

# Dressing for the Lord



## Bible Study Pathways Lesson 18

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## A Story to Ponder...

A young Christian woman was on her way to Kansas. One day, the conductor of the train sat down opposite of her, and politely asked why she dressed so plainly. She inquired what his motive was in asking the question. He replied that his wife talked much about the necessity of women dressing plainly, while he did not see any reason for doing so.

The young woman looked at him and said, "Why do you wear the special uniform you have on?"

He replied, "Because I serve the Rock Island Company, and comply with its orders in wearing it."

"My reasons are similar to yours," was the quick reply. "I have joined the church of Christ, and am in the service of my Master, whose orders I obey in dress according to 1 Timothy 2:9, where it is stated that women shall "adorn themselves in modest apparel. The conductor acknowledged the force of her answer.



**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; 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." **Proverbs 31:30**



What is more important than outward adorning?

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**Isaiah 3:16-18, 25** "Moreover the LORD saith, Because the daughters of Zion are haughty, and walk with stretched forth necks and wanton eyes, walking and mincing as they go, and making a tinkling with their feet: I Therefore the Lord will smite with a scab the crown of the head of the daughters of Zion...In that day the Lord will take away the bravery of their tinkling ornaments about their feet...Thy men shall fall by the sword, and thy mighty in the war." **Isaiah 3:16-26**



What does pride in dress bring upon God's people? \_\_\_\_\_.

**For Further Study:** What are the pieces of clothing that God is rebuking the women of Israel for?



**2 Kings 10:22** And he said unto him that was over the vestry, Bring forth vestments for all the worshippers of Baal. And he brought them forth vestments. **2 Kings 10:18-25 (Ex. 28:3,4; Num. 15:38-40)**



The story in Kings records that Jehu, was a little dishonest, which is not commendable. Yet all these scriptures show that what we wear (vestments/garments) are connected with who we \_\_\_\_\_?



**Gen. 35:2, 4** Then Jacob said unto his household, and to all that were with him, Put away the strange gods that are among you, and be clean, and change your garments:... And they gave unto Jacob all the strange gods which were in their hand, and all their earrings which were in their ears; and Jacob hid them under the oak which was by Shechem. **Genesis 35:1-4**



In this Bible passage, jewelry, specifically earrings, are classed as \_\_\_\_\_.



**1 Timothy 2:9** In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array;



Paul said women should adorn themselves in \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

They are not to wear \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_



The 1587 Geneva Bible says that women are to be arrayed in "comely apparel." This adds to the modesty issue—the apparel should also look nice and be suited to the time and circumstances.

Webster's 1833 Bible renders the word broided as broidered. This word is similar to our word embroidery which would indicate a fancy, impractical, time-consuming and possibly expensive hairstyle.



**Luke 8:27** "And when he went forth to land, there met him out of the city a certain man, which had devils long time, and ware no clothes, neither abode in any house, but in the tombs." **Luke 8:27-30; Exodus 32:25**



What state of dress is connected to demon possession and false worship?

\_\_\_\_\_



**Gen 3:7** "And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons." **Genesis 3:7-10**



Clothing that resembled \_\_\_\_\_ was still considered nakedness for both Adam (male) and Eve (female).



In Isaiah 47:3,4, God connects making the upper part of the leg bare, with nakedness. "...uncover thy locks, make bare the leg, uncover the thigh, ...Thy nakedness shall be uncovered, yea, thy shame shall be seen..." In this prophetic description, the veil was also removed exposing who the harlot was, because in Bible times harlots often covered their faces. (Gen. 38:15)



Clothing is also for the purpose of providing warmth in cold weather. "Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them." Gen 3:21 "She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household are clothed with scarlet [are double clothed]." Prov. 31:21 [Brackets--1549 Matthews Bible rendering]



Proverbs 7:10 "And, behold, there met him a woman with the attire of an harlot, and subtil of heart." 2 Kings 9:22, 30 (Rev. 2:20); Jeremiah 4:30; Revelation 17:3-5;



What constitutes the attire of a harlot? \_\_\_\_\_



Deuteronomy 22:5 "The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the LORD thy God" 1 Corinthians 11:3-16



What should Christian men and women have in their dress and hairstyles? \_\_\_\_\_



Exodus 19:9, 10 "And the LORD said unto Moses, Lo, I come unto thee in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with thee, and believe thee for ever. And Moses told the words of the people unto the LORD. And the LORD said unto Moses, Go unto the people, and sanctify them to day and to morrow, and let them wash their clothes," Isaiah 23:18; Matthew 6:28, 29;



What should the Christians' clothing be like? \_\_\_\_\_

***In addition to how they dress, Christians should also be careful of their deportment (how they behave/act).***

A Christian woman's deportment is given in the following verses: 1Timothy 2:9-15; Titus 2:3-5; 1 Peter 3:1-6

A Christian man's deportment is outlined in the following verses: Titus 2:2, 6,7; 1 Cor. 16:13

A Christian Youth's deportment: 1Tim. 4:12; Lam. 3:27; Eccl. 12:1

### CONCLUSION

The true Christian will seek for inward adornment in their heart rather than outward adornment. Their clothing will be modest, avoiding varying states of nakedness. Yet, their dress will be clean and tidy. They will avoid jewelry, makeup, elaborate hairstyles, expensive clothing, as well as avoiding clothing and hair styles that resemble the opposite gender.