

## CLOTHING

The money and time spent on fashion and clothing in our society is amazing! Of course, clothing and raiment are important needs for man's physical welfare, and, thus, we should expect a certain amount of attention given to it. Clothing is one of the necessities of life about which faithful Christians have no reason to worry—God will provide (Mt. 6:25-30).

Thus, it should come as no surprise to us that God provided clothing for the first couple. Following the creation of Adam and Eve, before sin ever entered the picture, Moses records, *“And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed”* (Gen. 2:25). Consider the statement, *“and were not ashamed.”* They were purely spiritual in mind; in a state of innocence. Sin had not occurred. But when it entered the picture in chapter three, things changed: *“And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons”* (Gen. 3:7). Adam and Eve lost their innocence which knows nothing of nakedness, just as a child before they reach the age of awareness. The discovery of their nakedness brought on shame, which they sought to conceal by an outward covering. As a result, they sewed fig leaves together and made aprons. The word *apron* refers to that which girds about the loins. Verses eight through eleven reveal they were shamed to such an extent that they hid themselves from God. Were these fig leaves sufficient for a covering? Not exactly! In verse 10, Adam stated to God, *“I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.”* After, they had made them aprons of fig leaves, they hid themselves because they still thought they were naked. Then notice verse 21 of chapter three: *“Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.”* Their attire of fig leaves was evidently an inadequate covering for them. God saw that men and women needed more than a piece of cloth around the hips for a covering. They had covered the loin area, but they were still naked. God, then, covered them more fully.

In verse twenty-one of chapter three, inspiration indicated that the upper body is to be covered. Women must be extremely cautious in this. It is an established fact that the upper torso of a woman is a particularly stirring attraction to a man. Women who wear low-cut, see through, or tight blouses are indecent and contribute to the lust of the men who covet them. Likewise, men who are proud of their physique and parade around without a shirt need to be clothed. Recall that God also made a covering for Adam's upper body (Gen. 3:21).

Our society needs this teaching today. The immodesty of our pleasure-loving nation is shameful. One cannot even go to a restaurant without having to be subjected to the nakedness of some. But what is of greater concern is the dress of some members of the Lord's church, not only out among those of the world but in our Bible classes and worship. Simple godly purity dictates these people reexamine their dress (or should I say, “lack of”?). The second and third chapters of Genesis provide significant information on the topic of nakedness and dress. God has not left us without a standard (2 Pet. 1:3)!

We wish to make another point on the subject of clothing. Just as God has provided for the proper attire of man's physical body that we might live pure and godly, He has also provided the proper clothing for man's sin-tainted soul. Paul explained, *“For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ”* (Gal. 3:27). Just as one is clothed with a garment, one clothes himself with Christ in baptism. Obviously, to *“put on Christ”* is synonymous with being saved. This spiritual idea of being clothed with salvation is not exclusively a New Testament theme. In Isaiah 61:10, inspiration states, *“I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.”* The one clothed with salvation goes through a transformation and refuses to conform to the way of the world (Rom. 12:1-2). Attitudes and values change. The inner person is emphasized. Peter has this in mind when he says, *“Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of*

*putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price”* (1 Pet. 3:3-4). The person described here gives strict attention to both her physical and spiritual dress, making sure the inner person is pure and holy but at the same time portraying a pure and holy outer image. Let us resolve to dress in a manner well-pleasing to our holy God, especially when we have put on the clothing of salvation by being baptized into Christ (Gal. 3:27).

**Tracy Dugger from *Eastside Edifier***

*This is your invitation to our Spring*

# GOSPEL MEETING

**April 29 – May 3, 2007**

*with*

**Larry Yarber**

*Evangelist and OABS Instructor of  
Mountain Grove, Missouri*

**Sunday: 9:30 & 10:30 AM; 6:00 PM**

**Monday – Thursday: 7:00 PM**

**Wednesday Ladies Class: 10:00 AM**

## **ILL**

**Sunday:** Janice and Jessica Carter (PM), Gary Cole (PM), Millie Robertson (PM). **Wednesday:** Gary Cole. Wanda Wilson's sister, Velma Cotter, had surgery for cancer last week and will have additional tests. Carol Tigner is in Room 207 at Meadowbrook rehabilitation hospital in Gardner.

**Those battling cancer:** Jamal Abyad, Diane Cannon, David Cole, and Ledgia Campbell. Please remember these in your prayers, as well as: Janice Carter, Millie Robertson, Allen Scott, and Ralph and Helen Franklin.

## **HOME BOUND**

Bob Adams resides at Room D-4 of the Johnson County Nursing Center in Olathe. Marion Stone is at home. Please remember these in your prayers and visitation.

## **OUT OF TOWN**

Chris Edwards was in Argentina visiting his sister and friends. Debra Gragg was in Wichita visiting relatives. Wilba Hopkins was in Iola visiting relatives Sunday AM.

## **BAPTISM**

Tim Dillingham was baptized into Christ on April 8, 2007. We are thankful for his decision and pray for him a long and useful life of service in Christ. His contact info will be published in our new directory.

## **PHOTO DIRECTORY**

Steve Brown will be producing a directory with pictures of each family. He will start taking photos on May 6. All are encouraged to come prepared for your family picture.

## **AREA EVENTS**

There are several area seminars and meetings taking place over the next few weeks. Check the bulletin board for dates and details.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Sunday AM, 58; Sunday PM, 37; Wednesday PM, 37.

## **Those To Serve**

April 15, 2007

**BUILDING AND COMMUNION..... Nelson**

### **MORNING WORSHIP**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS..... George Thomas**  
**SONG LEADER..... Joel Nelson**  
**OPENING PRAYER ..... John Cody Carter**  
**PRESIDE..... John Dodson**  
**ASSIST.....John James**  
**ASSIST.....Allen Scott**  
**CLOSING PRAYER.....Jeremy Keifer**

### **EVENING WORSHIP**

**OPENING PRAYER .....Jared Nelson**  
**CLOSING PRAYER..... Jeff Nemechek**  
**LORD'S SUPPER..... John Dodson**

### **WEDNESDAY 18th**

**SONG LEADER..... George Thomas**  
**INVITATION ..... Jeff Nemechek**

## **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

### **Sunday**

Bible Study ..... 9:30 AM  
Morning Worship ..... 10:30 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM

### **Wednesday**

Ladies Bible Study ..... 10:00 AM  
Bible Study ..... 7:00 PM

**Preacher: Ted J. Thrasher**

**Phone: (913) 764-2325**

**E-mail: olathecoc@sbcglobal.net**

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**515 WEST PARK**

**P.O. BOX 482**

**OLATHE, KANSAS 66051**

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