

BIBLICAL LOGIC OF DRESS REFORM

INTRODUCTION: "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or **whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God** .."(1Corinthians 10 :31)

"God sees what's inside, not what's outside" is a statement usually made by those who are **unwilling to cease dressing like the world**. The first part of this statement is true, for "**the Lord weighs the hearts**"(Proverbs 21:2), but the second part is as false as anything you can think of. To support their statement, they quote 1 Samuel 16:7, which says, "But the LORD said unto Samuel, **Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD**

looketh on the heart.”(1 Samuel 16:7). This scripture, however, does not condone worldly fashion, it simply says that physical appearance (height and face) does not tell what’s in the heart. Isn’t the tree known by its fruits?

True it is that we are not saved by what we wear or eat **but by Christ’s grace**(Ephesians 2:8,9) which He brought to us through His death, but when the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit lives in us, we will no longer live like the world but we shall

Be Separate.

“Wherefore **come out from among them, and be ye separate**, saith the Lord, and **touch not the unclean thing...**”(2 Cor 6:17)

In their diet, appearance and conversation, Christians are admonished to stand **distinct**

from worldly customs. The Lord says, “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.”(Romans 12:2) To “be conformed to this world” is to live and act like it. And since the Lord is warning us not act like the world, why should we remain indifferent? The problem is with our minds. **When our minds are renewed, we will no longer argue.** We shall know what is “good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”(see also Ephesians 5:8-10). Then whatever we will do, be it dressing or eating, we will give glory to God .

You’re Wonderfully made, Be contented.

“I will praise thee; **for I am fearfully and wonderfully made** ..”(Psalm 139:14)

To be “**fearfully**” made doesn’t mean something dreadful or literally fearful. The Hebrew word translated as fearfully is “**yare**”, It simply means that man **is created with such wonder and precision that it inspires awe and reverence for the Creator.**

We are naturally made beautiful, for even when God created man He said “**it was very good**” (Gen 1:31). Thus **to either add artificialities to your body or to diminish yourself is to insult the Creator.** The Lord warns against covetousness. “**Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.**”(Exodus 20:17) This is because covetousness makes one think they’re valueless unless they have the same things as others. They think they look ugly until their dress code and general

appearance resembles their friend's. Herein lies the danger. **Are Christians not supposed to be contented with what they have? Are they not supposed to maintain simplicity in all they do? Who's their pattern of conduct, the humble Jesus or worldly people?**

The Lord also says **“But godliness with contentment is great gain.** For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. **And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.** But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, **which drown men in destruction and perdition.”**(1 Timothy 6:6-9)

None came into the world with extravagant lifestyle and none will leave with it. It's simply “the pride of life” which “is of the world”(1 John 2:14). If you have good looking clothes that are not extravagant, and good food with

godliness, and if you're contented with all this, isn't that great gain?

Dress Code just after the fall.

Then “Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God **make coats of skins, and clothed them**.”(Genesis 3:21)

It is a well known fact that Adam and Eve wore no artificial clothes before sin. When they sinned, they clothed themselves in the garments of leaves to hide their nakedness, **but they were still naked before God** . To cover their nakedness, God made them “**coats of skins**” from the Lamb [representing Christ's righteousness]. Thus the Lord showed that **without Christ's righteousness, no clothe on earth can make you beautiful in the eyes of God** . (Compare with Zechariah 3:1-5)

Women Dress Code.

The dress code for women is emphasized more in the Bible than that of men, because women are often times **tempters**. From the mine of God's precious truth we read, "...behold, there met him[a man devoid of understanding] **a woman with the attire of an harlot , and subtil of heart..**"(Proverbs 7:10)

The Bible here points out "a strange woman" who "flatters with her words"(Prov 7:5), and **who dresses like a prostitute** . What does a prostitute dress like? Remember, **the way a prostitute dresses is opposite to the way a godly woman dresses**, but let's first look at some examples....

1) Jezebel

"And when Jehu was come to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it; and **she painted her face, and**

tired[adorned] her head, and looked out at a window..”(2Kings 9:30)



Jezebel, a wicked queen, was well known to be the master of makeup and lipstick for “**she painted her face**” , adorned her hair and used other ornaments. Why Should a Christian woman resemble Jezebel by using make up, lipstick and other inappropriate things? Again it is “that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, **to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat**

things sacrificed unto idols.”(Revelation 2:20)

All skirts and dresses that expose the body(**whether it is the breasts, shoulders, belly or thighs**) and cause men to fall have their roots from Jezebel the master seducer. No Christian woman, in her right senses can put on such especially in public places.

2)The Israelites

“...for I will not go up in the midst of thee; for thou art a stiffnecked people: lest I consume thee in the way. And when the people heard these evil tidings, they mourned: and **no man did put on him his ornaments ...** .And the children of Israel **stripped themselves of their ornaments** by the mount Horeb. ” (Exodus 33:3,4,6)

When the Lord became mad at the children of Israel for their hard hearted behavior, they quickly removed all ornaments/cosmetics which they had on their bodies, for the Lord wasn ' t pleased with that, Thus giving a warning to the people in the last days.



The word “ornaments” generally refers to decorative items used to beautify something. All artificialities driven by pride and causes unnecessary attention are taboo.



3) The Daughters of men

“ And it came to pass, when men began to

multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, **That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair;** and they took them wives of all which they chose. ”(Genesis 6:1-2)

The sons of God(people who worshipped the true God) saw the worldly daughters of men that they were fair [**that is they were sexually attractive because of their inappropriate dress code - dressing like prostitutes**]. Thus the sons of God fell and married these worldly women.

Again the Bible speaks about people who practiced prostitution and “ painted ” their eyes and “put on jewelry ”(Ezekiel 23:40).

4)The Daughters of Zion

The Lord has promised to humiliate “the

daughters of Zion(the Church) " because of their pride and the inappropriate things they use, **“The bonnets, and the ornaments of the legs , and the headbands, and the tablets, and the earrings, The rings, and nose jewels , The changeable suits of apparel , and the mantles, and the wimples, and the crisping pins, The glasses, and the fine linen, and the hoods, and the vails.. ”** (Isaiah 3:20-23): All these, you see, are condemned by God.

Thus, wedding rings, earring rings, nose jewels e.t.c are out of place. They are not appropriate for Christian men and women.

Women, A Stumbling block.

The Saviour said, “Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: **But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after**

her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.”(Matthew 5:27,28)



It is difficult to lust after a woman who's well dressed, and since the logic of this scripture compels us to believe that the woman who's lusted after here is a stumbling block, she must necessarily be one who dresses like a hypocrite. And while the fallen man will be judged for yielding to temptation, her judgment will be more severe for being a stumbling block to others.

“It is impossible that no offenses should come,

but woe to him through whom they do come!

It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were thrown into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones.”(Luke 17:1,2) The one who causes another to fall into temptation will be “beaten with many stripes” on the day of Judgement.

The Nature of Clothes

Well, it has been pointed out already that a Christian women shouldn't have “**the attire of an harlot, and subtil of heart ..**” (Proverbs 7:10)

Women who dress like prostitutes do it with, as the Bible says, “**subtil of heart**” (crafty or deceptive plans) - that is, dressing in order attract men's attention.

The opposite of this is explained in by Paul....

” In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel , with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array...”(1Timothy 2:9)

What does "**modest**" mean? Well it means something **humble[not showy], moderate in size and which doesn ' t encourage sexual attraction in others**. Both men and women are required to dress modestly especially in public places.

Therefore, just by looking at this scripture and word alone, you can easily deduce what type of dress you can or can't wear.

It says

“not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array”(verse 9)

God intended that women should be arranging their hair as naturally as possible, with no artificialities. Attractive and expensive clothes are not to be found with Christian women and men.



TABOO

“Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel ; 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.”(1Peter 3:3-4)

Again and again we are being brought face to face with the same facts regarding dress code. **While you’re not to look dirty but clean on the outside, your focus should be on the inside - clothing your heart with kindness, meekness and a quiet spirit.** But you’re to shun all outward show- plaiting the hair, wearing attractive clothes e.t.c. Stay in the middle of the road by appreciating your natural beauty and do what is right.

“For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves ...”(1Peter 3:5)

That women of God in Bible times(like Ruth, Naomi, Sarah, Esther, Mary] dressed well according to God’s glory. Regarding a woman of proverbs 31, we read “... **Her clothing is fine linen and purple ...** She makes linen

garments and sells them...**Strength and honor are her clothing**... She opens her mouth with wisdom, And on her tongue is the law of kindness... **Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing, But a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised.** ” (Proverbs 31:22,24-26,29,30, NKJV)

To re-emphasize, when the Bible says “ modest apparel ” it’s talking about wearing dresses which,

1) **are not attractive** [silver or other colors to disturb others]. They should be beautiful though and of good quality.

2) **are not tight to show your entire body shape or to show what is inside.**

3) **are not short enough either to show your thighs or breasts.**

That means that while your dresses should be loose but fit , **they should also(for the sake of safety) be below your knees to cover your thighs .**



Regarding the sleeves, you are not to expose your armpits. Wear, therefore, something which will not show your armpits when you lift your arm .

Regarding head coverings we read: “**But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her**

head: for that is even all one as if she were shaven. For if the woman be not covered, let her also be shorn: but if it be a shame for a woman to be shorn or shaven, **let her be covered.**”(1Corinthians 11:5-6)



A woman who 's attending any religious meeting and is engaged in it's activities has to cover her head....

God doesn ' t want careless and unserious women “But (which becometh women

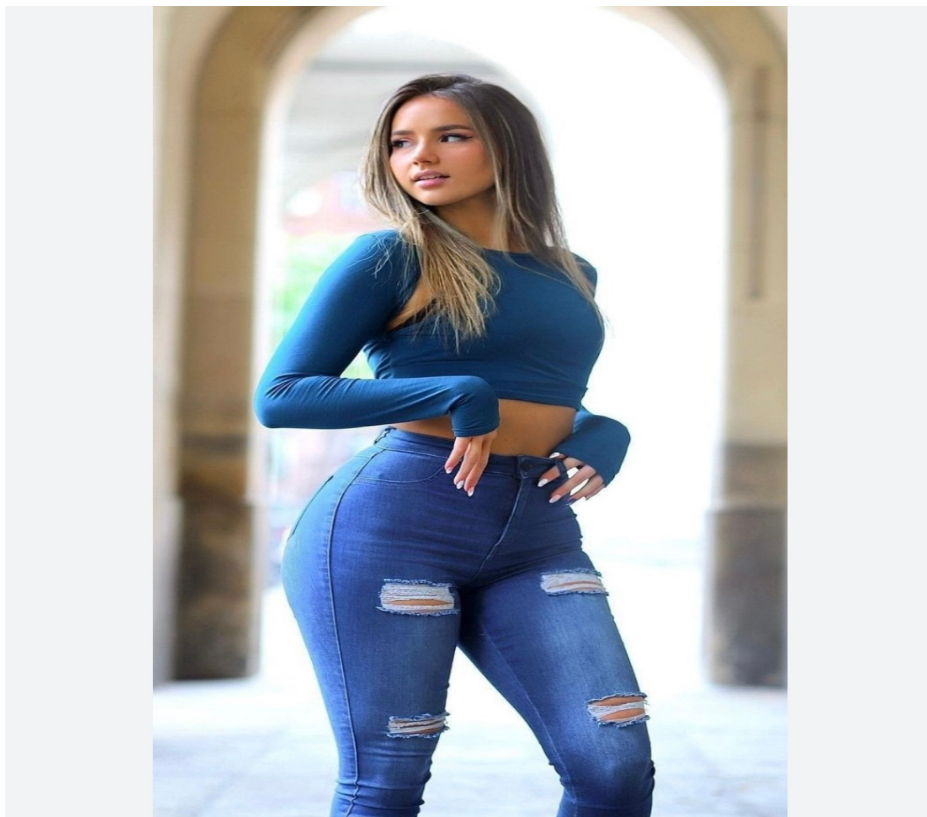
professing godliness) with good works . ”
(1Timothy 2:10). A man putting on a hat while attending a religious programs does so inappropriately. Again **formal attire** is good for a man especially during religious gatherings.

Again, “ **The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the LORD thy God.** ”(Deut 22:5)

Except in the situation where it is completely difficult for a woman to work with dresses, women are not to wear trousers at all cost. And if they do so under difficult conditions, the pants should entirely be designed for women. **The Lord intended that there should be a clear distinction between women's and men's clothes.**



TABOO



It's even more ridiculous to think putting on damaged clothes like this is good fashion. It makes zero sense to think so, for both men and

women.



Let the distinction be as clear as possible.

It is ridiculous, therefore, to deck oneself in a peacock fashion . If a women dresses like a harlot or hypocrite, what kind of a man will she get? Without any doubt, she will not get a good and informed one In the present truth.

The Two Church systems compared.

Finally , Revelation 12 depicts a fair woman [the true Church] who 's dressed in white, without ornaments.



On the contrary, Revelation 17 brings to view a woman, Babylon the Great, the Mother of harlots and the abominations of the earth [the Satanic church] who has all ornaments on her and attractive clothes which

the Bible condemns .



The way you dress, therefore, will show you where you belong, to the side of a fair woman or to a harlot woman.

“Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one’s slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?”(Romans 6:16, NKJV)

May the Lord help His people