



# THE BROOKSVILLE BULLETIN

*Brooksville church of Christ*  
604 W. Fort Dade Avenue, Brooksville, FL

February 27, 2022

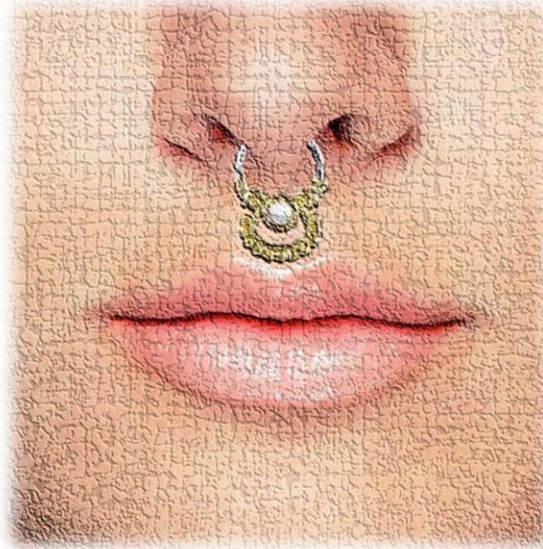
## **Body Piercing And Colored Hair** (Kent Heaton)

"Is it a sin to change your outside appearance by piercings and coloring hair?

The world we live in today looks very different than the world we lived in just a few years ago – literally. It seems to be more and more people are painting, piercing, and plastering their bodies from head to toe. Colors of hair will range from one end of the rainbow to the other and in just about any fashion known to man. Tattooing is a multimillion-dollar business, along with body piercing parlors flourishing in every community.

Does the Bible define any of this action as sinful? First, we must remember what defines sin. Paul said, "I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, 'You shall

not covet'" (Romans 7:7). John writes, "Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness" (1 John 3:4). God the Father is the one who wrote the law and if God says that changing appearance by piercing and coloring is a sin, then it must be sin.



There are Biblical passages that speak of body piercing and tattoos. In the Law of Moses, it says, "You shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the

dead, nor tattoo any marks on you: I am the Lord ... They shall not make any bald place on their heads, nor shall they shave the edges of their beards nor make any cuttings in their flesh ... You are the children of the Lord your God; you shall not cut yourselves nor shave the front of your head for the dead" (Leviticus 19:28; 21:5; Deuteronomy 14:1). The practice of cutting the flesh is seen in the prophets of Baal in 1 Kings 18:28. Beyond these passages and references to other aspects of



piercing and cutting, the Bible is silent.

Often the passages of Leviticus and Deuteronomy are used to prove that tattooing and piecing are sinful. However, this is based on as much authority as using instruments of music in worship or making sacrifices at the Temple – which under the law of Christ, there is none.

In the passage of Leviticus 19, it is also commanded, "You shall not shave around the sides of your head, nor shall you disfigure the edges of your beard" (Leviticus 19:27). Do we sin when we get a close haircut or trim our beards? The laws mentioned above pertained to the nation of Israel alone and were abolished under the law of Christ. Beyond those few references, nothing is said in scripture that tattooing, piercing, or coloring the hair is a sin.

The Christian does live to a different standard than the world. Many of the attributes of the world have found a place among

Christians. We are to be separate from the world in every way and not to be "yoked together" with the worldly and fleshly nature (2 Corinthians 6:11-7:1). Will tattooing, piercing, and coloring the hair seventy shades of pink and purple glorify God or Christ? Painting a picture of Jesus on your arm or leg is not where He wants to be – He wants your heart!

Peter's admonition to women in 1 Peter 3 is not about the lack of clothing but the attention women seek to bring to themselves by their jewelry, make-up, clothing, hairstyles, and such. The sin here is the attention women seek to bring to themselves instead of to the Lord. The beauty of a child of God is not the outward adorning but the "hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible ornament of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God" (1 Peter 3:3-4).

If you want to pierce something, pierce the heart (Acts 2:27; Romans 6:17). Tattoo the love of God in your mind (Romans 12:2). Our physical bodies are the temple of God and should be glorified for that purpose – not the glorification of the world. "Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which

are God's" (1 Corinthians 6:19-20). "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God" (Romans 12:1-2).

## Mummy's Burial

(Houston Post, June 26, 1994)

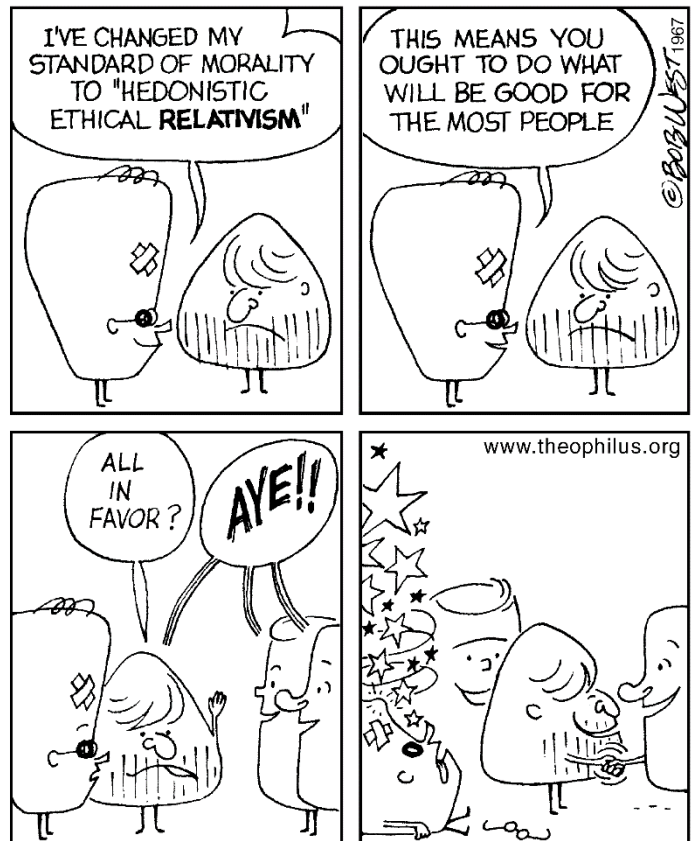
After sixty-six years, Henry Atkins finally got a decent burial. You may think he is an old war hero, but he's not. "Speedy" Atkins was an employee of Dixon Tobacco Company and had a good friend named A. Z. Hamock. Hamock was an undertaker with a secret, homemade embalming fluid. When Atkins died in 1928, he had no living family. Hamock embalmed Atkins and kept him around to monitor the permanence of his embalming fluid.

Hamock and his secret embalming fluid died in 1948. Since that time, the mummified Atkins had been kept in a closet. The tuxedo-clad corpse has been on national television three times and was a regular tourist attraction, but all that changed.

Hamock's widow, Velma, said, "It is time, after all these years, that he be buried. He is a dead person,

THEOPHILUS

The Majority Rule



and there is no need to keep on keeping on." So, after sixty-six years, Speedy Atkins was buried on August 5, 1994 in Paducah, Kentucky. Whether you disguise it, deny it, or embalm it, death is still a reality we must all face. This reality takes on new meaning with Christ: "If anyone keeps my word, he will never see death" (John 8:51).

## Did I Say That?

(Dee Bowman)

I've been around some kind of recording equipment most of my life – first in broadcasting, then in making records in the music business, now with CDs, DVDs, jump drives, Cloud, etc., etc.

Have you ever listened to yourself on a recording of some kind? How'd you like it? How'd you sound? Were you surprised? How did your voice sound – smoothy,

raspy, squeaky, mellow? How were your pronunciations?" Any drawl or colloquialisms? You sound like you thought you would?

I have some news for you. God knows how you sound. He hears you. He knows what you say and to whom. He knows what prompted what you said in every situation. He is recording every conversation.

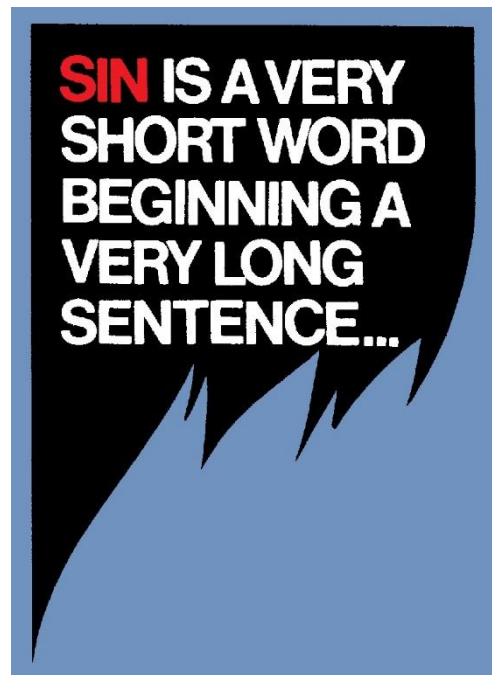
If you could hear what He hears, you might ask:

- ✓ "Did I say that?"
- ✓ "Did I say it like that?"
- ✓ "What was I thinking when I said that?"
- ✓ Reckon anybody heard that?"

You might say:

- ✓ "I wish I hadn't said that."
- ✓ I wish I hadn't said that like that."
- ✓ I wish I could erase that."

"Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles!" (James 3:5)



💡 When a train goes through a tunnel and it gets dark, you don't throw away the ticket and jump off. You sit still and trust the engineer.

💡 To carry a grudge is like being stung to death by one bee.

💡 A man can fail many times, but he isn't a failure until he begins to blame somebody else.

💡 You have everything when you love everything you have.

💡 Happiness comes when you are too busy to be miserable.

### **Brooksville Church of Christ**

604 W. Fort Dade Avenue – P. O. Box 751 – Brooksville, Florida 34605  
352-796-9803 / Brooksvillechurch@gmail.com / www.Brooksvillecoc.com

#### **Times of Services**

Sunday Bible Class for all ages (10:00am)

Sunday Worship all Welcome (11:00am & 6:00pm)

Wednesday Bible Class for all ages (7:00pm)

*Supporting the GOSPEL in other places:*

☞ Jamey Hinds, Hollywood, Florida; Roy Fenner, Panama City, Florida

☞ Zeke Flores, Columbus, Texas; Philip North, Branson, Missouri

☞ The saints in Nicaragua

Contact Kent Heaton (352-283-3889) [heatonkent@bellsouth.net](mailto:heatonkent@bellsouth.net)