

## Modesty: What Makes You Beautiful?

### Part I: What is Modesty?

- I. Introduction
  - a. Modesty – Having or showing a moderate opinion
  - b. Greek word: orderly, well arranged, decent, modest
- II. Key Thought: I would like to present three principles of modesty for us to consider.
- III. First Principle –
  - a. 1 Tim 2:9-10
    - i. The only verse in the Bible that uses the English word modest
    - ii. The apostle is warning Christian women against wearing TOO MUCH clothing!
  - b. 1 Pet 3:3-4
    - i. A similar passage
    - ii. Two apostles tell Christian women not to wear TOO MUCH clothing
  - c. First Principle: It is immodest to wear clothing for the purpose of drawing attention to yourself
  - d. In Paul and Peter's day
    - i. A desire to draw attention to oneself and our
    - ii. Am I being immodest in the way I dress
  - e. Where is the passage about too little clothing?
    - i. Bikinis
    - ii. Miniskirt
    - iii. Too Tight
    - iv. Too Sheer
- IV. Second Principle
  - a. Gal. 5:19
    - i. Where is the indecent clothing
    - ii. Lascivious – inciting lust, lewd
    - iii. Some clothes are lascivious
  - b. Second principle - It is lascivious to wear clothes that are designed to draw attention to your nakedness
    - i. Why do you wear clothes?
      1. To protect us from the elements
      2. To cover our nakedness
        - a. It is a shame to be naked
        - b. Just the word naked makes us want to
      3. But for every part of our body that clothing that clothing is intended to conceal, there is a clothing designer somewhere working night and day
    - ii. Every man's struggle
      1. Matt 5:28 - Do not lust
      2. The world does care about modesty?

- a. It is not interested
- b. Nearly every flat surface
- c. They don't care if the Christian man is trying to avoid fleshly lusts that war against the soul
  - i. They just want to sell something
  - ii. They want the man to mentally associate beautiful women with
    - 1. Soft drink
    - 2. Their razor
- d. Where can we go for refuge?
  - i. In the church?
  - ii. Not if Christian women are wearing the same clothing as the world.
- 3. I know that no Christian woman would walk up to a man on the street and say, "You are welcome to take a look at my body, if you would like", but her clothes can make that same statement without her saying a word.
- c. It is lascivious to wear clothes that are designed to draw attention to your nakedness

V. Third Principle

- a. We've been pounding the ladies pretty hard, what about the men?
  - i. Most of the passages in the Bible that talk about immodesty are primarily directed toward women
    - 1. It is as sinful for a man to wear immodest clothing as a woman
    - 2. But the danger for others is not the same, because of the differences between men and women
- b. 1 Tim. 3:2 –
  - i. This passage uses the Greek word for modesty
  - ii. Where is modesty in that verse?
  - iii. "Of Good Behavior" – Modesty
  - iv. Modesty has not only to do with the clothes that you wear but also the way you act
    - 1. Decent behavior that does not go beyond the bounds of propriety
- c. Third Principle - Immodesty is not only a sin of dress, but also of deed and words –
  - i. Immodest Action
    - 1. We are embarrassed when we accidentally draw attention to ourselves by our behavior
    - 2. We can do that on purpose, and when we do, we are behaving immodestly
  - ii. Lascivious dress, words and deeds - Prov. 7:1-23
    - 1. An adulterous woman and the foolish young man who is seduced by her
    - 2. Read v. 10ff

- a. She dressed immodestly – the clothes of a prostitute
  - b. She behaved immodestly
    - i. Loud and rebellious
    - ii. Won't stay at home
    - iii. Grabbed this man and kissed him
  - c. She spoke immodestly
    - i. She seduces this young
  - d. She was not just lascivious in dress, deed and word
    - i. She did this because she wanted to commit adultery
    - ii. Committing adultery may be the furthest thing from our minds, but
      - 1. If we dress like her
      - 2. Act like her
      - 3. And talk like her
      - 4. Will we be held guiltless, simply because we have not intention of committing adultery and never do?
  - e. We won't be judged for committing adultery, but we must understand that lascivious dress, deeds and words are works of the flesh, and those who practice them cannot inherit the kingdom of heaven.
- iii. Matt. 23:5 Immodest Dress
- 1.
    - a. Men dressed immodestly
    - b. Pharisees
      - i. Dt. 6:8 – Bind the words of God on you
        - 1. Became a tradition of phylacteries
        - 2. Boxes or band to hold scriptures
        - 3. made their phylacteries broad
      - ii. Num. 15:38-40 - Borders or tassels
        - 1. Symbolized purity and holiness
        - 2. Enlarged their borders
        - 3.
      - iii. It is good to stay unstained from the world
        - 1. But if you are dressing with the goal of bringing attention to your religiosity, you are being immodest
    - c. Jesus called Pharisees on this a number of times
- iv. Matt. 6:1-4 – Immodest behavior
- 1. It is immodest to act in such a way as to draw attention to yourself
  - 2. There are many ways to act and speak immodestly than trying to draw attention to our personal holiness
    - a. Certain personality types really struggle with this

- b. If you are the type of person who is always having some kind of wisecrack pop into your head or the impulse to shock or surprise others with your words or deeds, you may have to work harder than others
- c. To make sure you that you do not behave immodestly

v. In words

- 1. Boasting – James 4:14-16
- 2. Rich fool - Luke 12:16-21
- 3. The Pharisee vs. Publican – Luke 18:9-14
- 4. Eph. 5 – Coarse jesting
  - a. We can be immodest in the jokes we tell
  - b. Some jokes are not decent or fitting, they go beyond the bounds of propriety
  - c. Some jokes are actually lascivious
  - d. We should not allow course jesting to come out of our mouths
- 5. Prov. 26:18-19 – The madman
  - a. If you go tell someone that is false
  - b. I was just joking, pulling your leg

VI. Conclusion

- a. Review three principles
- b. Preview: Part 2 - What is Beauty?
  - i. This lesson practical and primarily outward
  - ii. That lesson gets to the heart of the issue
- c. Invitation

Part II: What is Beauty?

I. Introduction

- a. Illustration: Old woman with the magic mirror
  - i.