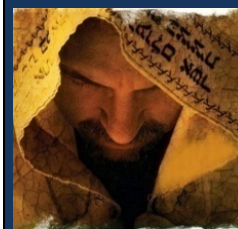


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To the Torah & the Testimony
If anyone does not speak according to these words
It is because they have no light in them.
Yesh'yahu (Isaiah) 8:20; Revelation 12:17; 14:12



Torah Thought of the Month

Studies of Eden Series

No. 6, Apr. 2017



“Naked Church, Naked Nation”

B'reshet (Genesis) 3:7,8



In **Genesis 3:7** after Adam and Havah (Eve) ate the forbidden fruit it says, “And 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...and Adam and his wife hid themselves among the trees of the garden from the presence of Yehovah Elohim.

In this scenario we see Adam and Havah (Eve) who began as sinless individuals, suddenly experiencing shame and embarrassment after realizing a consequence of their disobedience to God. The realization that their act of disobedience and distrust of God's instruction to them had left them vulnerable, separated from intimacy with God, and embarrassed.

This sense of vulnerability was further enhanced by the fact that they were not just now spiritually naked before God, but physically naked as well.

Their shame and sense of embarrassment was so great they felt compelled to sew fig leaves together to hide their sex organs. This would have looked something like leafy boxer shorts or swim trunks on Adam, and a leafy bikini for Havah (Eve). After perfecting their remedy they probably felt a sense of relief – not feeling so "naked" anymore. But then into the Garden comes God, and suddenly they recognize how inadequate their leafy attire was. In fact, it was so inadequate that they felt compelled to hide behind some trees in the Garden from His presence.

The Eternal One saw their nakedness despite their attempts at covering up their privates, and hiding behind bushes. But He had a solution, and that solution was to slay an animal and provide a tunic made out of the skin of the slaughtered animal to cover them. Thus the first blood shed for our atonement was to cover our nakedness before Him. So what is a tunic? It is essentially a dress extending from the shoulders down to somewhere around the ankles – and it is non-form fitting.

And it is interesting that throughout history, and throughout all eastern cultures, this has been considered the norm for modest attire, and those who wore less than this, or wore form fitting clothing were considered immoral. This includes the church which has its origins in eastern culture, which in turn has

its roots in the Garden of Eden.

And it used to be that the western church, in particular the American church, which was the largest evangelical and missionary exporting nation in the history of the world, continued to dress in this traditionally biblically modest attire. But now as we have abandoned the Gospel as a nation and adopted atheism, humanism, abortion, and evolution in its place, we have now, in the place of the Gospel and missionary work, become the largest exporter of pornography and have infested the nations of the world, including eastern cultures, with our famous form fitting attire of blue jeans and T-shirts.

We went from a God fearing modestly attired nation, to a Godless nakedly attired nation. The only difference between America today and the Garden of Eden is that Adam and Havah (Eve) actually felt embarrassment and shame concerning their nakedness. When God came into their presence they knew that their clothing was inadequate to cover their nakedness; but in America today, not even believers are ashamed. Is it because God is no longer in our presence?

If you talk to an immoral person and ask them why they wear form fitting clothing they will gladly tell you because by revealing the shape of their body and bulge of their genitals to others through their clothing it makes them look and feel more sexy. But if you ask a believer why they wear form fitting clothing, even the same kind of form fitting clothing as the immoral person, they will say something to the effect of "what's wrong with blue jeans?", or "At least I'm not naked", or "because it's comfortable", etc...

Believers in America will even go to church dressed in modest attire instinctively knowing that when in God's presence we should dress more carefully, but then turn around the next day and go to the beach with the men bare chested and in shorts, and the women in bikini's or other revealing swim wear. And if you live in California or Florida, believers will even show up at services in their shorts and flip flops – not even in tune with their instincts anymore.

Where is the sense of shame concerning our nakedness? Is it possible to truly know God, and not be embarrassed about our revealing clothing?

It is interesting that in addition to exporting our shameful attire to the nations, that we are also the wealthiest nation in the history of the world. Is it possible that the American church has taken on the characteristics of the Laodicean church of **Revelation 3**? Because what Yeshua says to the Laodiceans appears to describe us here in America perfectly. **Revelation 3:14-19** reads as follows:

And to the Angel of the Assembly of the Laodiceans write, These things says the Amein, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I desire that you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of my mouth."

"Because you say, '***I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing' and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked.***"

"I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, so that you may be clothed, **so that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed**; and anoint your eyes with salve, so that you may see."

"As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent..."

Is our blindness to our nakedness the evidence that we are not as close to God as we think we are – not as close to God as past generations were? If it is not evidence, then why is there no conviction, and why instead do we defend our nakedness by "hiding" behind various excuses and justifications?

And why do the men complain about the women becoming more immodest with every succeeding

generation when they themselves dress in form fitting attire and walk around bare chested themselves?

Do we not understand that when women argue in favor of more liberal attire, they do so knowing that in our own nakedness we can only argue back to them from a position of hypocrisy? If men would dress modestly themselves, then women would have no basis for their arguments against modest attire.

May we repent of our pornographic society and its naked attire so that we may come into God's presence, and He into ours, once again in a truly intimate and holy way. May we stop dressing like the immoral people of the world, and like the atheists, humanists, abortionists, secularists, and evolutionists of the world, and start dressing once again, like children of God, like children of the Most High King, like children of His most Holy, Pure, and Majestic presence.

May we once again dress in a way to when people of the world see us from the distance, they will not mistake us as one of their own, but instead see immediately that we represent a better way. To see and know instantly, that we represent sexual purity, honesty, and uprightness of character.

For "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. To him who overcomes, I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."; **Revelation 3:20-22**.

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