

“To be or not to be “Modesty a Matter of the heart”



Pastor Roscoe L. De Chalus
Lord of Hope Ministries International
Date: August 12, 2005

Prelude:

“Just a closer walk with Thee”

Worship:

“Blessed be your name”

Time of reflecting on the song:

“Open the eyes of my Heart”

Announcements and Offering:

Side Screen:

1 Peter 3:3 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

Message:

My observation of our culture has led me to assembling this message call “To be or not to be – a message on Modesty”. Please have an open mind as I unwrap this sermon for all that have ears to hear.

Let us pray:

Father in heaven, please help me in delivering this message to your people. Many need to hear this!

May they all have ears and the will to make the necessary changes so that your saving message can be sent through them and that no one will be led to stumble even in subtle ways in Jesus name amen!

Please take a look at the following video which will draw you into this message.

PowerPoint Video: Inappropriate Clothing.pps

What does it mean to be Modest?

Function: *adjective*

1 a : placing a moderate estimate on one's abilities or worth **b** : neither bold nor self-assertive : tending toward diffidence

2 : arising from or characteristic of a modest nature

3 : observing the proprieties of dress and behavior : DECENT

4 a : limited in size, amount, or scope

Modesty defined:

Function: *noun*

1: freedom from conceit or vanity

2: propriety in dress, speech, or conduct

When you look at what is being sold in the stores, sold via TV commercials and what people are wearing there is definitely something wrong. Being sexual is what is being sold and many are accepting this as normal wear and the higher way of dressing is being considered out dated and ugly. The mental Psyche of people needs calibration. Where do you go to be conformed to what God's plan is "yes" the bible!

Scripture: 1Timothy 2:9-10 God gives us clear instructions for the biblical standard of dress.

1Timothy 2:9-10 says, "I also want women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or expensive clothes, but with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God." In modern language, this verse could also read, "I want women to dress in an orderly, well-arranged, decent manner that expresses the self-controlled inner character within her which is lived out in her outward appearance."

What Does God Say?

Think on this and put 1Timothy 2:9-10 in your own words. The manner of dress is an indication of what is in the heart.

The Bible shows that the inner character of a woman is seen in the way she dresses. "Propriety" is modesty that shows a woman has self-control in reining in her passions and desires. The Bible tells us that a woman is not to be merely dressed with braided hair or gold or pearls or expensive clothes, for this is just the outward appearance. The heart of modesty is to be complemented by the good deeds that a woman of God performs. Her work is evidence of a godly spirit.

Which of the following do you think are types of clothes that a modest woman would choose?

- a) Clothing that reflects an inner beauty
- b) Clothing that draws attention to private parts of the body.
- c) Clothing that distracts from a woman's testimony.
- d) Clothing that reveals the passions of a woman's heart.
- e) Clothing that she would wear if Jesus were coming to visit.

Do you have self-control in controlling your passions and desires?

Action Steps:

Open your bibles to 1Samuel 26:23 and then Jeremiah 32:19.

1Samuel 26: And Jehovah will render to every man his righteousness and his faithfulness; forasmuch as Jehovah delivered thee into my hand to-day, and I would not put forth my hand against Jehovah's anointed. (ASV)

Jeremiah 32:19 Great in counsel, and mighty in work: for thine eyes [are] open upon all the ways of the sons of men: to give every one according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

Evaluate the clothing by a Godly Standards.

Parents, encourage your daughters to have a heart of submission to the ways of God. There is tremendous value in living counter to the culture which is more pleasing to the Lord most high.

Modest dressing is the way to go!

Being a dad and a Minister of the Lord I will not waiver in my stand against the cultural way of dressing!

I see girls dressing so in appropriate to the point that they look like hookers... Some are dressing in a way that shows off how out of shape they are. They think that they look good and for some no one can tell them otherwise!

Do you have a modest heart? How do you know? Can we tell by the way you dress? Perhaps you need to pray for the heart and strength to walk in obedience to the Lord.

Ask the Lord to show you what you need to do to meet his standard in dressing.

Ask your parents if you feel comfortable doing so...

Open your bibles to Proverbs 31:30: "Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised."

Other reasons for Modesty:

"Be ye holy, for I am holy" (1 Peter 1:15,16).

Song: "Revive Us Again" Alvin Slaughter

CHRISTIAN MODESTY

"For ye are the Temple of the Living GOD." II Cor 6:16

If Jesus was coming to your house for dinner how would you dress?

Listen to the following bible record and consider in your mind how it affected someone else's life.

The Sin of Bath-sheba

We hear a great deal about the sin of David, but seldom does anyone mention the sin of Bath-sheba. And it is true enough that David's sin was very great, and Bath-sheba's very small. David's sin was deliberate and presumptuous, Bath-sheba's only a sin of ignorance. David committed deliberate adultery and murder; Bath-sheba only carelessly and undesignedly exposed herself before David's eyes. We have no doubt that David's sin was great, and Bath-sheba's small.

Yet it remains a fact that Bath-sheba's little sin was the cause of David's great sin. Her little sin of ignorance, her little thoughtless and careless exposure of herself, was the spark that kindled a great devouring flame. "Behold how great a forest is set aflame by such a small fire!" On the one side, only a little carelessness—only a little thoughtless, unintentional exposure of herself before the eyes of David. But on the other side, adultery and guilt of conscience; murder and the loss of a husband, besides the death in battle of other innocent men; great occasion for the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme; the shame of an illegitimate pregnancy, and the death of the child; the uprising and the death of Absalom; the defiling of David's wives in the sight of all Israel; the sword never departing from David's house (2 Sam. 12:11-18).

Friends, I want you to think on the next case I want to present. Please not that this is not referring to intimacy between a married couple.

Nakedness before Others Is Wrong

The first thing which must be understood is that nakedness before the eyes of others is wrong. It is wrong in a man, and it is wrong in a woman. When Adam and Eve sinned, God made "coats of skins,

and clothed them." The sole reason for his clothing them was to cover their nakedness, as the Genesis account makes plain. Observe, he clothed them with coats. They were already wearing aprons, which probably covered as much as, or more than, much of the clothing which is worn today, yet in spite of their aprons they were still naked in their own eyes and in God's. And God did not clothe them with shorts, or swimming suits, or tank tops, or halter tops, or anything of the sort—nor with jackets, either, but with coats, long coats, or *robes* as the word might properly be translated. Observe further, he clothed *them* with coats. He did not clothe Eve with a coat, and Adam with a pair of shorts. He clothed them both with coats—whence we may assuredly gather that nakedness is just as wrong in a man as it is in a woman.

Conclusion:

Can you see the desire of the Lord through this?

What do you want to be?

Please I ask all of you, dress in a manner that do not expose skin near private areas, above the hip, around the navel, around the chest etc... If it is hard to sit down without exposing parts throw out that article of clothing.

Any questions?

Let's stand for closing prayer.

Closing Prayer:

Lord, please speak in only ways that you can to all who will hear this message giving them the push to clean up the way they dress. Give them courage to not to dress the way the world dictates but dress in ways that honor you. May they be a refreshing source of

light to the community! May you receive the glory through all of your people in the name of Jesus Christ Amen!

Postlude:

“Revive Us” Lord Alvin Slaughter

References:

Back to the Bible

<http://www.patriarch.com/bathsheba.html>

Bible Verses:

1Peter 3:3

1Timothy 2:9-10

1Samuel 26:23

Jeremiah 32:19

Proverbs 31:30

1 Peter 1:15,16

II Cor 6:16

2 Sam. 12:11-18