

The Christian's Presentation to the World in Dress



“Presenting God or the World?”

Lesson 9

Christian's Presentation to the World in Dress

KJV Bible Lesson Series: Lesson 9

Did you know that God has standards that we must conform to in order to be saved? For example, God reveals that no unrighteousness will enter into heaven. The standard is holiness and obedience to God which is revealed in the Ten Commandments. But, of ourselves, it is impossible to reach this Holy standard. But we need not to be disheartened, for if we yield our lives to the power of Christ, He will work in us to will and give us the Power to reach His standard of holiness. The only way to be saved is to comply with the standards of God.

Does God have standards for the way Christians should behave and dress? The fashions of the world come and go. Many people become slaves to these fashions and to keep up with the fashion of the time, will sacrifice their time, money, and even their health.

Many of these fashions do not promote the principles of the Bible on dress. The wearing of tattoos, jewelry, saggy or tight “revealing” clothing has become very widespread even among professed Christians. But do these fit the standard that God requires? Let's see what the Bible says about God's standards on the Christian's presentation to the world.

As Christians, are we to dress after the fashions of worldliness?

Read Romans 12:2.

Write the Bible Answer:

We are not to be conformed to the world, this means that we are not to take the shape of or pattern our lives after worldliness, even in the way we dress.

What three things does worldliness promote?

Read 1 John 2:15,16.

Write the Bible Answer:

We see the world promotes the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, all of which is not of God. This is promoted in the many TV

programs, Hollywood movies, video games, worldly music, etc.

Satan also uses dress to promote the lust of the world.

What does the Bible say about how Christians should present themselves to the world in dress?

Read 1 Timothy 2:9,10.

Write the Bible Answer:

We see here that the Biblical principle that is to guide the way we dress is modesty. Modesty does not try to bring unnecessary attention to self. Modesty in dress will not expose the private parts of the body. It is not a slave to the fashions that go against the Biblical principle of modesty. Modesty in dress will be beautiful, neat, and orderly. This is God's standard in dress – modesty.

It has become popular for woman and men to wear tight pants. But these tight pants cling to the skin revealing parts of the body which may, in the eyes of the beholder, arouse the lust of the eyes.

Also, tight clothing poses a risk to your health. They restrict blood flow, squeeze the organs of the body, which will have a negative effect on the whole body.

Specifically, wearing tight pants can increase the risks of getting bacterial infections, and the restriction can possibly cause nerve damage, sperm infertility in men, and more. But despite the risk many people continue to wear them. The wearing of tight revealing clothing does not fit the Biblical standard of modesty.

Is it okay for a man to dress as a woman and a woman as a man?

Read Deuteronomy 22:5.

Write the Bible Answer:

A woman is not to wear the things that will imitate a man, neither is a man to dress like a woman. With God there is no confusion; He made male and female, and does not delight when a person tries to become the opposite sex. It goes against God's plan as the ruler of the universe that He had when he first made us only about 6,000 years ago. Therefore, it is an abomination to Him.

Now what about earrings, rings, necklaces, and things alike?

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; 4 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."

Read also 1 Timothy 2:9,10.

Write the Bible Answer:

People wear gold and pearls in such things as earrings, rings, necklaces, and things alike: they may do all these to "beautify" themselves and get the attention of others. But God has already made us beautiful, and we need not to bring attention to ourselves. Paul and Peter through inspiration instruct us to lay aside these things, and through Christ receive "a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price."

When Jacob and his family were to come before the Lord, what were they commanded to do?

Read Genesis 35:1-4

Write the Bible Answer:

When Jacob and his family were about to go before the Lord, Jacob commanded his family to put away the strange gods from among them. The people got rid of the strange gods which were in their hands and their earrings and Jacob hid them under a tree.

What were the children of Israel also commanded by God to do with their outward ornaments?

Read Exodus 33:1-6.

Write the Bible Answer:

God again commanded the children of Israel to to put off their ornaments. Israel had repeatedly rebelled against God and most recently to this command given in Exodus chapter 33, in Exodus chapter 32 while Moses was in the mountain with God, the people had made a graven image of a calf and worshiped it. Most of the people participated in this abominable service and therefore were guilty of sin.

Here in Exodus chapter 33, God revealed that He could not be with them while they were in rebellion. So they had to humble themselves before God and repent of their transgression.

What is the the origin of these things?

The wearing of earrings, bracelets, necklaces, and even the wedding ring, all have pagan roots. In the book *Development of Christian Doctrine*, J.H. Cardinal Newman, a Catholic, says “Confiding then in the power of Christianity to resist the infection of evil and to transmute the very instruments and appendages of demon worship to an evangelical use, we are told by Eusebius that Constantine, in order to recommend the religion [Christianity] to the heathen, transferred into it the outward ornaments to which they had been accustomed in their own...The use of temples, and these dedicated to particular saints..., incense lamps, candles, votive offerings on recovery from illness, holy processions, blessings on the field, sacerdotal vestments, the tonsure, the ring in marriage, turning to the east, images at a later date, perhaps the ecclesiastical chant, all are of pagan origin, and sanctified by their adoption into the church.” - *Development of Christian Doctrine* by J.H. Cardinal Newman, pp 272, 273

Nothing that comes from the grounds of Satan can be sanctified by its acceptance into the Church. The heathen wore jewelry as an instrument of worship to their false gods, or (according to superstition) please their gods or to “ward off” evil spirits. This is what the world did, so I as a Christian should not participate in it. Jesus says, “I have chosen you out of the world”. John 15:19. Therefore the command is given, “Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father

is not in him.” “Therefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you,” 2 Corinthians 6:17; 1 John 2:15.

For many, jewelry promotes the pride of life which is of the world. In the days of Rome jewelry was worn by the rich and powerful. Today, there are people who wear jewelry to provoke the covetousness of others.

Should Christians paint their face and lips to make themselves more attractive? Who in the Bible was known to wear makeup?

Read 2 Kings 9:30.

Write the Bible Answer:

Jezebel was the wife of king Ahab who was over the northern kingdom of Israel. He was a very wicked king and his wife, Jezebel, spread false worship largely among the people of Israel. We see in 2 Kings 9:30 that she painted her face. In Revelation 2:20-23, Jezebel seduced God’s servants to commit fornication. Do you think God wants His people to deck themselves with jewelry and makeup for vanity and perceived beauty?

How is makeup and jewelry in the sight of God?

Read Jeremiah 4:30.

Write the Bible Answer:

All makeup and decking of jewelry is vain in the sight of God, the mastermind of all beauty.

Additionally, makeup may contain unwanted ingredients that may be harmful. One of these is tallow which is the fatty byproducts made from the discarded animals from slaughterhouses and even road kill.

Also, it has many metals and chemicals, some of which are cancer causing.

“Researchers at the University of California, Berkeley’s School of Public Health detected lead, cadmium, chromium, aluminum and five other metals in 32 different lipsticks and lip glosses commonly found in drugstores and department stores.” With these make up of so many bad ingredients makeup will clogs the pores of the skin and make the skin not as healthy. (<http://www.foxnews.com/health/2013/05/02/break-up-with-your-toxic-make-up/#ixzz2bxNwZecf>)

Should Christians wear tattoos?

Leviticus 19:28 “Ye shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead, nor print any marks upon you: I *am* the LORD.”

Write the Bible Answer:

The Bible is plain and clear, the temple of the Lord is not to be defiled with markings.

In our times the wearing of jewelry, makeup, and now even tattoos, has been widely accepted even among Christians. But the Bible principles on modesty has not changed. It goes down to the question, are we going to just follow the Bible as it reads, or accept parts and explain away others?

Our body is to be the temple of God. He does not want it to be marked up with tattoos or painted with makeup. He tells us as Christians to lay aside the outward adorning of the jewelry and be adorned inwardly and outwardly with the righteousness of Christ, holiness, and the spirit of love, meekness, and peace. This is in the sight of God of a great price, far greater than if you could obtain all the jewels of the world.

The Bible Brain Challenge

What 3 things does the world promote?

What is the Biblical principle that should guide the way we dress?

Is it okay for a man to dress like a woman and a woman like a man?

What does the Bible say about earrings, rings, necklaces, and things alike? Also, should Christians paint their face and lips to make themselves more attractive and get tattoos?

Fill in the Blank

1 Peter 3:3,4 “Whose adorning let it _____ adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; 4 But let it be the hidden man of _____, 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.”

Who should we seek to glorify in the way we dress?

These Bible lessons are by Pathway to Peace Ministries



Pathway to Peace Ministries

Matthew 9:35 & Revelation 14

Sabbath School & Worship Service: Saturday @ 10:30 & 11:30 am

*Address: 11775 NC 109 South,
Peachland, NC 28133*

Phone: 704-695-1441

PathwayToPeace.net