

Clothes Make The Man
(or The Woman)

“I hold that gentleman to be the best dressed whose dress no one observes”

An opposite attitude dresses in a way that calls attention to the body

Body of the Christian is *temple of the Holy Spirit* – 1 Co.6:19, 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?

Some clothes come with warnings . . .

Tight corsets can cause health problems

Skinny jeans disrupt blood circulation

High heels cause backache, leg pain,
swelling

We judge people by their dress;
God does too.

- Special love for another

³ Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age. Also he made him a tunic of many colors.

⁴ But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him

– Gen.37

We judge people by their dress.

- Mourning / horror

Then Reuben returned to the pit, and indeed Joseph was not in the pit; and he tore his clothes – Gn.37:29

Then David said to Joab and to all the people who were with him, Tear your clothes, gird yourselves with sackcloth, and mourn for Abner. And King David followed the coffin – 2 Sm.3:31

Clothes make the man?

- Harlotry

When Judah saw her, he thought she was a harlot, because she had covered her face
– Gn.38:15

And there a woman met him, With the attire of a harlot, and a crafty heart – Prov.7:10

Clothes make the man?

- Respect for God

Then He said, Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground – Ex.3:5

For where two or three are gathered together in My name, there I am in the midst of them
– Mt.18:20

Clothes make the man?

- Male or female

A woman shall not wear anything that pertains to a man, nor shall a man put on a woman's garment, for all who do so are an abomination to the LORD your God – Dt.22:5

Clothes make the man?

- Virgin

Now she had on a robe of many colors, for the king's virgin daughters wore such apparel. And his servant put her out and bolted the door behind her – 2 Sm.13:18

Clothes make the man?

- Mother's / wife's care

She is not afraid of snow for her household,
For all her household is clothed with scarlet.
She makes tapestry for herself; Her clothing
is fine linen and purple. Her husband is
known in the gates, When he sits among the
elders of the land – Prov.31:21-23

Clothes make the man?

- Royal status

But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses – Mt.11:8

Clothes make the man?

- Fashion gaffe

But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. So he said to him, Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment? And he was speechless. Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth' – Mt.22:11-13

Clothes make the man?

- False piety

But all their works they do to be seen by men.
They make their phylacteries broad and
enlarge the borders of their garments – Mt.23:5

Clothes make the man?

- Character gauge

In like manner also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing, but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works – 1 Tim.2:9-10

Clothes make the man?

- Holiness

Do not let your adornment be merely outward — arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel — rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God — 1 Pt.3:3-4

I. The Standard

The standard is not...

1. Peer pressure
2. Parental pushes
3. Preacher popularity
4. Prolonged prejudices

The standard is . . . Word of God

³¹ Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. ³² And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free – John 8

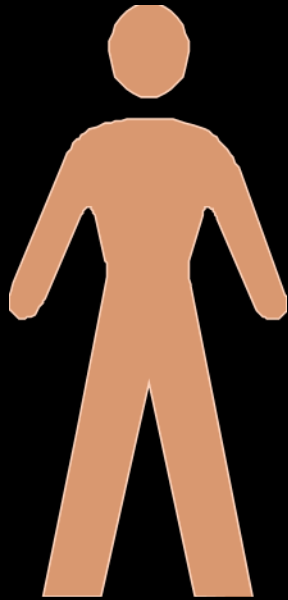
I. The Standard

II. The Scriptures

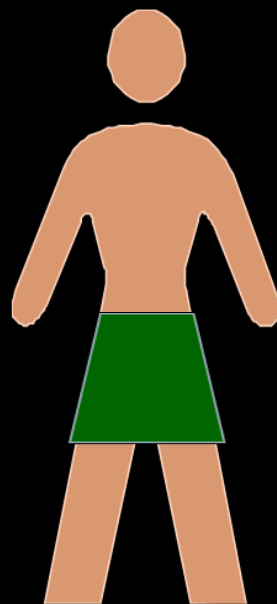
Genesis 3:...7, naked
Genesis 3:10-11, naked
Genesis 3:21, clothed

Apron

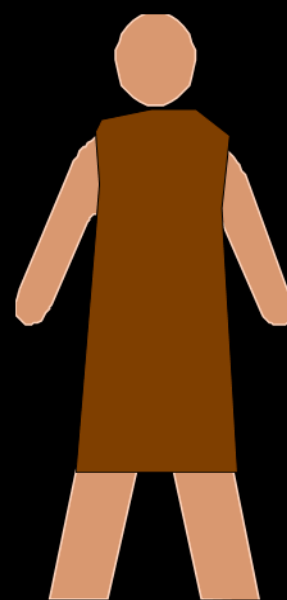
Tunic



**V. 7
Naked
(Nude)**



**V. 11
Naked
(Relatively)**



**V. 21
Clothed
& Modest**

From the
shoulder
to the
knee

Genesis 3:....7, naked
Genesis 3:10-11, naked
Genesis 3:21, clothed

- BDB: Gn.3:21 tunics of skin.
Gn.37:3...tunic with long skirts and sleeves.

Genesis 3:...7, naked
Genesis 3:10-11, naked
Genesis 3:21, clothed

- ISBE: Dress: resembled the Roman tunic, corresponding most nearly to our long shirt, reaching below the knee always, and, in case it was designed for dress occasions, reaching almost to the ground (II. 877)

1 Tim.2:9-10, **modest apparel**

- Respectable, honorable (BDAG)
- Proper, suitable (L-N)

3 Do not let your adornment be merely outward — arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel — **4** rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God — 1 Peter 3

1 Tim.2:9-10, propriety

- Modesty of women (BDAG)
- Shamefastness; a sense of shame (A-S)
- Feminine reserve ... innate moral repugnance to the doing of the dishonorable (R-R)
- With modesty (ESV); modestly (NASB)

Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No! They were not at all ashamed; Nor did they know how to blush. Therefore they shall fall among those who fall; At the time I punish them, They shall be cast down, says the Lord – Jer.6:15

1 Tim.2:9-10, propriety

Propriety asks: “could this call inappropriate attention to myself?”

- **Shamefast:** ¹modest, shy, or bashful...
²having, or full of, shame
- **Steadfast:** unwavering
- **Bedfast:** confined to bed; unable to leave
- **Shamefast:** shame will not allow her to enter public immodestly dressed

1 Tim.2:9-10, moderation

- Discretion. Sobriety.
- Good judgment, self-control (BDAG; ESV)
- Behave in a sensible manner, with implication of thoughtful awareness of what is best – moderation, sensibility – L-N
- This woman cannot dress in a way that might provoke lust in others.
- Ct. Pr.7:10

Nakedness

1. Total nakedness, without covering, Job 1:21
2. Inadequately clothed, poorly dressed – BDAG.
Ja.2:15.
 - One can wear some clothing and still be “naked”

Nakedness

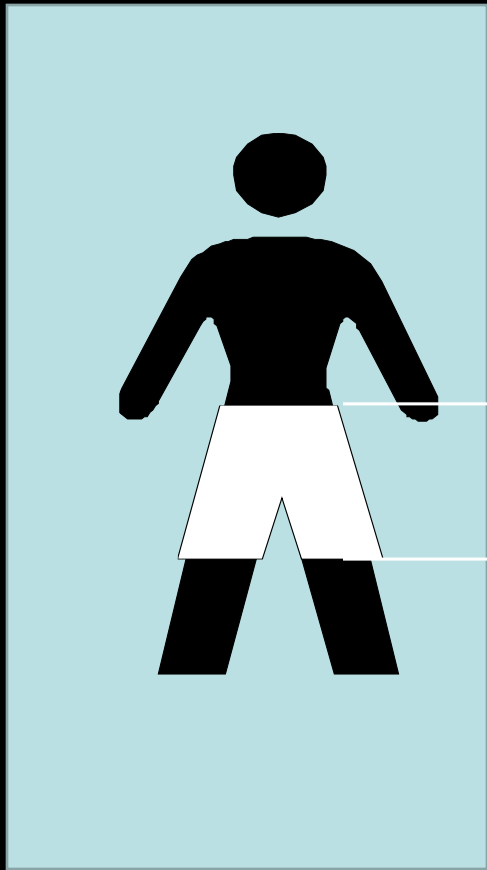
- Exposed thigh: nakedness – Is.47:2-3
- Long robes – “Some...Greek women wore them open on each side, from the bottom up above the knee, so as to discover a part of the thigh’ [phainomerides: showers of the thigh] but it was, in general, only young girls or immodest women who wore them thus” – A. Clarke

Nakedness

- Ex.28:42, thigh: ‘Unto the thighs’ – i.e. ‘to the bottom of the thighs where they adjoin on the knee’ – Rawlinson
 - *From...to* includes extremes: Ex.11:5, from firstborn of Pharaoh to firstborn of female servant
- Ex.20:26. Why cover naked (ESV) flesh?
 1. Protect their modesty (vulnerable position)
 2. Prevent immodest sight to onlookers

Nakedness

- Exposing the thigh is exposing one's nakedness



Nakedness

Gen.3:7, 10-11

Ex.28:42

Isa.47:2-3

How much should I cover?

- 1961: women on Santa Maria quit wearing “enticing clothing” (shorts, halters; swim-suits...) and avoided the pool...
- No one forced them to dress modestly
- Even worldly people know what is modest
- Same question / attitude: if our dress causes someone to lust, we sin against...
 1. Brothers in Lord
 2. Others who see
 3. God. Mt.5:27-28...

I. The Standard

II. The Scriptures

III. The Summary

1. Gn.3, creation principles

- What covering would God want for Adam and Eve?

[Gn.3: the only people on earth]

[They are wearing something]

- Thigh-revealing shorts?
- Tights?
- Swimsuits?
- Low cut blouses?
- See through?

What would these choices tell us about His standard?

1. Gn.3 is a creation principle

Creation principles and New Testament

Gn.1 - 2, marriage	Mt.19:3-9, marriage
Gn.3:15, salvation	Ro.16:20, salvation
Gn.3:16, plan for women	1 Tim.2:11-15, standard (1 Co.14)
Gn.3:7, 21, modesty	1 Tim.2:9-10, modesty

2. Principle applies to men / women

- Gn.3:21 – “Also for Adam and his wife the LORD God made tunics of skin, and clothed them”
 - What God did . . .

3. People of world admit truth

Rutherford Co. Correctional Facility

“...No shorts or skirts that are above the knee should be worn (no slits above the knee either). Tight clothing, including spandex, tank tops, leggings, tights etc. are prohibited...”

4. Mothers teach modesty to children

Buying modest clothes may be a chore

- **Pants:** skin-tight, form-fitting
 - **Tops:** short (if she raises arms, exposes midriff)
 - **Dresses / skirts:** short and tight
- “Some lust no matter what I wear”
- If we are modest, fault is only in man of lust
 - If we are immodest, two at fault

Prov.7:10, attire of a harlot

- Some clothes are designed to promote sin
- Mary Quant [d. 4/23/23]: “Mini-clothes are symbolic of those girls who want to seduce a man...”
- Mt.5:28, lust is sin. Immodesty encourages lust
- 1 Pt.3:3-4