

CITY OF THE LIVING GOD

HOLINESS OF BODY:
DRESS

26

SERIES

In dedication to all the soul-winners that need a Bible study on how the external is a reflection of the interior and only is complete when the spirit, soul, and body are sanctified.

Copyright © 2023. Paul Baumeister, PhD.

The author reserves all rights to this text. No part shall be downloaded or stored in a retrieval system other than as required for browsing. It may not be reproduced, printed or copied without written permission from the author.

Published by Paul Baumeister, P.O. Box 2366, Elk Grove, California 95759. Printed in the United States of America.



City of ^{the} Living God



“As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy” (1 Pet. 1:14-16).

Holiness is a way of life. It is not just the way of life at the church service; it is a lifestyle change. The apostles taught that holiness was not complete until it was applied to every part of our lives: spirit, soul, and body. The Apostle Peter tells us here that we should apply holiness to “every manner of life.” Jesus modelled the way of holiness for us and wants his believers to be holy as he is holy. It’s interesting that this was not only an Old Testament command, but it is found here in the New Testament as well (Exod. 19:6; Lev. 21:8; 1 Pet. 1:16). We will find out in this study that God has not changed his teachings on holiness on the inside and the outside.

ABOMINATION

The term, abomination is used throughout the Bible and refers to that which is abhorrent or which God detests. We can see that there are places where the Bible refers to that which is an “abomination to you” or “abomination to the Egyptians.” What is detestable to one person may not be detestable to another. For example, it was an abomination to the Egyptians to be a shepherd, but it was a blessing to the Israelites. Abominations for people could vary and could change due to their place of origin, culture, or religion. However, when the Bible uses the phrase “an Abomination unto the Lord,” it is referring to something that never changes, because God does not change. He is forever the same.

Malachi 3:6-7

“For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed. Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the Lord of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return?”

Hebrews 13:8

“Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.”

Idolatry is a sin and is so detestable to God that he calls it an abomination to the Lord God.

Deuteronomy 7:25

“The graven images of their gods shall ye burn with fire: thou shalt not desire the silver or gold that is on them, nor take it unto thee, lest thou be snared therin: for it is an abomination to the Lord thy God.”

Every type of witchcraft is considered abhorrent to God and so it is referred as an abomination unto the Lord.

Deuteronomy 18:10-12

“There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch. Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. For all that do these things are an abomination unto the Lord: and because of these abominations the Lord thy God doth drive them out from before thee.”

Not only is witchcraft detestable to God, but prostitution is considered an abomination unto the Lord God.

Deuteronomy 23:18

“Thou shalt not bring the hire of a whore, or the price of a dog, into the house of the Lord thy God for any vow: for even both these are abomination unto the Lord thy God.”

GENDER DISTINCT CLOTHING

God from the beginning has commandments that prohibited the cross mixing of clothing by gender. He knows the beginning from the ending and knew what direction mankind would travel in regards to gradual shifting of women wearing men’s clothing and men wearing women’s clothing. God has always demanded a distinction of genders when it comes to their clothing.

Deuteronomy 22:5

“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.”

All of human history, women wore dresses and just in the last century did things start to change. It is not debatable that things began to change during the industrial revolution. Who would have ever foreseen that just in a short time, we would have men wearing women’s clothing also. It

happened so quickly—just in the space of 60 years! God placed such an importance on gender specific clothing, that he said it was an abomination to the Lord God to not adhere to it. Some would say that we are living in other days, but we have to remember that for all of human history women did not wear men’s clothing and neither did men wear women’s clothing.

THE NEW TESTAMENT

Not only is the holiness of dress spoken in the Old Testament, but it is also taught in the New Testament. The Apostle Paul refers to the dress as “modest apparel” which in the Greek is the word, “katastole,” which literally means clothing flowing down. It refers to a long dress.

1 Timothy 2:9

“In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel (katastole), with shamefacedness (self-control) and sobriety; not with broided hair; or gold, or pearls, or costly array”

The New Testament is consistent in making sure there are distinctions between men and women:

- 1 Cor. 6:9 gives a list of behaviors that will prevent someone from going to heaven and “effeminate” is one of them.
- 1 Cor 11:3-16 provides a clear distinction between the man and woman’s hair.

HISTORICAL TRENDS

The trend from women wearing skirts and dresses to later on putting on pants started during World War II (1939-1945). While there were short instances and examples a few years before, the trend did not take place

until the time of World War II. At this time women began to use pants during work and even some casually. While it seems innocent, now in hindsight, it is easy to see where the trends were leading up to. While there have been short-lived trends of men wearing skirts in the past 20 years, there now is a growing trend with the increase and promotion of male transgenders.

This is the era where the lines of distinction of male and female began to be erased. Precisely this is the reason why God forbid men from wearing women's clothing and women from wearing men's clothing. It was to make sure there was a distinction of genders. Presently, it is obvious the direction this decision was trending. It has quickly led to the move of transvestites and transgenders. Now, the distinction in our society is spiraling out of control with more chaos than ever before. Even our toddlers are at risk with parents and teachers trying to alter their genders. Without a doubt none of the women that began this trend would have ever thought how far it would have spun out of control.

It is interesting that even the Jewish philosopher Philo who lived during the time of the apostles commented about the biblical teaching on men not wearing women's clothes and vice versa said, *"For it [the law] required the one who is truly a man to act like a man even in these particulars and especially in his clothes, which, since he always has them on both day and night, ought to have no indication of unmanliness. And of course in the same manner, by training the woman in appropriate adornments, it forbade her to assume a man's dress, ultimately guarding against the manly woman as much as the womanly man. For it knew that, as in buildings, if one stone is taken away the others will not stay in the same place"* (Philo of Alexandria).

For more Information
Paul Baumeister
P.O. 2366, Elk Grove, CA 95759

**[Click here to access the
complete series](#)**