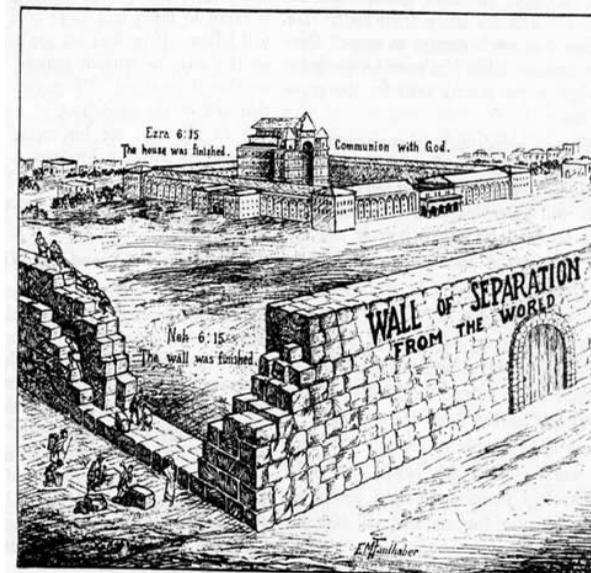
Shah was an Ahmadiyyah Muslim, which is not considered true Muslim by Sunnis. The Sunnis, who are behind most of the Muslim terrorism worldwide, consider themselves the genuine descendants of Mohammed through Abu Bakr, the father of Muhammad's favorite wife, Aisha.

□ **THE BIBLE AND ISLAM** - In light of today's news events, we do well to ask what the Bible says about Islam. Islam controls

a large part of the world and is on a jihadist rampage that hasn't been seen in hundreds of years. The 190-page book *The Bible and Islam* describes Islam's beginning and history, the doctrine of Allah compared with the God of the Bible, the teaching of the Quran, Islam and salvation, jihad and world conquest, the three stages of jihad, the Koran's doctrine of abrogation, the doctrine of Kafir (pronounced ka'-fir), Islam and Judaism, Islam and Christianity, Sharia law, Islam's slave trade, Islam as a judgment on apostate Christianity and apostate Israel, Islam's divisions and internecine hatred (Sunni vs. Shiite), Islam as a preparation for the Antichrist, the Antichrist and the Middle East problem, and Muslim nations in Bible prophecy. The book explains what is happening in the Middle East and where these events will ultimately lead. Available in print and free eBook editions from Way of Life Literature (wayoflife.org).

□ **POLICE IN SWEDEN ADVISE WOMEN TO STAY AT HOME TO AVOID BEING RAPED BY MUSLIM REFUGEES:**

Following six rape attempts and violent attacks on women in Östersund, Sweden, since February 20, including that of a woman on her way to work at 11 pm, the police recently broadcast a televised warning for women to avoid being alone. They warned that such targeting of women is a new phenomenon in their town. The police chief said, "As we see it just now, we recommend that women who go out late at night rather not do it without getting a lift, or that they go together as a group. We feel a strong concern that this could end with something much worse than an attempted rape. The incidents we have had, where women have been assaulted, have been very violent. I am sorry to say so, but I think they need to act out of a 'better safe than sorry' principle."



Only One Life

*It matters so little
How much you may own,
The places you've been
or the people you've known.
For it all comes to nothing
when placed at His feet.
It's nothing to Jesus,
- just memories to keep.
You may take all the treasures
From far away lands.
Take all the riches
you can hold in your hands.
And take all the pleasures
that money can buy,
But what will you have,
- when it's your time to die?
Only one life!
- so soon it will pass!
Only what's done
for Christ will last!
Only one chance to do His will!
So give to Jesus all your days,
it's the only life that pays,
When you recall -
You have but one life!
The days pass so swiftly,
the months come and go.
The years melt away,
like new fallen snow.
Spring turns to summer,
summer to fall.
Autumn brings winter,
then death comes to call.
Only one life!
- so soon it will pass!
Only what's done
for Christ will last!
Only one chance to do His will!
So give to Jesus all your days,
it's the only life that pays,
When you recall -
You have but one life!*