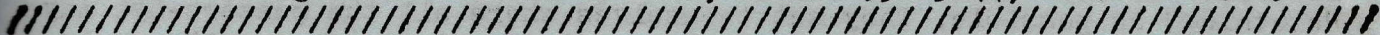


THE CONTENDER

Contending For The Faith Once For All Delivered To The Saints (Jude 3)
Church of Christ: South Shore, Ky. 4th Ave. P.O. Box 649 April 15, 1973
Editor & evangelist: Richard E. Swan, Phone: 932-3244, Vol. II No. 15



IMMODEST APPAREL

Some years ago a Portuguese ship (Santa Maria) was hi-jacked and some American women were on that ship. The dispatches said the women were afraid that the rebels might have designs on them, so they left off wearing "enticing" clothing. These women had been wearing shorts, halters, bathing suits, pantsuits, etc. in the men's presence and I am struck by the fact that they KNEW they were tempting these men! Study the below chart and remember that "virtue" is the first thing a Christian adds to his faith II Pet. 1:5.

MODEST--Shy, reserved, not forward, especially not displaying one's body

CHASTE--Modest, not indecent

VIRTUOUS--Implying moral excellence manifested by forbearance from acts or thoughts that do not accord with virginity or strict marital fidelity.

PURE--Implying chastity through innocence and an absence of seductive influences.

LEWDNESS--Indecent, lustful, unchaste and lascivious

LASCIVIOUSNESS--Voluptuous, lewd emotions, tendency to produce such

WANTON--Unchaste, lewd, immoral

IMMORAL--Unchaste, lewd, licentious, obscene

ENTICE--To tempt, to allure, to attract by offering hope of reward

"In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold or pearls, or costly array; but with good works." (I Tim. 2:9f)

Now if you are one of those "Christians" who strut around like a peacock in your immodest apparal, (shorts, yes men too, cut off hair, tight, transparent, abbreviated clothing etc.) after the manner of the modern TV and movie styles, with your face all painted up like Jezebel (II Ki. 9:30) then you are not dressing as one "which becometh women professing godliness". The devil brought immodest apparel on for one purpose--to promote evil. And the fact that two of every 5 marriages end in divorce proves that he is having success.

NEWS & NOTES: We rejoice in that Mr. Bobo Connelly was baptised into Christ and we welcome him into the fellowship of the saints here at South Shore!

THE PORTSMOUTH TIMES: The congregation is presently running a weekly Sat. teaching article in the Portsmouth Times that, due to the calls and letters received, seems to be catching people's attention. This editor has been invited to speak at West Portsmouth because of it.

"But I just wear these to keep cool". Yes, and God says a adulterous woman commits adultery and then says "I have done no wickedness" Pro. 30:20. Your lips may say one thing, but your lusty, lascivious countenance betrays your dirty abominable heart. Besides, it does not matter if you are sweltering, God still says, "modest apparel". It's hotter in hell!

"But everybody wears these". Yes and there will be alot more people in hell than in heaven also. (Matt. 7:13-14) If you are following the crowd you will wind up in hell. God's people are peculiar. (Tit. 2:14) Not wearing "such like" even though the world is wearing them is one of our peculiarities.

SHAMEFACEDNESS: "extremely modest, bashful, shy, showing a feeling of shame or guilt" The modern woman's appearance is far from being shamefaced. Her eyes are those of Delilah. Her face is like that of Jezebel. (Ever since Jezebel, that wicked adulteress painted her face and primped up women have been following in her steps. Her appearance is that of a harlot. She is past feeling a sence of shame or guilt. Let the preacher say

something about her ungodly shorts, mini skirts, bathing suits and pantsuits etc. and like old Jezebel herself, she says, "Carry him out and stone him that he may die" (I Ki. 21:10) (My preaching brethren, are you rebuking sin like you ought?) Many modern women dress in as few and as small pieces of "clothing" as possible. They set themselves where all the passers-bys may get an eye full (Prov. 9:14-15). "Who can find a virtuous woman?", Truly "her price is far above rubies"! (Prov. 31:10)

We hear much today about those ungodly beauty contests. Americans have set up a bathing beauty as their goddess and American women are heart broken if they are not that goddess. It appears to be the chief pastime of women to catch the eye and try to arouse the passions in men. Perfumes bear the name of "My Sin". Lipstick is "no-smear" and clothing is described as being "the knockout outfit".

These unholy Paris bathing suits ruined France and they are doing their part to ruin America. Swimming pools are little more than open air adultery houses. Jesus still has said--"Whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart." (Matt. 5:8) Friend, how can a woman who dresses this way be innocent and pure in the eyes of God?

"IT'S SO HOT!"

Many times the excuse given for the removal of one's clothes is the high temperature. About this time of year we will begin to see dresses ride up from the knee and blouses thin out and take the plunge "because of the heat". Friend, I've just returned from India where its a lot hotter than it gets in this country and I tell you that Indian women are much more modest with regard to their dress than many of you who will read this bulletin! Note what the Army did:

The Army conducted tests to determine the effect of clothing or the lack of it on the temperature of the human body. In these tests clothed subjects seated in the sun had a heat gain of 120 calories an hour. Those in the nude had a heat gain of 200 calories an hour. To stay cool wear some clothes!

"MINI-SKIRTS"

When a young teacher started wearing mini-skirts in a public school, other teachers asked the high school principal to put a stop to it. They declared she was "behaving in an unprofessional manner, creating excitement and disrupting classroom routine." The young teacher replied, "There is nothing indecent about mini-skirts. They're the latest fashion. Look at any magazine." A consensus of a panel of educators advised: "Down with mini-skirts--that is, down several inches to a point around the kneecap consistent with seemly and modest dress for high school teachers." (School Management, November 1967)

WHO IS AT FAULT? Who is at fault when a sister in Christ wears immodest clothing...even to the assembly of the saints?
(They are, I Tim. 2:9) (2) Their parents (Eph. 6:1-4) (3) Aged women (Titus 2:5) (4) The whole church. (II Thess. 3:6) (5) All Christians (I Thess. 5:14) (6) Elders (I Tim. 3:4-5) and (7) The preacher (II Tim. 4:2)

"For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the spirit. For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ he is none of his....Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the son's of God." (Rom. 8:5-13)