

CHURCH: IT'S HIS HOUSE, PT VI (B) – ROLES, RULES, & RAILS

Apr 28th, 2024 | Speaker: Pastor Finney Samuel

Scripture References: 1 Timothy 2:8-10, 2:14-15; 3:14-15

KEY VERSE

Knowing how we ought to
conduct ourselves in the
House of God.

1 Timothy 3:14..

REVIEW

In a time where structure is needed, Paul addresses the Church on how they should conduct themselves in the House of God. After discussing the importance of prayer and the lifting up of holy hands, Paul focuses in on addressing women and the importance of how they should be dressed in modesty (“kosmios”), propriety (“aidos”), and sobriety (“sophrosune”). This lesson holds true to all of us, both men and women, in the way we represent ourselves as the Body of Christ to the world around us.

As one who has been redeemed and purchased with the precious blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, our spirit man is no longer clothed in the filthy spiritual rags that we once wore before we were set free from our sin. We are now each instead adorned with a garment of salvation, a robe of righteousness, and a garment of praise. In an attitude of gratefulness and humbleness, it is important that when we enter into His presence that our outward attire match the mighty work that God has done and is still doing within us. We are now a temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19-20). We are to honor God in our bodies. Our bodies are not rented or leased out to us. We exclusively belong to Jesus from the top of our heads to the soles of our feet. The Bible does not define exactly what clothes we are to put on and as cultures differ, it is important to self-evaluate how best to please and represent God. As daughters, and sons too, of the Most High God, dressing in an appropriate manner takes on new meaning so as to not detract from the precious and important work that the Holy Spirit is doing in the hearts of the congregation and among God's people. Daughters, and sons too, of the Lord should reflect Jesus in His Glory in every way, even in the clothing that they now wear.

It is important to remember who the first clothing designer was. It was God Himself! Adam and Eve were clothed in glory until they sinned. After they sinned, the glory which once covered them was lost and they became aware of their own nakedness, even though there was no one else around to apprise them of such. They gathered for themselves fig leaves to cover up their shame and they then hid from the Lord. God Himself came down from Heaven in search of them and created for them a proper attire, the first attire made from the skins of innocent animals in order to cover Adam and Eve's nakedness and shame. From that day forward, clothing was never meant to show off but rather to cover up.

When we accept Christ into our hearts and ask Him to be the Lord of our lives, we come under the authority of Jesus and also the directive of the Word of God. From our head to our toes, we now exclusively belong to Jesus. As holy and pleasing children of God it is

essential to evaluate our manner of dress and presentation with these questions: Is what I'm wearing and is how I present myself God honoring? Am I trying to attract the attention of God or man? Is what I'm wearing modest? Am I reflecting the grace of God? Is it pleasing and glorifying to Him?

We should make sure God is pleased and honored in every aspect of how we carry ourselves. Our clothing should cover our nakedness just as Jesus has covered our past unsaved, unsanctified lives. Our present-day clothing should reflect the truth of the Gospel and the mighty work that God has done and is presently doing. More importantly, God gives more of a priority to inner beauty. We should radiate and glow from our inner man. The external grows old with time. The internal glows brighter as time goes by.

REFLECT

1. From your reading of the key instruction given to women in 1 Timothy 2:9, "In like manner also, that the women adorn themselves and modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing," why is it important to do so, both for women and men, and what are the pitfalls and disadvantages when someone chooses to do otherwise? How can we and our family members look out for each other's interests in supportive, positive ways to help each other to be our very best for the Lord?

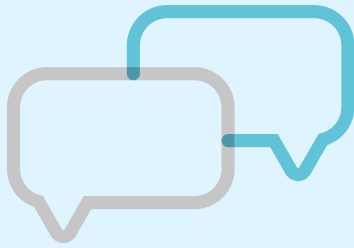
2. What do the words "modesty," "propriety," and "sobriety" mean to you? How do these lifestyle choices contrast with the world that we are now living in and how can we be diligent to keep and maintain these standards of conduct in our lives today?

3. What kind of considerations should we keep in mind when we ask ourselves the questions: 1.) Is it God honoring? 2.) Is it decent? 3.) Is it modest? 4.) Am I reflecting the grace of God? 5.) Is it pleasing and glorifying to Him?

4. God cares more about the internal adornment of men and women than the external ones. What does this mean to you and how does one's internal adornment flow outward toward God and man?

5. Because we were bought with a price and we are now to honor God in our bodies (1 Corinthians 6:19-20), what challenges do we often face in fulfilling this command (such as changing fashion styles, the artificial glamour of the world, and the pressures imposed by worldly values and expectations?

NOTES



Instructions: When we read the Scriptures, when we sit under our leaders for the proclamation and teaching of the Scriptures we ought to respond and ask the Holy Spirit to teach us to respond.

In response to what we have discussed and learned this week:

- a) Take ten minutes to respond to God directly.
- b) Choose one or two of the categories below and journal a personal prayer in your Bible, notebook or a digital device.

HOW CAN YOU RESPOND TO THIS TEXT IN PRAYER?



God is interested in your heart. Take a moment to evaluate your current heart status. Do you find yourself indulging in matters that drive you away from the presence of God ? Confess to the Lord and ask for forgiveness.



Paul urges us to live a life of godliness, humility, and self-control as you are bodies is a temple of the Holy spirit. Do you find yourself struggling with any or all of these aspects? Ask the Lord to reveal areas of your life that need to be submitted to the Lord.



Thank you for adorning us with a garment of salvation, robe of righteousness, and garment of praise!



Praise the Lord for His love toward us that though we may not be consistent with Him, He is always consistent and conditionally loving towards us.