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Review ***Matthew 22:1-14***

**DISCERNMENT 112** (4-25-17)

Review ***Matthew 22:1-14***

**DISCERNMENT 113** (4-27-17)

The Bible teaches us to be discerning in the clothes we wear. Women should dress like women and men should dress like men.

***Deuteronomy 22:5 "A woman shall not wear man's clothing, nor shall a man put on a woman's clothing; for whoever does these things is an abomination to the LORD your God.***

Our culture has degenerated to the point to where there is a concerted effort on the part of many people to pretend that there is no difference between males and females. It can be easily seen in the fashion of women’s clothes.

The clothing magazines have very masculine clothing lines. The bows, lace, and feminine touches have pretty much disappeared in everyday apparel along with bracelets, broaches, scarfs, and necklaces. You might see them on older women or at special celebrations.

But there was a time when it was a bit unusual to see a woman wearing pants. Today, it is unusual to see a woman wearing a dress. Instead, you find many males wearing earrings and necklaces.

Females have to be more careful about the clothes they wear in order not to attract unrighteous thoughts or attention from males. Parents have to be very discerning about the clothes their daughters wear who don’t realize how dangerous it can be to wear clothes that are too revealing.

***Celebrity Biblical Womanhood: Caution! Your Clothes are Talking***

*Nancy Leigh DeMoss*

*If I tell you that there’s a woman coming down this church aisle in a long, white, formal dress, what would you say is probably the occasion? It’s a wedding; she’s a bride. How did you know? Because clothing communicates.*

*If I tell you there’s a teenager bundled up in a snowsuit, mittens, a wool hat and a scarf would you agree with me that the teenager is probably not on his way to a picnic?*

*Clothing and appearance send a message. They can communicate our occupation or an occasion we’re marking.*

*Clothing can communicate something about our socio-economic status. You can look at some people and think, “She looks like a wealthy woman.” Or you might look at another woman and—purely on the basis of her clothing.”*

*Clothing also communicates a message about our values, our character, our attitudes. For example, you can look at the dress of some and tell that neatness is not a concern to them.*

*Scripture also indicates that clothing can send a message about our morals or the lack thereof. For example, in Proverbs 7:10 we read of the adulteress that she was “dressed as a harlot” (NASB). The woman is dressed in such a way that you can look at her and see that her motives are not pure toward this man.*

*It is just as true today that women are sending a message with their clothing. Many of them know exactly what message they’re sending. Perhaps some others are naïve, having become so influenced by this culture that they don’t know any other way to think about clothing.*

*Kim Alexis was a super-model in the eighties. Her picture was on over 500 magazines covers including Vogue and the Sports Illustrated swimsuit edition.*

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*She’s had a change of heart about many things, and today she realizes that she made a lot of mistakes. Now she’s challenging women to think about the message they are sending when they dress sensually. Here’s what she has to say, “Many women are playing with fire in the way they dress. Dressing like a floozy tells the world, ‘Look at me, want me, lust after me. I’m easy and you can have me.’ Displaying intimate parts of the body,” she says, “is a form of advertising for sex.” As women, clothing and appearance are some of the most powerful and important means we have of sending a message about our hearts and our values.*

*So here’s the question. What do your clothes and your appearance communicate about you? What message are you sending? Are you thinking one thing in your heart, but sending a message that you don’t intend or ought not to send with your outward appearance?”*

*I find, today, that there are a lot of women who are totally oblivious of the message that they are sending with their body and with their clothing. Their clothing is communicating something far different than what’s in their hearts.*

*That’s why we have to go back to the Word of God and ask, “What is God’s way of thinking about all this? What message should we be sending? And how can we send that message with our clothing and with our outer appearance?”*

*“Celebrity Biblical Womanhood: Caution! Your ,” Journal for Biblical Manhood and Womanhood 8, no. 2 (2003): 68–69.*

***1 Timothy 2:9-10 Likewise, I want women to adorn themselves with proper clothing, modestly and discreetly, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly garments; 10) but rather by means of good works, as befits women making a claim to godliness.***

There is a type of clothing for women that is more important, beautiful, and feminine than the most expensive clothes that are made of the most costly of materials.

***Proverbs 31:25 Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she smiles at the future.***

Clothing is an important part of our lives but we need to be alert to keep them in their proper perspective.

***Matthew 6:25 For this reason I say to you, do not be anxious for your life, as to what you shall eat, or what you shall drink; nor for your body, as to what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body than clothing?***

**DISCERNMENT 114** (5-2-17)

The Lord’s clothes described:

***Psalm 93:1 The LORD reigns. He is clothed with majesty. The LORD has clothed and girded Himself with strength…***

***Psalm 104:1-2 Bless*** [Praise] ***the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, Thou art very great; Thou art clothed with splendor and majesty, 2) covering Thyself with light as with a cloak*** [You have to look away, He is so brightly outshining everyone]***, stretching out heaven like a tent curtain.***

When He returns at the 2nd Advent:

***Revelation 19:13-16 And He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood; and His name is called “The Word of God”. 14) And the armies which are in heaven,*** [who are winner believers] ***clothed in fine linen, white and clean*** [righteous acts]***, were following Him on white horses. 15) And from His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may smite the nations*** [all He has to do is to speak]***; and He will rule them*** [who hate Him, Truth, +Righteousness and Grace] ***with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty.*** [What a fitting description, and He is going to do this all by Himself.] ***16) And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."***

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***Isaiah 63:1-3 Who is this who comes from Edom with garments of glowing colors from Bozrah*** [Petra area]***, this One who is majestic in His apparel, marching in the greatness of His strength?*** [slaughtering God’s enemies all the way on the road North up to Jerusalem] ***"It is I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save." 2) Why is Your apparel red, and Your garments like the one who treads in the wine press? 3) "I have trodden the wine trough alone, and from the peoples there was no man with Me. I also trod them in My anger, and trampled them in My wrath; and their lifeblood is sprinkled on My garments, and I stained all My raiment.”***

***Isaiah 59:17 And He put on righteousness like a breast- plate, and a helmet of salvation on His head; and He put on garments of vengeance for clothing, and wrapped Himself with zeal as a mantle.***

***Isaiah 11:5 Also righteousness will be the belt about His loins, and faithfulness the belt about His waist.***

CLOTHING OF THE BELIEVER DESCRIBED:

***Isaiah 61:10 I will rejoice greatly in the LORD; my soul will exult in my God; for He has clothed me with garments of salvation, He has wrapped me with a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.***

***Psalm 30:11 Thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing; Thou hast loosed my sackcloth and girded me with gladness;***

***Psalm 18:39 For Thou hast girded me with strength for battle; Thou hast subdued under me those who rose up against me.***

***1 Peter 5:5 You younger men, likewise, be subject to your elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves*** [v. amm] ***with humility toward one another, for God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble.***

**GALATIANS 3:24-27 *Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, that we may be justified by faith.***

***Tutor,*** PAIDAGOGOS **παιδαγωγός**

*The pedagogue here was not a “schoolmaster” (KJV) but a slave to whom a son was committed from age six or seven to puberty. These slaves were severe disciplinarians and were charged with guarding the children from the evils of society and giving them moral training. This was like the Law’s function until Christ came and people could be justified by faith in Him. It was the disciplinarian until Christ came. Thus, the reign of Law has ended for faith in Christ has delivered believers from the protective custody of the prison and the harsh discipline of the pedagogue.*

*The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 600.*

*The Law cannot save; it can only condemn. It was not given to save sinners but to let them know that they were sinners. The Law does not remove sin; it reveals sin.*

*J. Vernon McGee, Thru the Bible Commentary, (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1997), 172.*

***Galatians 3:25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.***

Now that Christ had come, the Galatian believers were adult sons through faith and were no longer under a Jewish slave-guardian. Why should they seek to revert to their inferior status by putting themselves back under the Law*?*

***Galatians 3:26-27 For you are all sons*** [*υἱός* adult sons] ***of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27) For all of you who were baptized*** [v. api] ***into Christ have clothed*** [**ἐνδύω**v. ami] ***yourselves with Christ.***

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*In the Roman society when a youth came of age he was given a special toga which admitted him to the full rights of the family and state and indicated he was a grown-up son. So the Galatian believers had laid aside the old garments of the Law and had put on Christ’s robe of righteousness which grants full acceptance before God.*

*ibid*

***Romans 6:3 Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized*** [v. api] ***into Christ Jesus have been baptized*** [v. api] ***into His death?***

***1 Corinthians 12:13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized*** [v. api] ***into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made*** [v. api] ***to drink of one Spirit.***

**DISCERNMENT 115** (5-4-17)

Since we are not under the Mosaic Law, can we do anything we like? No way! We are actually under a much higher law requiring that we utilize our spiritual assets:

***Romans 8:1-4 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. 2) For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. 3) For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God did: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He con-demned sin in the flesh, 4) in order that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.***

*Christ bore the curse of the law, and redeemed the believer both from the curse and from the dominion of the law.*

*The Scofield Reference Bible: p. 1245.*

We fulfill the Law not by obeying the letter of the Law, but by walking according to the Spirit, making sure that what we think, do, and say is done in fellowship, having acknowledged our sins, and thereby being under the influence of the Holy Spirit rather than the Old Sin Nature (OSN).

**DISCERNMENT 116** (5-9-17)

***Romans 13:13-14 Let us behave*** [v. aas] ***properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy. 14) But put on*** [**ἐνδύω** v. amm] ***the Lord Jesus Christ, and make*** [v. pmm] ***no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts.***

How do we obey the command to ***put on the Lord Jesus Christ*?**

We live according to ***the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus.******Rom. 8:2****.* by walking in the Spirit. This means that we grow in grace and knowledge by consistently, daily, acknowledging our personal sins to God the Father, learning Bible Doctrine, & then applying BD to our circumstances

***Ephesians 4:22-24 …in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside*** [inf. am, through confession of sins] ***the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, 23) and that you be renewed*** [inf. pp] ***in the spirit of your mind*** [Rom. 12:2]***, 24) and put on the*** [inf. am] ***new self*** [powered by the Holy Spirit]***, which in the likeness of God has been created*** [part. ap] ***in righteousness and holiness of the truth.***

***Ephesians 6:10-17 Finally, be strong*** (v. ppm) ***in the Lord, and in the strength of His might. 11) Put on*** (v. amm) ***the full armor of God*** [filling of the Holy Spirit who helps us to recall BD for application]***, that you may be able to stand firm*** [inf. aa, in His power] ***against the schemes of the devil… 13) Therefore, take up*** (v. aam) ***the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm*** [staying in fellowship with God by frequent examination of oneself and acknowledgment of any recent sin, 1 Jn.1:9, 1 Cor.11:31]***. 14) Stand firm*** (v. aam) ***therefore, having girded*** [part. am] ***your loins with truth, and having put on*** [part. am] ***the breastplate of righteousness*** [Filling/H.S.]***,***

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***15) and having shod*** [part. am] ***your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace*** [alert and ready wherever you are to ask questions and give it]***; 16) in addition to all, taking up*** [part. aa] ***the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming missiles of the evil one. 17) And take*** (v. amm) ***the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.***

CLOTHING OF THE WICKED DESCRIBED:

Notice how the following verses use the clothes metaphor where it is the person himself that is responsible for the harm and negative things that comes upon him. We may try to blame other people or circumstances for our MAS and unhappiness, but we have no one to blame but ourselves.

***Psalm 109:16-20 Because he did not remember to show lovingkindness, but persecuted the afflicted and needy man, and the despondent in heart, to put them to death. 17) He also loved cursing, so it came to him; and he did not delight in blessing, so it was far from him. 18) But he clothed himself with cursing as with his garment, and it entered into his body like water, and like oil into his bones. 19) Let it be to him as a garment with which he covers himself, and for a belt with which he constantly girds himself. 20) Let this be the reward of my accusers from the LORD, and of those who speak evil against my soul.***

***Psalm 109:29 Let my accusers be clothed with dishonor, and let them cover themselves with their own shame as with a robe.***

***Psalm 73:6 Therefore pride is their necklace; the garment of violence covers them.***