

MODESTY MATTERS

“Clothed of God”

Introduction

Romans 12:1-2

- 1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.
2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. KJV¹

2 Peter 1:2-3

- 2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,
3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

1 Corinthians 7:31

And they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away.

Decisions in life must be made based on the Word of God and the conviction of the Holy Spirit, not on the conventions or fashions of the surrounding society.

We have an obligation to clothe the naked:

Matthew 25:43

I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.

James 2:14-16

- 14 What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him?
15 If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food,
16 And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?

This begs the question, what does it mean to be “naked”?

I. The Garden

1. Naked and Unashamed – Gen 2:25

Genesis 2:25 “And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.”

A. Naked isn't always naked.

Job 22:6

For thou hast taken a pledge from thy brother for nought, and stripped the naked of their clothing.

¹ All references are from the King James Version of the Bible unless otherwise noted.

B. New Testament swimwear.

John 21:7

Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt his fisher's coat unto him, (for he was naked,) and did cast himself into the sea.

2. Exposed by Sin – Gen 3:6-8

Genesis 3:6-8

6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

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.

8 And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

A. Eyes opened = no longer ignorant of sin

Proverbs 27:20

Hell and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied.

Job 31:1

I made a covenant with mine eyes; why then should I think upon a maid?

B. Shame before each other.

They made aprons to be around each other. Aprons in the Hebrew means loin cloths.

C. Shame before God.

Even though they were covered with loin cloths, they still hid from God. The works of their hands couldn't cover them enough.

3. Clothed by God – Gen 3:9-11, 21

Genesis 3:9-11, 21

9 And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

10 And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.

11 And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?

21 Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

A. Animal skins = sacrifice

An animal had to die to provide its skin to cover Adam and Eve. This indicates blood. Without the shedding of blood, there is no remission of sins.

- B. Robes = *kethoneth* (later *kittuna*, from which cotton).
The coats of skins were not loin cloths or mini-skirts. They were robes. The same word is used to describe the robes of the priests, which reached to the foot.

II. The Garments of Jesus

1. Sandals

Luke 3:15-16

15 Now as the people were in expectation, and all reasoned in their hearts about John, whether he was the Christ or not,

16 John answered, saying to all, "I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. NKJV

Matt 3:11, 13-15

11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him.

14 And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?"

15 But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him. NKJV

Removing His sandals represents His submission and humbleness to fulfill all righteousness. His feet are the beautiful feet.

Isaiah 52:7

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!

It was through these beautiful feet that they ran a spike to affix Him to the tree.

2. The Girdle

John 13:3-5

3 Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God;

4 He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself.

5 After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded.

Matt 20:24-28

24 And when the ten heard it, they were greatly displeased with the two brothers.

25 But Jesus called them to Himself and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them.

26 Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant.

27 And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave —

28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many." NKJV

The girdle represents His serventhood.

3. The *Sudar*

The sudar was a turban that covered the head and had a veil that hung down the back to the shoulders to cover the neck.

A. For beauty and for glory

Exodus 28:40

And for Aaron's sons thou shalt make coats, and thou shalt make for them girdles, and bonnets shalt thou make for them, for glory and for beauty.

B. Helmet of salvation

Isaiah 59:16-17

16 And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor: therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him.

17 For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloke.

C. Crown of thorns

Matthew 27:29

And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand: and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews!

4. The *Tallith*

This was the outer, square garment (four corners), somewhat like a ponco. It had the tassels at the corners.

A. Reminders of the Covenant

Numbers 15:37-41

37 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

38 Speak unto the children of Israel, and bid them that they make them fringes in the borders of their garments throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a ribband of blue:

39 And it shall be unto you for a fringe, that ye may look upon it, and remember all the commandments of the LORD, and do them; and that ye seek not after your own heart and your own eyes, after which ye use to go a whoring:

40 That ye may remember, and do all my commandments, and be holy unto your God.

41 I am the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: I am the LORD your God.

B. Transferred anointing

Luke 8:43-48

43 And a woman having an issue of blood twelve years, which had spent all her living upon physicians, neither could be healed of any,

44 Came behind him, and touched the border of his garment: and immediately her issue of blood stanchèd.

45 And Jesus said, Who touched me? When all denied, Peter and they that were with him said, Master, the multitude throng thee and press thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me?

46 And Jesus said, Somebody hath touched me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me.

47 And when the woman saw that she was not hid, she came trembling, and falling down before him, she declared unto him before all the people for what cause she had touched him and how she was healed immediately.

48 And he said unto her, Daughter, be of good comfort: thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace.

Mark 6:56

And whithersoever he entered, into villages, or cities, or country, they laid the sick in the streets, and besought him that they might touch if it were but the border of his garment: and as many as touched him were made whole.

C. Healing in His wings

Malachi 4:2

But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.

5. The Kittuna

This was the bell-shaped dress that was the inner clothing.

A. Parted garments – John 19:23-24

John 19:23-24

23 Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took his garments, and made four parts, to every soldier a part; and also his coat: now the coat was without seam, woven from the top throughout.

24 They said therefore among themselves, Let us not rend it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be: that the scripture might be fulfilled, which saith, They parted my raiment among them, and for my vesture they did cast lots. These things therefore the soldiers did.

As sin made us naked, He died naked for our sin that we might be clothed of God.

III. The Clothes of Christ

1. The Mount of Transfiguration – Matt 17:1-2

Matthew 17:1-2

1 And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart,

2 And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.

Psalms 104:1-2

1 Bless the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and majesty.

2 Who coverest thyself with light as with a garment: who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain:

Revelation 10:1

And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire:

2. The Priest King – Rev 1:13; 19:13

Revelation 1:13

And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

Revelation 19:13

And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

3. The King's Priests – 1 Pet 2:9

1 Peter 2:9

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

Psalms 132:9, 16

9 Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness; and let thy saints shout for joy.

16 I will also clothe her priests with salvation: and her saints shall shout aloud for joy.

Isaiah 61:1-6, 10-11

1 The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;

2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;

- 3 To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.
- 4 And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations.
- 5 And strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, and the sons of the alien shall be your plowmen and your vinedressers.
- 6 But ye shall be named the Priests of the LORD: men shall call you the Ministers of our God: ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves.
- 10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.
- 11 For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

Conclusion

2 Corinthians 5:1-5

- 1 For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.
- 2 For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven:
- 3 If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked.
- 4 For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life.
- 5 Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit.

We were fashioned to be clothed upon. These spiritual truths of being clothed by God must have practical and physical manifestations in our lives and the witness of our daily walk.

Romans 13:10-14

- 10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.
- 11 And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.
- 12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.
- 13 Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.
- 14 But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.