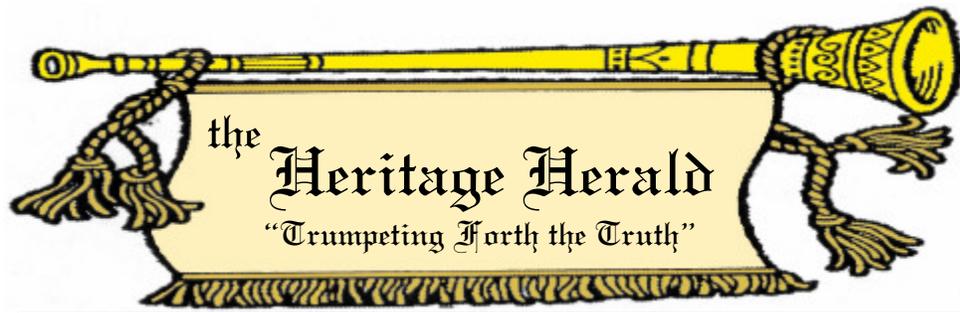




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Acceptable To Man Or God?

Introduction: In the book of *Romans, Chapter 12:1*, “*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God...*”

In *Galatians 1:10* there is a convicting question that everyone needs to answer. That question is, “...do I seek to please God?”

I’m specifically dedicating this issue of the Heritage Herald to dress standards because of what I am seeing in society. What was rare has become common standard in the way people dress.

FIRST: THE MODESTY THAT GOD REQUIRES. I TIMOTHY 2:9

“In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel....”

How people dress reveals whether they are trying to please self, or to draw attention from the opposite sex or if they are being modest to please God. Notice *I Timothy 2:10*, “*But which becometh women professing Godliness with good works.*”

Illustration: A young man comes to visit a church and to grow spiritually. Within moments of entering the auditorium, he notices a beautiful young girl who has chosen to dress in such a way that her clothing reveals every part of her body in a worldly way. The low neckline, the short hem, and the slit reveals just enough thigh to give men a sensual glimpse.

Now, the man who sincerely came to seek the face of God, and to refresh his spirit and soul, finds himself in a battle with the flesh.

SECOND: THE MESSAGE THAT IS BEING GIVEN. 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.”

Here is the carnal argument: “We are living in different times; besides, my pants are feminine.” This reveals what is known as an oxymoron. What if a cross dressing man would declare, “My dress is masculine?”

Ladies, be honest. How would you react if your husband walked around with his hairy legs showing wearing a little sleeveless number? Would it be better if he declared, “But it’s masculine?”

THIRD: THE MORALITY BEING PROMOTED. JOB 31:1

Be honest, look around you. How many girls do you already know that have lost their purity? Where is the virtue?

Have you noticed the divorce rate? The rise in lesbianism and same-sex relationships? Have you not noticed the trend to follow Hollywood instead of old-fashioned Godly standards?

FOURTH: THE METHOD OF DESENSITIZING. JOHN 21:7

In society today, and sadly in many church groups, we see the acceptance of mixed swimming. It should be called, “mixed nudity” because that’s what mixed swimming has become.

Women and young ladies who would otherwise never invite men over to watch them walk around in their underwear, and would be ashamed at the thought of it, will still expose their body shamelessly in a garment called a swimsuit. Ladies, the sin is not the garment, but the nakedness.

Conclusion: The only difference in a man visiting a pornographic web site, or watching pornographic movies, and that of viewing scantily clad women in bathing suits, is that he does not have to pay for the view.