



OUR CITIZENSHIP IS IN

HEAVEN

Philippians 3:17-20

The Impact of Citizenship

- Our Citizenship is in Heaven
 - *“Do citizens of Philippi think of Rome as their native land to which they belong, in whose tribal records they are enrolled, whose dress they wear, whose language they speak, by whose laws they are governed, whose protection they enjoy, and whose emperor they worship as their savior?” YES!*
 - *“In a sense far more sublime and real these Christians dwelling in Philippi must realize that their homeland or commonwealth has its fixed location in heaven.”*
- And we must realize this too... our citizenship is in Heaven

Not Merely External

**Clothing
for Those
Clothed in Christ**



Not Merely External

- *“Your adornment must **not be merely external**-- braiding the hair, and wearing gold jewelry, or putting on dresses...” (1 Pet. 3:3, NASB)*
 - **A biblical discussion about modesty is not primarily a talk about clothes**
- *“**2** when they see your pure and reverent demeanor. **3** Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as braided hair or gold jewelry or fine clothes, **4** but from the inner disposition of your heart, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in God’s sight. **5** For this is how the holy women of the past adorned themselves.” (1 Pet. 3:2-5, ESV)*
 - **Others seeing in you a “pure and reverent demeanor”**
 - **Revealing “the inner disposition of your heart”**
 - **Cultivating “the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit”**
 - **We are really talking about what “is precious in God’s sight”**

Dismissing Misunderstandings

“God doesn’t care about how we dress; He looks at the heart”

- *“But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” (1 Sam. 16:7)*
 - This is an object lesson about a difference between God and man
 - Samuel was doing what humans must do; judging based upon what he could see
 - God did what only God can do; judge based upon the unseen human heart
 - God affirms that we can only make judgments based upon outward appearance
- **So, does God care about how we dress? (Gen. 3:7, 21; Ex. 20:26; 28:42-43)**
 - *“A woman shall not wear a man's garment, nor shall a man put on a woman's cloak, for whoever does these things is an abomination to the Lord your God.” (Deut. 22:5)*
 - *“You shall not wear cloth of wool and linen mixed together.” (Deut. 22:11)*
 - *“And behold, the woman meets him, dressed as a prostitute, wily of heart.” (Prov. 7:10)*
 - *“... our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty” (1 Cor. 12:23)*

Dismissing Misunderstandings

- “If they’re going to lust, they’re going to lust, that’s on them not me”**
- **Don’t forget the “stumbling block” principle (Rom. 14; Luke 17:1-2)**
 - *“But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak” (1 Cor. 8:9)*
 - **The bible recognizes the allure of visual temptations (Prov. 6:25)**
 - *“Do not desire her beauty in your heart, and do not let her capture you with her eyelashes...” (ESV)*
 - *“Don’t lust for her beauty. Don’t let her coy glances seduce you.” (NLT)*
 - **Jesus warned about committing adultery in the heart (Mt 5:27-30)**
 - Each of us is responsible to guard our mind from impurity (Phil. 4:8)
 - Lust is **inexcusable** on anyone’s part
 - If we, by our clothing or conduct encourage it, do we not share in the guilt?

Dismissing Misunderstandings

“Modesty is just about not causing others to sin...”

- Our focus should be *“the hidden person of the heart...”* (1 Peter 3:4)
 - *“with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit...”*
 - *“which in God’s sight is very precious.”*
 - Clothing is to be proper for those who *“profess godliness”* (1 Tim. 2:9-10)
- **We ought to dress and act appropriately because God finds a particular attitude precious... and our clothes will reflect this attitude**
 - Modest dress shows a modest heart
- **We should not dress to impress others**
 - We don’t dress to control the way others may think in their hearts
- **We want to manifest the character of God, to do what He finds precious**

Clothing for Those Clothed in Christ

- “8 I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling; 9 likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, 10 but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works.” (1 Tim. 2:8-10)
- **Likewise**... these principles apply to **men** who would live holy lives too
- **Respectable** – orderly, virtuous, **decent**
- **Modesty** – a sense of **shame**; shamefacedness (KJV)
- **Self-control** – not frivolous; with **no undue excitement of the passions**
- Not in a manner that draws **excessive attention** (*whether over or under-dressed*)
- **Proper** – suitable, appropriate, “as one color blends well with another”

What Might Get Me in Trouble...

- The wearing of any attire, cosmetics, accessories presenting an extra-ordinary personal appearance is prohibited.
- Shorts, ...when arms are extended...
- Holes a length...
- The top normal...
- See-thr plungin not per...
- Boys' shirts must have a sleeve. Boys' tank tops and muscle shirts are not permitted.
- No undergarments should be visible.
- Hair shall be clean and well groomed. Distracting extremes are not permitted.

**...is straight out of the dress code
for
Greenwood High School**



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