

Christian Apparel - Part 1

To Be Like Jesus - Session Five

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Does God really care what we wear?

(Genesis 3:21-NKJV) Also for Adam and his wife the LORD God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.

(Revelation 3:18) I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

Inward and Outward Holiness

(2 Corinthians 7:1) Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Holiness is both inward and outward. Inward holiness is by far the most important, but we should not neglect outward holiness. We should have a visible consecration. In our lives we must avoid both legalism and license (a license - do anything and say that it does not matter with God how we act and dress).

Modesty

(1 Timothy 2:8-10,NKJV) I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting. (9) In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with reverence and sobriety; not with braided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; (10) But (which becomes women professing godliness) with good works.

Modest -

- Not drawing attention to or discussing sexuality, and so unlikely to offend or arouse others.
- Behaving, dressing, speaking, etc. in a way that is considered proper or decent.
- Conforming to an accepted standard of moral behavior in actions, dress, and speech.

In 1 Timothy 2:9 God says that He wants women to show their beauty by dressing in appropriate clothes that are modest and respectable. Their beauty will be shown by what they do, not by their hair styles or the gold jewelry, pearls, or expensive clothes they wear.

Negative Examples

Jezebel: “Now when Jehu had come to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it; and she put paint on her eyes and adorned her head, and looked through a window” (2 Kings 9:30, NKJV).

God’s Judgment on Babylon: “Take the millstones, and grind meal: uncover thy locks, make bare the leg, uncover the thigh, pass over the rivers. Thy nakedness shall

Another Apostolic Witness

(1 Peter 3:3-4) Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; (4) But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.

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To be like Jesus is to be holy inside and out. Living, acting, dressing, and speaking the way Christ wants us to.

Christian Apparel - Dressing in a way that Christ would approve.

From "Christian Apparel - Part 1" by David K. Bernard © 2003, adapted by Mark Starin.