

Modest Apparel



1 Tim 2:9-10 “Let the women adorn themselves in **modest apparel**, with **shamefacedness and sobriety**, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing, but, instead with that which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works.” NKJV

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Thesis:



- **Brief Review**
- **What about transvestites?**
- What role does **fashion/culture** play?
- Does God have an **absolute standard?**

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Definition of Terms

- **Modest:** “Well-arranged; orderly, **decent.**”
- **Shamefacedness:** “A sense of shame, a *reverence* that *restrains one from an unworthy act.*”



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Definitions of Terms



- **Sobriety** = “Soundness of mind, self-control, good judgment, *moderation*, especially as a **feminine virtue, decency.**”

Arndt and Grinrich

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What is Immodest Apparel?



“Any clothing that
*unduly reveals the
figure of the wearer.*”

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How can you tell?

4 Guidelines for Modest Dress

- 1** If you have trouble getting into it or out of it, it is probably not modest.
- 2** If you have to be careful when you sit down or bend over, it is probably not modest.
- 3** If people look at any part of your body before looking at your face, it is probably not modest.
- 4** If you can see your most private body parts or an outline of those parts under the fabric, it is probably not modest.

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KEY #1

“Dress so that you will not tempt a good man and will deter the sordid thoughts of an evil man.”



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KEY #2

“Don’t let a man see what you
would not want him to
touch.”

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Dr. Ed Scott, Oregon Health Sciences University

- Female attire that appears to the male to be provocative increases the risk of assault.
- A male may interpret sexually teasing attire as *uncaring and unfair*, subjecting him to *temptation while rejecting* him.
- This can result in revenge against the female who brought on the distress and can produce hostility against females in general.

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Key #3

God wants us to *love people* and *use things* and not the reverse!

**Sports
Illustrated**

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Key #4

The Edification Principle

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Principles which apply to dress

- Rom 14:19 “Pursue the things that make for peace and the **edification** of each other.” See Rm 15: 2.
- Eph 4:3 “Keep the *unity of the spirit*, in the bond of peace.”
- Rom 12:18 “As much as lieth in you **be at peace.**”
- I Cor 8:13 “If it be that meat maketh my brother to offend, I will not eat flesh while the world stands—**lest I cause my brother to offend.**”

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Transvestite

“The woman shall not wear that which pertains unto a man, **neither shall a man put on a woman's garment**: for all that do so are an abomination unto the LORD thy God” (Deut 22:5). KJV

Not wear pants?

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Roman Togas



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Shepherd's Robe



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What Role does Culture Play?



Livia (50 BC)

1 Cor 11:15-16 “But if anyone seems to be contentious, we have **no such custom**, nor do the churches of God.” NKJV

Augustus' wife Livia (50 BC), wearing a veil.

What Role does Culture Play?

The culture affects our *influence*, but it should never set the standard.

Is There an Absolute Standard?

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Islam has a strict dress code

- Women cover up except face & hands.
- Must be loose enough so as to not outline the shape of the body.
- Must be thick /not transparent.
- Clothing must be clean and decent, neither excessively fancy or ragged.
- **Men**: covered between the navel and the knee.



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Adam and Eve

after the fall ...man's solution.

Gen 3:7 “Then they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin coverings.”

- Heb: Chagorah = “Worn around mid-section cover private parts.”

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Adam and Eve

after the fall ...God's solution.

- 3:21 “The Lord God did make coats of skins and clothed them”
 - Heb: “Kethoneth” = “A garment (tunic) drapes down from shoulders and approaches the knee.”

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Is There an **Absolute Standard**?

Ex 28:40-42 "For Aaron's sons you shall make **tunics**; for glory and for beauty. "You shall make for them **linen breeches to cover their bare flesh; they shall reach from the waist even to the thighs.**"

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The High Priest

1 Tunic:

The priest dressed first in a checkered tunic of fine linen. (Exodus 28:39)

2 Robe:

Over the tunic, the priest wore a blue robe with golden bells and pomegranates. (Exodus 28:31-34)



The High Priest

- 3 Ephod:**
Over the robe,
the priest wore an
ephod of gold,
of blue, purple,
and crimson yarns,
and of fine twisted
linen (Exodus 28:4-6)

3



Definition of Apparel

I Tim 2:9



- *Karestalay* “A garment worn in Biblical times which draped from the shoulders and dropped down for a covering, gathered in the middle with a sash.”

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Men are included

Priests: “Neither shalt thou go up by steps unto mine altar, that thy nakedness be not discovered thereon” (Ex 20:26). KJV

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Men are included . .

- Zeph 1:8 “I will punish all that are clothed with strange (inappropriate, immodest) foreign apparel.”

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