

REMINDER

Volume XVI

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Number 17

Modest or Immodest Dress?



*A*s 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 is 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 ones 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



How To Interpret The Bible, Part 9

by the late Evangelist Ron Dunn

The Late Dr. Ron Dunn

There are six rules of Bible interpretation. Thusfar, we've looked at the first four:

- ☛ **RULE #1 - The Bible as the Word of God is our sole guide and authority for faith and practice.**
- ☛ **RULE #2 - The Primary Theme of Revelation Is Redemption.**
- ☛ **RULE #3 - The Revelation of God Is a Progressive Revelation.**
- ☛ **RULE #4 - We Must Distinguish Between The Picture And The Frame**

Now let's look at -

RULE #5 - Scripture Interprets Scripture

By this, I mean simply that the Bible is its own best interpreter. And every verse must be interpreted in the light of its immediate context as well as in the total context of the Bible. The unity of the Scripture follows from the fact that God is the principle author of it and implies that the meaning of the parts agree with the meaning of the whole so that one passage sheds light on another passage because it comes from one divine Author. Scripture is its own interpreter.

The Bible is a collection of sixty-six books and letters written by different people, separated by hundreds of years and yet, it is one book possessing one scheme of truth, one consistent theology in which all the separate parts harmonize with one another. This is sometimes referred to as the analogy of faith, which says that there is one and only one system of doctrine taught in the Bible, therefore, the individual interpretation must conform to that one system. In other words, the analogy of faith is the consistent and perpetual harmony of Scripture in the fundamental points of faith and practice.

The theological unity of the Bible means the interpretation of a specific passage must not contradict the whole teaching of Scripture on a point. There's an old maxim that says that a text without a context is a pretext. See, when you isolate verses from

their context, that is a careless and reckless and even dangerous way of establishing truth. Everybody's heard the old saw... "Judas went out and hanged himself...go thou and do likewise...and whatsoever thou doest, do quickly." You can take those three texts and take them out context and put them together and that's what you have. When you and I neglect context in which a single verse is to be found we are opening ourselves to gross misinterpretation of the Scripture.

Now I think this is a particular danger for biblical conservatives. I mean, if somebody can give us a proof text, it's just instinctive to say, "Well, you're right because there's the proof text." But, you see, there must be a sound exegetical examination of every text. I mean, if you pick a verse out of the fifth chapter of Isaiah, you must understand what that verse means in the fifth chapter of Isaiah. It must be interpreted in the light of its context and if you simply lift it out and quote it out of context, what you're doing at that moment is you are guilty of very superficial treatment of the Scriptures.

The use of proof texts is only as good as the exegeses that under-girds the quote. Now, this principle means two or three things.

1. This means we must give attention to grammar...

The meaning of words and the relation to one another within a verse. Theology starts with grammar. Any doctrinal position is no better than the grammatical and exegetical foundation that underlines it and Bible study that ignores the meaning of a word and its relation to other words within that verse is unreliable and careless and should not be regarded as serious Bible study.

2. Obscure passages must give way to clear passages.

Let's face it, some parts of the Bible are downright difficult to understand. Do you think you have a hard time understanding Paul? You're in good company because Peter himself had trouble with some of Paul's writings. For instance, in II Peter 3:15-16, here's what Peter says,

"...our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto As also in all [his] epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood..."

Some of the things that Paul writes even Peter acknowledged are hard to understand. Everything that is essential to salvation and Christian living is clearly revealed in Scripture. Essential truth is not tucked away in some incidental remark in Scripture. It is not found in some passage that remains ambiguous no matter how much you study it. Any teaching that is build upon an obscure passage of Scripture is suspect.

For instance, certain people have devised a doctrine of material physical prosperity based on John's salutation to Gaius in 3 John...

"Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."

And some have taken that simple greeting and built a complete doctrine upon it. Some have come away from I Peter 2:24 with a detailed theology of healing in the atonement by superimposing

upon the text something that's not there! The words in that verse by the way... "by whose stripes we are healed..." are unmistakably metaphors referring to the spiritual healing from our sin. Neither Peter nor any other New Testament writer puts forth the idea of a theology of healing in the atonement.

- more next week

NEWS OF INTEREST TO CHRISTIANS

by Evangelist David O. Cloud

☛ **DARWINIAN INQUISITION OPERATING WITHIN NASA** - David Coppedge, an employee of NASA, has filed suit over action taken against him for discussing intelligent design with other employees. Coppedge, an information technology specialist and system administrator, was demoted from a high-level job because he distributed DVDs explaining intelligent design ("NASA Threatened by Talk of Intelligence," OneNewsNow, April 22, 2010). He was accused of "creating a hostile work environment" for simply offering DVDs to fellow employees in a non-coercive manner. NASA claims the ID material is "religious," which it isn't, but even if Coppedge were promoting a six-day Biblical creation, NASA would be wrong and foolish in harassing him. There is nothing unscientific or non-intellectual about looking at the universe to see if it fits the Bible's clear predictions.

Further, NASA has a short memory. The head of its vaunted Apollo moon program stated publicly that the universe gives evidence of intelligent design. Wernher von Braun, director of the Marshall Space Flight Center and the chief architect of the Saturn V launch vehicle, considered it unscientific to rule out a Creator just because we can't "test" him scientifically. Von Braun published an article entitled "**My Faith: A Space-age Scientist Tells Why He Must Believe in God.**" This appeared in the American Weekly, February 10, 1963, and was republished in many other newspapers.

He wrote, "**As we learn more and more about nature, we become more deeply impressed and humbled by its orderliness and unerring perfection.**" In 1972 von Braun wrote to the California State Board of Education, urging the inclusion of intelligent design theories into the public school classrooms. He said, "**... the scientific method does not allow us to exclude data which lead to the conclusion that the universe, life and man are based on design. To be forced to believe only one conclusion--that everything in the universe happened by chance--would violate the very objectivity of science itself. ... We in NASA were often asked what the real reason was for the amazing string of successes we had with our Apollo flights to the Moon. I think the only honest answer we could give was that we tried to never overlook anything. It is in that same sense of scientific honesty that I endorse the presentation of alternative theories for the origin of the universe, life and man in the science classroom. It would be an error to overlook the possibility that the universe was planned rather than happened by chance.**"

Because of Darwinism's elitist mentality and fear of challenge,

the wise counsel of the world's top rocket scientist was ignored and "intelligent design" was banned. This is not science; it is an inquisition.

☛ **THE OFTEN FORGOTTEN ORIGIN OF THE WELL-KNOWN HYMN: "IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL"** - Most people are familiar with the story behind the much-loved hymn "**It Is Well With My Soul.**" As has been told many times, Horatio Spafford, a successful Chicago lawyer was taking his wife and three daughters overseas for some much needed rest and relaxation. At the last minute, business prevented him from going, so he sent his wife and children ahead, promising that he would follow as soon as he could. Spafford was a friend of D.L. Moody and supported his work and they were going to Europe because they knew Moody would be there that fall. .

In the middle of the ocean, their ship, the *Ville Du Havre*, was rammed by another ship and quickly sunk. All four of their daughters were lost and the wife was found unconscious floating on a piece of debris. She was rescued, and upon reaching the other side, cabled back to her husband, "Saved Alone." But what few know is that was only the beginning of the heartaches to be suffered by the Spaffords, and that their faith in Christ continued unwavering. .

The reason they were taking the trip in 1873 was because of the great Chicago fire of 1871. They lost a considerable fortune in real estate as a result of the fire and poured their lives into helping others through that difficult time. Emotionally and physically drained, they were to set sail for rest when they lost their children. They were beginning to rebuild their lives when they lost another son to pneumonia. At that point, the church they had helped build removed them from membership believing that "secret sin" was to blame for God's heavy hand upon them. .

Having lost five children, their wealth, and now their church and friends, they decided to move to Jerusalem to begin life anew. In Jerusalem, they founded what became known as the "American Colony." It was a haven for Christians to come and live a simple Christian life, having all things in common, and to minister to those around them. Their influence was responsible for Muslims and others turning to Christ in the forsaken city of Jerusalem of that day. Spafford wrote many other hymns and treatises including a booklet entitled "Twenty Reasons for Believing the Coming of the Lord is Nigh" . .

Trusting in Christ carried the Spafford family through some of the darkest hours imaginable. Through their suffering, they have joined a great crowd of witnesses who testify that the Lord will never leave us or forsake us. .

***"Though Satan should buffet,
though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control -
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate
And hath shed His own blood for my soul!"***

NURSERY MINISTRY WORKERS FOR THIS WEEK

10:50 a.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Mary Byars
 Cradle Roll 2: Larry Byars
 6:90 p.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Charity Crawford
 Cradle Roll 2: Brian Crawford
 Wed. Eve. Service ----- Volunteers Needed!!!

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

Week of April 18, 2010

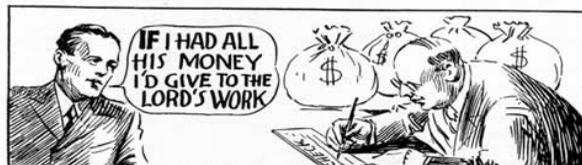
Sunday School ----- 26
 Sunday Morning Service ----- 36
 Lord's Supper Service ----- 29
 Wed. Eve. Service, 04/21/10 ----- 25

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

Week of April 18, 2009

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 737.00
 Insurance Fund ----- \$ 25.00
Total Received for Week of 04/18/10: \$ 762.00

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



WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH WHAT YOU HAVE ?



ARE YOU TELLING THOSE AT HOME ?



GOD REQUIRES FAITHFULNESS NOT ELOQUENCE.

Visit Us Online At - www.southheightsbaptist.com

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
 Dickie Eberle ----- Greeter, Custodian
 Larry Mathews, Caryn Quinnelly, Todd W. White ----- S.S. Teachers
 Larry & Mary Byars, Brian & Charity Crawford,
 Dwayne English, Geroux family ----- Outreach
 Flowers ----- Hannah and Shirley White