



# MODEST APPAREL

DOES THE BIBLE  
GIVE GUIDELINES ON  
HOW WE SHOULD  
DRESS IN PUBLIC?

Do My Clothes REVEAL GODLINESS ?



# Does The Bible Give Guidelines On How We Should Dress In Public?

Genesis 3:7 (NKJV)

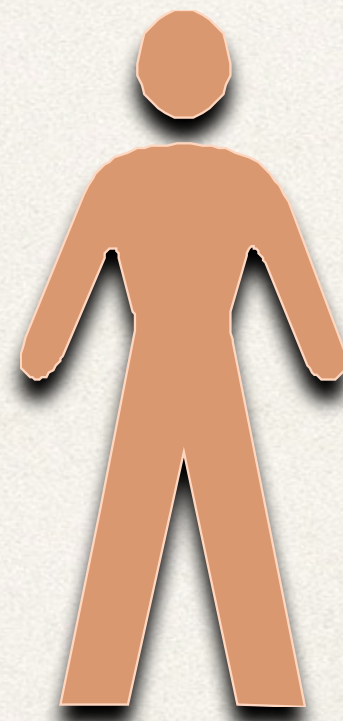
<sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings. ...

Genesis 3:10–11 (NKJV)

<sup>10</sup> So he said, “I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself.” <sup>11</sup> And He said, “Who told you that you *were* naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?”

Genesis 3:21 (NKJV)

<sup>21</sup> Also for Adam and his wife the Lord God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.



**V. 7 Naked  
(Nude)**

**Apron**



**V. 10,11,21  
Not Sufficiently Clothed**





# Does The Bible Give Guidelines On How We Should Dress In Public?

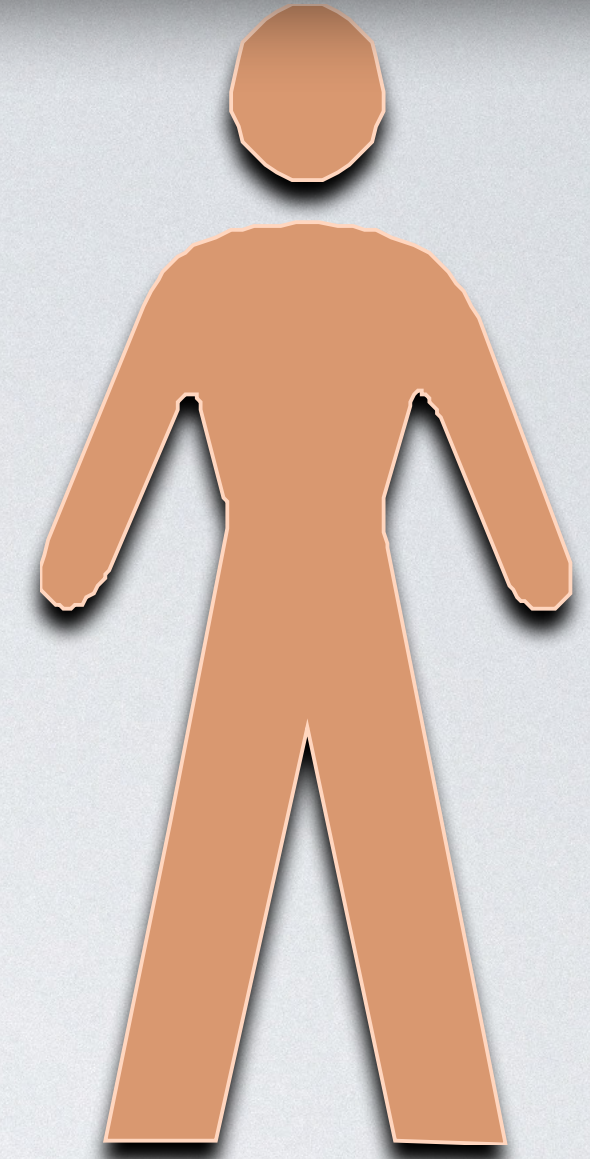
# NAKED

“Unclad, without clothing” . . . “Ill-clad” or “clad in undergarment only” (Thayer, p. 122)

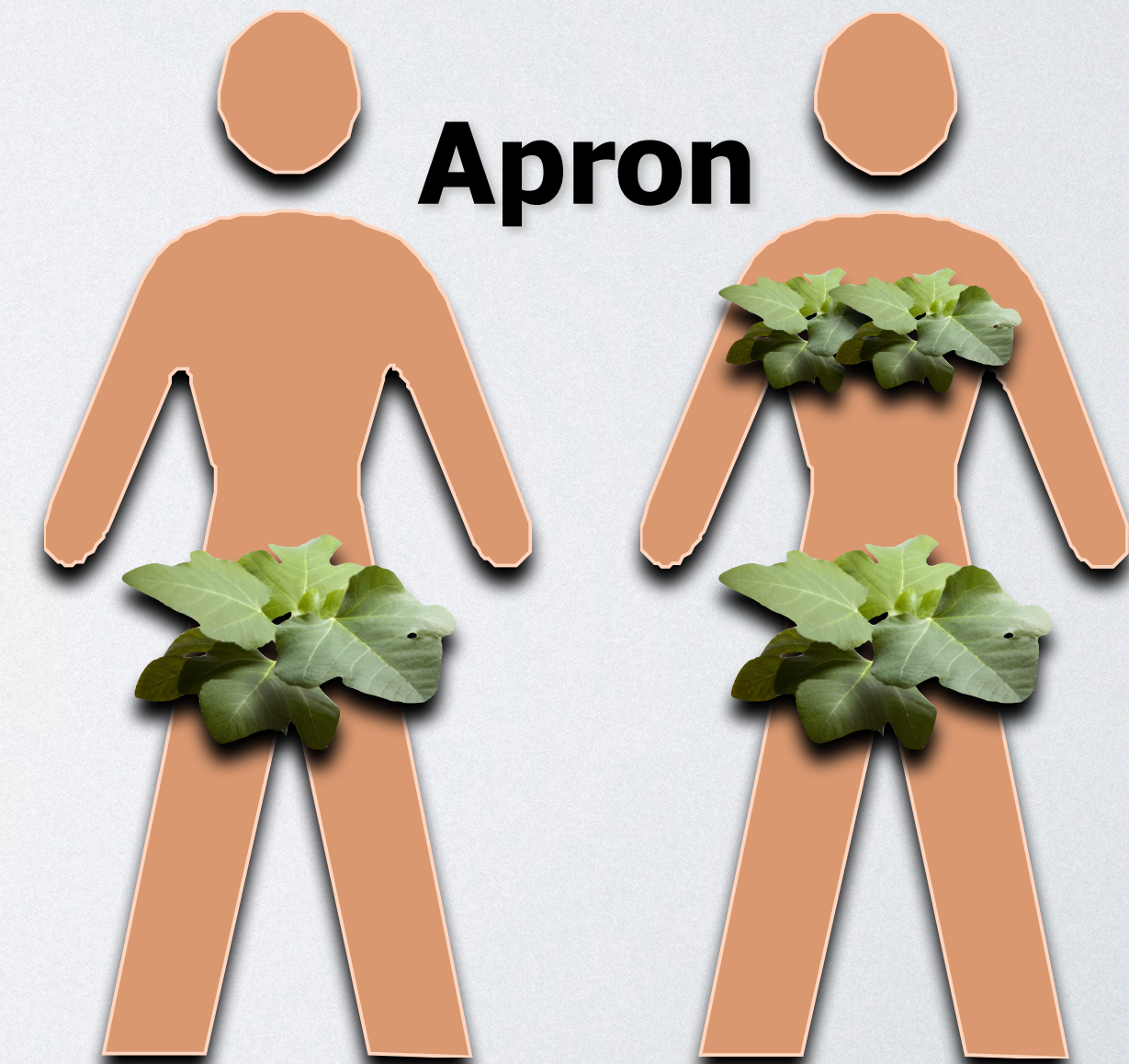
“badly clad” or “not fully clothed” (Kittle, I:773-774)

“lightly clad” (Liddell & Scott, 170)

**V. 7  
(Nude)**



**V. 10,11,21  
Not Sufficiently  
Clothed  
Still Naked**





# Does The Bible Give Guidelines On How We Should Dress In Public?

**4189** כְּתָנִית (kǔt · tō · nĕt):

n.fem.; ≡ Str 3801; TWOT

1058a—1. LN 6.152–6.187

**tunic**, garment, i.e., clothing

as a covering more complete than a loincloth, a basic garment reaching the

knees and so a common garment for common wear

and work (Ge 3:21; SS 5:3)

Swanson, J. (1997). *Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains : Hebrew (Old Testament)* (electronic ed.). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

“the Lord God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.” — Gen 3:21

From The  
Shoulder To  
The Knee





# Does The Bible Give Guidelines On How We Should Dress In Public?

## The High Priest's Golden Garments

Shemot/Exodus 28



Exodus 28:42

(NKJV)

42 And you shall make for them linen trousers to cover their nakedness; they shall reach from the waist to the thighs.



# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!

## GODLY APPAREL

### 1 Peter 3:1–4 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> Wives, ... <sup>2</sup> when they observe your chaste conduct *accompanied* by fear. <sup>3</sup> Do not let your adornment be *merely* outward—arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on *fine* apparel—<sup>4</sup> 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.





# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!

## GODLY APPAREL

### Titus 2:3–5 (NKJV)

<sup>3</sup> the older women likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things—<sup>4</sup> that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, <sup>5</sup> to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.





# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!

## GODLY APPAREL

### 1 Timothy 2:9–10 (NKJV)

<sup>9</sup> 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, <sup>10</sup> but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works.





# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!

## MODEST APPAREL



- "Respectable; honorable" (Arndt and Gingrich, 445).
- "Orderly; well-arranged; decent" (Vines)
- "The well-ordering is not of dress and demeanor only, but the inner life's uttering indeed, and expressing itself in the outward conversation" (Trench's Syn. 346).



# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!

## MODEST APPAREL



- “In simple attire which doesn’t attract attention.” — The People’s New Testament Commentary
- “An appearance that is simple, moderate, judicious, and free from ostentation. . . . Christians must be careful about letting a pagan culture set their fashions.” — BKC



# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!

## MODEST APPAREL

- Reserved (not aggressive)
- Humble (not ostentatious)
- Respectable (not dishonorable)
- Decent (not revealing)
- Orderly (not chaotic / wild)





# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!

## WITH PROPRIETY

- (aidos) (αἰδῶς, 127), “a sense of shame, modesty,” is used regarding the demeanor of women in the church, 1 Tim. 2:9 — Shamefastness is that modesty which is ‘fast’ or rooted in the character (Vine’s Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words (Vol. 2, p. 568).
- (aidos) – “bashfulness, reverence, regard for others, respect” - “A sense of shame” (Thayer, 14).
- MANY have lost the ability to blush! (Jer. 6:15; 8:12)





# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!

## WITH MODERATION

- sophrosune (σωφροσύνη, 4997) denotes “soundness of mind”, Acts 26:25, “sobriety”; 1 Tim. 2:9, 15, “sobriety”; “sound judgment” practically expresses the meaning; “it is that habitual inner self-government, with its constant rein on all the passions and desires, which would hinder the temptation to these from arising, or at all events from arising in such strength as would overbear the checks and barriers which aidos (shamefastness) opposed to it” (Trench Syn. Sec.xx, end) (Vine’s Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words (Vol. 2, p. 583).





# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!

## WITH MODERATION

- 88.93 σωφρονισμός, οὐ m; σωφροσύνη, ης f: to behave in a sensible manner, with the implication of thoughtful awareness of what is best—‘moderation, sensibility.’ (Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 752).
- To behave discreetly, to be in harmony with the will of God, being thoughtful of how our actions affect others.





# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!

## PROFESSING GODLINESS

- theosebeia (θεοσέβεια, 2317) denotes “the fear or reverence of God,” (Vine’s Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words (Vol. 2, p. 273).
- 53.1 θρησκεία, ... f: appropriate beliefs and devout practice of obligations relating to supernatural persons and powers—‘religion, piety.’ ... ‘if he does not control his tongue, he deceives himself, and his religion is worthless’ Jas 1:26. (Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains)





# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!

## IMMODEST APPAREL

### ATTENTION DRAWING APPAREL

- Wearing fancy clothes & jewelry in order to make a fashion statement! (1 Tim 2:9; 1 Pet 3:2)
- It CAN BE just as IMMODEST to go to the other extreme FOR the PURPOSE of drawing attention to ourselves!
- **Immodesty is a pride issue.** —“Look how RICH I am,” or, “Look how trendy I am,” or “Look how pretty I am,” or “LOOK HOW GODLY I AM.”





# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!

## IMMODEST APPAREL

- REVEALING APPAREL - When a woman wears short shorts, low cut dresses, mini skirts, bikinis — she is communicating pride in her body. — When a man goes without a shirt & wears short shorts, he too is communicating pride.
- Christians should NOT conduct themselves in such a way!





# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!

## IMMODEST APPAREL

- REVEALING APPAREL -
  - ▶ Too short, (revealing the thighs).
  - ▶ Too low off the shoulders, (showing cleavage/ chest/ back).
  - ▶ Too sheer (can see through).
  - ▶ Too tight (Too suggestive - leaving nothing for the imagination).





# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!

I'm dressed –  
I'll get it



Someone's at the door –  
Could someone answer it –  
I'm not dressed!



It's probably my  
friends – we are going  
to Magic Springs





# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!

## IMMODEST APPAREL

- REVEALING APPAREL -
  - ▶ “I look good in this and I’m going to wear it REGARDLESS of how it affects others.” (Rom 12:3,9,10; 13:10)
  - ▶ “I WANT THE OPPOSITE SEX TO NOTICE ME” (Mat 5:28-30; 18:6-10)
  - ▶ “Everyone else is wearing this” (Exo. 23:2; Prov. 1:10, 11, 15; 4:14)
  - ▶ **REVEALS YOUR UNGODLINESS & PRIDE!**





# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!

## GODLY APPAREL

- The Christian woman's attire should be her "good works."
- "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 Pet 3:4)
- "Loving their husbands, their children, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed." (Tit 2:4,5)





# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!

## GODLY APPAREL

### ● NOTE TO PARENTS -

- ▶ Begin early! Don't allow immodesty until 12 or 13, and then expect sudden correction.
- ▶ Teach your children; or the WORLD will!
- ▶ Teach children in both word & deed - - inconsistency is destructive!
- ▶ Mothers, do not undermine godly husbands & fathers as they teach.





# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!



# MODEST APPAREL

Do These Clothes  
Make Me Look

**BETTER** Than

---

**others ?**



# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!



# MODEST APPAREL

Do These Clothes  
Make Me Look

**SEXY** ?



# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!



# MODEST APPAREL

Do These Clothes  
Cause Others To  
Look At Me?



# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!



## MODEST APPAREL

Does my clothing exhibit MY admiration and respect for God or does it exhibit pride, selfishness & lasciviousness in my heart & can prompt **EVIL THOUGHTS** in others?



# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!

## MODEST APPAREL

- BE MODEST – RESERVED, DECENT, RESPECTABLE
- EXHIBIT PROPRIETY – HAVE SHAME, DISCRETION
- USE GOOD JUDGMENT – THINK OF OTHERS
- SHOW GODLINESS – DEVOTED TO GOD / HOLINESS
- RESPECT OTHERS – IF SOMEONE STUMBLES OVER YOUR BEAUTY, LET IT NOT BE YOUR FAULT!





# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!

## MODEST APPAREL

### Romans 12:1–2 (NKJV)

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



# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!



# MODEST APPAREL

Do These Clothes  
Help Me To Look  
**GODLY?**







# Biblical Principles Governing Dress!

## MODEST APPAREL

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<http://w65stchurchofchrist.org/coc/>



# 1 Timothy 2:8–15 (NKJV)

<sup>8</sup> I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting; <sup>9</sup> 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, <sup>10</sup> but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works. <sup>11</sup> Let a woman learn in silence with all submission.



## 1 Timothy 2:8–15 (NKJV)

<sup>12</sup> And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence.

<sup>13</sup> For Adam was formed first, then Eve. <sup>14</sup> And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression. <sup>15</sup>

Nevertheless she will be saved in childbearing if they continue in faith, love, and holiness, with self-control.