

Introduction

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a. While godly clothing is available, it takes effort to find it.

b. However, much of what the world sells and wears is an abomination to God!

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4. The NT criteria for our clothing is MODEST

- a. *1 Tim 2:9-10: clothing that reflects good behavior, propriety (honorable, respectful), moderation (self-control), externally professing godliness (reverence) and good works*
- b. *1 Peter 3:3-4: adornment of a godly character with an incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quite temperament*
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- c. *While these verses are to women, the principle applies to both genders.*

5. This was largely understood by the world up until relatively a few years ago.

- a. *Modesty was the norm.*
- b. *Public immodesty was generally unheard of!*

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- a. Regarding clothing, the invention of mini-clothes and popularization of the "flaunt it" mindset.*
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- a. Regarding clothing, the invention of mini-clothes and popularization of the "flaunt it" mindset.*
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7. Today, society as degraded to unbelievable lows and to the point it cannot define:

- a. Male and Female*
- b. Right and Wrong*
- b. Modesty and Nakedness!*

*Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No! They were not at all ashamed; Nor did they know how to blush. **Jeremiah 6:15***

A reminder...

***God's Definition
of
Nakedness!***

Introduction

8. Discussion of Nakedness:

- a. Why define Nakedness?*
- b. Review the world's definition*
- c. Review the Bible's definition*
- d. Observations & Applications*

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8. Discussion of Nakedness:

- a. Why define Nakedness?*
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- d. Observations & Applications*

9. This is a tough subject to discuss

- a. Modesty is our standard and is far away from nakedness!*
- b. But, our society makes this topic necessary because their behavior can influence God's people!*
- c. Nakedness is a delicate subject and will be handled carefully.*

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1. **Shameful** *Gen 3:10, Rev. 3:18, 16:15*
2. **Humiliation** *Isa 20:4-5 – Defeated Captives!*
3. **Great Care to AVOID!** *Ex. 28:42, 20:25-26 – Altar offering*
4. **Not willfully done** *Isa 20:4-5, Mt 25:36ff – Captives*
5. **Is Lewdness** *Eze 23:29, Gal 5:19ff*

I. Why define Nakedness?

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B. We must...

1. Know what Nakedness is so we can avoid it!
2. Avoid making anyone stumble *Mt 18:6-7*
3. Teach others! *James 5:19-20*

II. World's Definition of Nakedness

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A. Dictionary...

1. Webster's

- *Not wearing any clothes; not covered by clothing*
- *Not having a usual covering*

2. American Heritage

- *Having no clothing on the body*
- *Having no covering, especially the usual one*

3. American Heritage - 1828

- *Not Covered*
- *Bare, having no clothes on*

4. The Word can mean several things

- devoid of clothing and without "usual" clothing

II. World's Definition of Nakedness

B. World's Usage - Law

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- TN law requires about 20 sq/in of cloth to be compliant!



3. This CANNOT be a RIGHTEOUS Definition! Gen 3:7-10

- TN law requires coverings that are significantly less than Adam's coverings
- Scholars: girdle covering the loins (Aprons, loincloths)
- Adam acknowledged (**Vs 10**) his coverings did not cover his nakedness!

III. Biblical Definition of Nakedness

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A. New Testament Words

1. Essentially one word used

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2. But, nowhere in the NT is the area nakedness specified.

3. This creates a potential PROBLEM....

- *We know Modesty is beyond Nakedness...*
- *BUT, if we do not know what Nakedness is...*
- *Then we have no solid basis for establishing Modesty!*

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4. **NO PROBLEM!** - It is expected the NT reader understands the definition of Nakedness from the OT! **Rom 15:4**

III. Biblical Definition of Nakedness

A. Old Testament Words

1. Old Testament

- *“Naked” or forms of the word used ~66 times, and using ~8 different Hebrews words*
- *Similar Definitions: implying shameful exposure, nakedness of a thing, indecency, improper behavior, exposed, undefended*

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A. Old Testament Words

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- *“Naked” or forms of the word used ~66 times, and using ~8 different Hebrews words*
- *Similar Definitions: implying shameful exposure, nakedness of a thing, indecency, improper behavior, exposed, undefended*

- 2. As we examine the Old Testament passages, we do see specific areas of a person noted as naked!**

III. Biblical Definition of Nakedness

B. Biblical Usage

1. **Naked** can refer to one being devoid of any clothing

Job 1:20-21, Genesis 3:6-10

2. **Naked** can refer to one Wearing too little clothing

Genesis 3:6-10

Totally Devoid of Clothing...

Job 1:20-21

Then Job arose, tore his robe, and shaved his head; and he fell to the ground and worshiped. And he said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked shall I return there."

Too Little Clothing...

Genesis 3:6-10

She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings. ⁸ ⁹ Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰ So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself."

- *They Wore coverings, but they knew they were an insufficient covering!*

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C. Three areas of the Body are Nakedness

- *The Chest*
- *The Buttocks*
- *Thighs*

III. Biblical Definition of Nakedness

1. Chest

- *Ezekiel 16:7-8; 23:18-21* - Allegories about Jerusalem:

The Chest...is nakedness

Ezekiel 16:7-8

*⁶ "And when I passed by you and saw you struggling in your own blood, I said to you in your blood, 'Live!' Yes, I said to you in your blood, 'Live!' ⁷ "I made you thrive like a plant in the field; and you grew, matured, and became very beautiful. **Your breasts were formed, your hair grew, but you were naked and bare.** ⁸*

*"When I passed by you again and looked upon you, indeed your time was the time of love; **so I spread My wing over you and covered your nakedness.** Yes, I swore an oath to you and entered into a covenant with you, and you became Mine," says the Lord GOD.*

III. Biblical Definition of Nakedness

1. Chest

- *Ezekiel 16:7-8; 23:18-21* - Allegories about Jerusalem:

2. Buttocks

- *Isaiah 20:4* - Description of the destruction of Egypt & Ethiopia by the Assyrians

The Buttock...is nakedness

Isaiah 20:4

³ Then the LORD said, "Just as My servant Isaiah has walked naked and barefoot three years for a sign and a wonder against Egypt and Ethiopia, ⁴ "so shall the king of Assyria lead away the Egyptians as prisoners and the Ethiopians as captives, young and old, naked and barefoot, with their buttocks uncovered, to the shame of Egypt.

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2. Buttocks

- *Isaiah 20:4* - Description of the destruction of Egypt & Ethiopia by the Assyrians

3. Thighs

- *Isaiah 47:2* - Allegory of the destruction
- *Exodus 28:42* - The description of the undergarments of the priest

The Thighs...are nakedness

Isaiah 47:2

¹ Come down, and sit in the dust, O virgin daughter of Babylon, sit on the ground: there is no throne, O daughter of the Chaldeans: for thou shalt no more be called tender and delicate.

² Take the millstones, and grind meal: uncover thy locks, make bare the leg, uncover the thigh, pass over the rivers. ³ Thy nakedness shall be uncovered, yea, thy shame shall be seen: I will take vengeance, and I will not meet thee as a man.

Exodus 28:42

"And you shall make for them linen trousers to cover their nakedness; they shall reach from the waist to the thighs."

3 Questions re: Ex 28:42

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- *Trousers cover nakedness* **A=B**
- *Trousers reach from the waist to the thighs* **A=C**
- *Nakedness is from the waist to the thighs.* **B=C**

This is a common logical process

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- *The purpose of the trousers is to cover their nakedness; their purpose is specified. To cover more or less would be unlawful! Therefore, there is no margin built in.*
- *Is it possible the following specifications have margin built in: Baptism, Faith, Repentance, or the Lord's Supper?*

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 - **Job 2:7** – boils from the Sole to head,
 - **Lev 13:12-13** – leprosy head to feet,
 - **Num 6:4** – No grapes eaten seed to the skin,
 - **2 Sam 3:10** – David's kingdom from Dan to Beersheba

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It is a phenomenal blessing to have such a clear standard for us to reference!!

IV. Observations!

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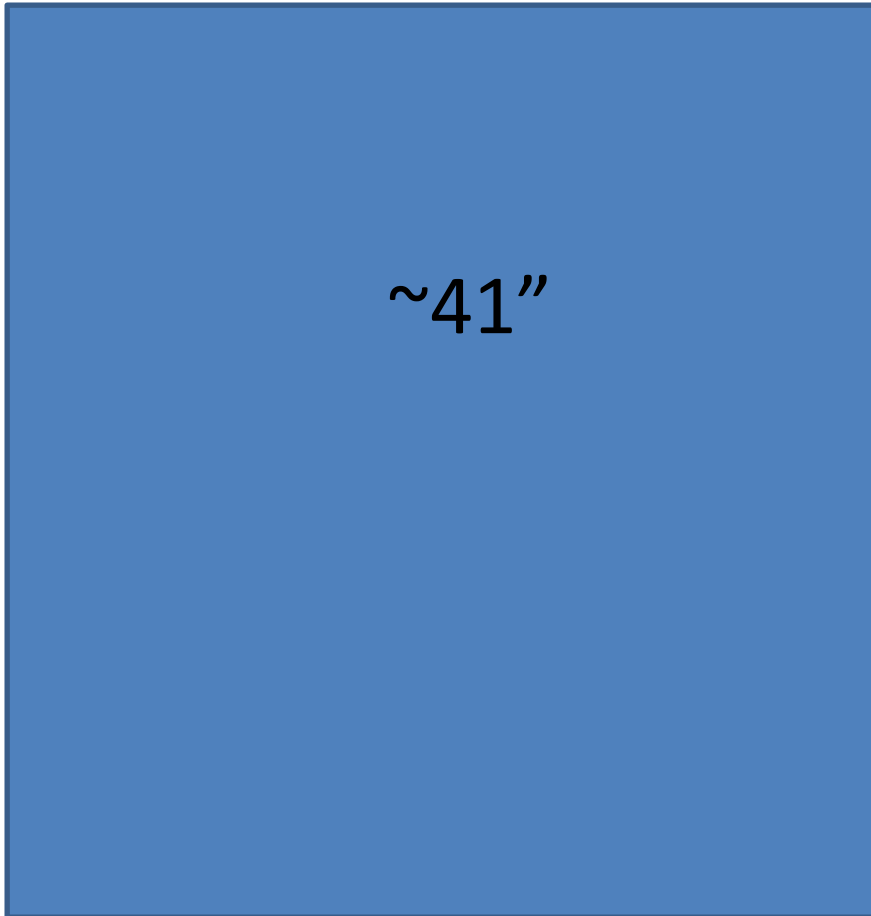
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B. There is a HUGE Difference between God's Definition and Man's Definition of Nakedness

- 1. How different: ~1700 sq/in to ~20 sq/in*
- 2. Man's definition is ~1% of God's Definition!!*

What is Required to Cover Nakedness?

God's Definition (~1700 sq/in)



Man's Definition (~20 sq/in)



~4.5"

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C. There is a HUGE Difference between in attitude between God and Man re. public nakedness!

Attitudes towards public nakedness..

God's View

1. Shameful *Gen 3:10,*
Rev. 3:18, 16:15

2. Humiliation

Isa 20:4-5

3. Great Care to AVOID!

Ex. 28:42, 20:25-26

4. Not willfully done

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Man's View

1. "Good taste is death; vulgarity is life" Mary Quant
2. "*Mini-clothes are symbolic of those girls who want to seduce a man.*" Mary Quant (attributed)
3. "*If you got it, flaunt it*" Mel Brooks
4. "*The women on the beach who the men can't help watch are...the ones ...who want men to watch them and are bold enough to show this in their manner*". Dr. Benjamin Spock

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D. Why we wear what we wear??

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Reason

1. I want to look.....

The Result

Exposed!

IV. Observations!

D. Why we wear what we wear??

Reason

The Result

1. *I want to look.....*
2. *It is what everyone else is wearing...*
3. *It is what is sold in the stores.....*
4. *I have never thought about it....*
5. *This is what my friends are wearing....*
6. *I want to fit in....*
7. *I was never taught about this...*

Exposed!

IV. Observations!

D. Why we wear what we wear??

<u>Reason</u>	<u>The Result</u>
<i>1. I want to look.....</i>	<i>Exposed!</i>
<i>2. It is what everyone else is wearing...</i>	<i>Exposed!</i>
<i>3. It is what is sold in the stores.....</i>	<i>Exposed!</i>
<i>4. I have never thought about it....</i>	<i>Exposed!</i>
<i>5. This is what my friends are wearing....</i>	<i>Exposed!</i>
<i>6. I want to fit in....</i>	<i>Exposed!</i>
<i>7. I was never taught about this...</i>	<i>Exposed!</i>

For an garment revealing nakedness, while the reasons are varied and often innocent, the result is still the same!

IV. Observations!

E. We must watch EVERYTHING we wear so as to not show NAKEDNESS!

- 1. Too Low*
- 2. Too Short*
- 3. Too Sheer*
- 4. Too Tight*

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**WE SHOULD NEVER
SEE
UNDERGARMENTS**

IV. Observations!

F. WATCH THE HEMLINES

- 1. Irrespective of garment or gender – hemlines at the knee are only just covering nakedness!!*
- 2. The standard for Christian clothing...MODESTY*
- 3. Connie Adam, 1997 explains the problem....*

Connie Adams....

I want to say one more thing about Christians and shorts. Brethren often have pot lucks. I'm often hesitant about attending pot lucks in warm weather, because I know before I go that some of my brothers or some of my sisters will show up in attire which, so far as I am concerned, is immodest.

They often come in what's called "walking shorts." Those who wear walking shorts are fairly modest when they are standing up. But there is one thing about these walking shorts. Sooner or later, walkers get tired, and they have to sit down.

Then when they sit down at a picnic table, and they cross their legs, it all the sudden becomes a leg show. I'm calling it what it is. It's a leg show, and brethren didn't used to go to leg shows! Christians used to know the difference between right and wrong on this subject, but somehow, it seems we don't know the difference anymore.

IV. Observations!

F. How far from Sin did folks in the OT get?

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1. *Sin & Uncleanness to be put 'outside the camp'*

Ex 29:14, Lev 4:21, Deut 23:10

Scholars estimate 2,000 cubits (over ½ mile) away

2. *False Teachers....Deut 13:1ff*

DEATH – out of their sight and influence!

3. *Deceitful mouth and perverse lips - Pr 4:24*

Far from you!

IV. Observations!

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Far from you!

4. Remember (*1 Cor 10:11*) those that got close to sin: Adam & Eve, Cain, Lot, Samson, Solomon, and Judas!

IV. Observations!

G. How far from Sins do we get?

- 1. Bad language, topics, or lying tongue?*
- 2. Sexual Immorality?*
- 3. Evil Companions?*

IV. Observations!

G. How far from Sins do we get?

- 1. Bad language, topics, or lying tongue?*
- 2. Sexual Immorality?*
- 3. Evil Companions?*
- 4. Most of use want to get as far away from this as possible from these sins!*
- 5. We should do the same with Nakedness!*

Conclusion

**On average 12 people each year die at the Grand Canyon;
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- *Stay on designated trails and walkways and always keep a safe distance of at least six feet (2 m) from the edge.*
- *In areas where there is a railing or fence, do not climb over the barrier.*
- *Keep an eye on all of the people in your group, especially small children. Make sure that your travel companions have both feet firmly planted on pavement or developed trails at all times.*
- *Know where the edge is. Watch foot placement and look for trip hazards.*
- *Do not run, jump, or perform physical stunts when near the rim.*
- *Do not back up without first looking where you are going*