

THE DRESS CODE

Your appearance matters. As sons and daughters of the kingdom of heaven, our appearance is most important as a sign of sanctification. It represents the wedding garment required by God to be saved, (Matt 22:1-14). In all the world men use clothes and accessories to identify who and what they are, their occupation, as well as their social rank. For example a king wears a crown, and a UPS driver wears a brown uniform. God clothed Adam and Eve with the skins of animals after the sin in the garden. They realized that it was a shame to be naked. It is still a shame to be naked.

In these evil days men constantly push the threshold of what is shameful and have come to accept indecent dress as the norm. God does not change, and neither must his church. Clothing must be modest for men, women and children, covering their nakedness. Nakedness is defined as the area starting from above the cleavage to the knees. Men must not wear women's clothing. It shows defiance against his creator and gender. It is an abomination, a sign of weakness and sodomy. A woman must not dress as a man (**Deuteronomy 22:5**). Clothing should identify a person's gender. On common days women and girls can wear pants as long as they are modest, covering the areas of nakedness, not being too tight and revealing. Our hair and our jewelry also identify us. When a man wears his hair long, or in braids, or dreadlocks, it dishonors his head. Man was created in the image of God. Effeminate clothing, hairstyles or jewelry dishonors the man and dishonors God. A man should not shave his head bald for fashion or

make cuttings in his hair. Men must not wear earrings or body piercings which is a sign of sodomy. Tattoos are forbidden, (Leviticus 21:5-6). Women may wear earrings and jewelry, but body piercings are not acceptable. A woman must not shave her head bald. Her hair is her glory, (I Corinthians 11:14-15). The ancient Egyptians used to shave their heads, and the heathen made tattoos and skin cuttings. Heathen men wore earrings. They were rampant sodomites, doing all manner of shameful things in the worship of their gods. Today these customs are accepted.

The Lord warns us against the ways of the heathen. There are common days and common ways of dress that is modest and decent. When we come before God on the holy days we must show greater reverence and honor to God by dressing in a way that acknowledges that we are in his presence on his holy day. We must wear our wedding garments. The clothes that we wear on holy days are different from our everyday attire. We have a dress code for the worship of God on the Sabbath. Women and girls 12 and older must wear dresses and skirts below the knees without splits revealing the areas of nakedness which is the thigh, and must have their heads covered in services. The covering of the head gives her power to come before God. It is a shame for a woman to pray with her head uncovered. Sleeveless shirts, tops or dresses may be worn commonly, but not in the services of God.

Today, as saints of God, let us ride the high places of Jacob our father, who set forth standards of righteousness and sanctification separating us from heathen practices. Isaiah 58:13-14. Therefore all children of God should be dressed righteously and in our best apparel when coming before God to honor and worship before him, (I Corinthians 11:3-15, Exodus 19:10-18).