

Elephants in the Church

“Modesty”

(1 Timothy 2:9-10)



- Introduction:
1. Not many people speak on the topic of modesty anymore.
 2. Yet, if we are to preach the whole counsel of God, it must be addressed (Acts 20:27).
 3. As we discuss this sensitive issue, we must determine to defend God’s holy standard rather than to justify or defend our own practices.

I. Our Clothing Speaks

- A. “Culture is religion externalized” and “our dress is religion externalized.”
- B. The way we dress reveals much about our character, what we value, and what we are trying to portray.
 1. (Matthew 11:8) Dress makes a statement about riches.
 2. (2 Samuel 3:31; 14:2; Mt. 11:21) Dress makes a religious statement.
 3. (Proverbs 7:10) Dress makes a moral statement.
- C. As you are sitting here tonight, the way you dress speaks and people are logically and legitimately drawing conclusions about your character.

II. The Purpose of Clothing

- A. This may seem to be axiomatic, but it needs to be addressed.
- B. The purpose of clothing is to “cover” and “hide” our nakedness (Gen. 2:25; 3:7).
- C. Instead of covering, a lot of clothing is designed to expose and entice lust.
- D. Clothing designers have all but stolen the innocence of childhood.

III. What Our Clothing Needs to Say

- A. (1 Timothy 2:9-10).
 1. Propriety and shamefacedness - denote a sense of shame that would caused one to shrink from trespassing the boundaries of modesty.
- B. Our clothing can say, “Sex,” “Pride,” “Money,” or “Purity,” “Humility,” and “Moderation.”
- C. Our clothing should not leave us wondering whether we want to be “chased” or “chaste.”

- Conclusion:
1. I want to end as I began. I want to call on all of us to justify God’s high and holy standards more than the way I’ve chosen to dress.
 2. I want to call upon you to act in love toward one another and not put a stumbling block in each other’s way.
 3. The way we dress and hold up God’s standard for holiness just may be that visible expression that opens a door of opportunity among those who are seeking God.