

DRESS AND DEPARTMENT

What qualities does the Bible teach our clothes should represent?

- The Bible teaches **modesty in dress**. ‘In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel.’ 1 Timothy 2:9. **This forbids display in dress, gaudy colours, profuse ornamentation**. Any device designed to **attract attention or excite admiration** is excluded from the modest apparel which God enjoins.” CT 302.1
- Our dress is to be **inexpensive-not with** “gold, or pearls, or costly array.’ Money is a trust from God. It is not ours to expend for the gratification of pride or ambition.” CT 302.2

Continued...

–But our clothing while modest and simple, should be of **good quality**, of **becoming colours**, and **suited for service**. It should be chosen for **durability** rather than display. It should **provide warmth and proper protection.**" CT 302.4

Continued...

- In all respects the dress should be **healthful**. 'Above all things,' God desires us to 'be in health.' (3 John 2)- health of body and of soul....both are promoted by healthful dress. It should have the grace, the beauty, the appropriateness, of natural simplicity. CT 303.2

What factors should be considered while choosing our clothes?

- “In order to secure the most healthful clothing, the needs of every part of the body must be carefully studied. The character of the ..
- **Climate**
- The **occupation**, must all be considered.
- The **surroundings**

continued...

- The condition of the **health**
- The **age** and
- Every article of dress should **fit easily**, obstructing neither the circulation of the blood nor a free, full, natural respiration." CT 306.2

Should Christians wear ornaments and plait their hair?

- “Whose adorning, let it **not** be that outward of the hair, and **of wearing gold**, or of putting on apparel, but let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quite spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.” MY 354.1

continued...

–“The mass of professed Christians utterly disregard the teachings of the apostles, and wear gold, pearls, and costly array.” 1T 460.1

Should we then be forlorn?

- ‘A modest, godly woman will dress modestly. A refined taste, a cultivated mind, will be revealed in the choice of a simple, appropriate attire. The young women who break away from the slavery of fashion will be ornaments to society.’ MYP353.2
- “Their clothing will be neat, not gaudy, modest, and arranged upon the person with order and taste.” MYP 349.2
- “Our dress should be cleanly. Uncleanliness in dress is unhealthful, and thus defiling to the body and to the soul. ‘ye are the temple of God... if any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy. 1 Cor. 3:16, 17. MYP 352.1
- By the way how long do those that plait take before they wash their heads again? Aint it a filthy habit! **Isaiah 4:4.**

continued...

- “Think you if our saviour was upon earth, he would point to them as being the salt of the earth, and the light of the world? No, never. Christians are elevated in their conversation, and although they believe it to be a sin to condescend to foolish flattery, they are courteous, kind, and benevolent... In their dress they avoid superfluity and display; **but their clothing will be neat, not gaudy, modest, and arranged upon the person with order and taste.** MYP 349.

Are there some preferred colours for our clothings?

- “But our clothing, while modest and simple, should be of good quality, of **becoming colours**, and suited for service.” CT 302.4
- “Still their collection of **plain colours**, and the modest and neat arrangement of their clothing, is worthy of imitation by Christians.” 2SM 473.2

Should we dress in opposite gender's clothes?

- “There is an increasing tendency to have women in their dress and appearance as near like the other sex as possible, and to fashion their dress very much like that of men, but God pronounces it abomination...those who feel called out to join the movement in favor of woman’s right and the so-called dress reform might as well sever all connection with the third angel’s message. The spirit that attends one cannot be in harmony with the other. The scriptures are plain upon the relations and rights of men and women.” 1 T457.3

continued...

- “there is still another style of dress which is adopted by a class of so called dress reformers. They imitate the opposite sex as nearly as possible. They wear the **cap, pants, vest, coat, and boots**, the last of which is the most sensible part of the costume.” 1 T459.7
- “It is not modest apparel, and **is not at all fitting for modest, humble women who profess to be Christ's followers**. God’s prohibitions are lightly regarded by all who advocate doing away with the distinction dress between males and females.” 1T 460.1

Could women have something to cover their limbs as the men's are?

- There is but one woman in a thousand who clothes her limbs as she should. Whatever may be the length of the dress, **their limbs should be clothed as thoroughly as the men's...this may be done by wearing linen pants, gathered into a band and fastened about the ankle, or made full and tapering at the bottom; and these should come down long enough to meet the shoe. The limbs and the ankles thus clothed are protected...**

continued...

- If the feet and the limbs are kept comfortable with warm clothing, the circulation will be equalized, and the blood will remain pure and healthy because it is not chilled or hindered in its natural passage through the system.”

2SM 473.1

Continued...

- “women should clothe their limbs with regard to health and comfort. **Their feet and limbs need to be clad as warmly as men’s.** “ 1 T459.1
- Next are the pictures and how they are to be worn. Be keen.

These are the trousers suggested.



–The dress was later rejected by the Lord because the skirt grew shorter and shorter.

It was replaced with the less objectionable dress which consisted of a skirt that covered the whole length of the trouser.



Mark the following well!

The difference between men and women must be obviously seen from as far as the human eye can possibly see. Just as they are different in morphology, they must be dressed differently. Modest skirts cover the feminine body more modestly than any modest trouser ever can.

Should our clothes sweep the ground?

- One of fashion's **wasteful and mischievous** devices is the skirt that sweeps the ground.. **Uncleanly, uncomfortable, inconvenient, unhealthful**—all this and more is true of the trailing skirt. It is extravagant, both because of the superfluous material required and because of the needless wear on account of its length.” CT 304.2

Are tight fitting clothes advisable?

- “ of late years the dangers resulting from compression of the waist have been so fully discussed that few can be ignorant in regard to them; yet so great is the power of fashion that the evil continues. **By this practice, women and young girls are doing themselves untold harm.**” CT305.1
- “The form **should not be compressed in the least** with corsets and whalebones. The dress should be perfectly easy that the lungs and the heart may have healthy action.” 2SM473.1
- ‘There are many errors in the present style of female dress. It is injurious to health, and, therefore, **a sin for females to wear tight corsets, or whalebones, or to compress the waist.** These have a depressing influence upon the heart, liver, and lungs. the health of the entire system depends upon the healthy action of the respiratory organs.” 2SM473.1

Which length is modest?

- “If women wear their dresses as to clear the filth of the streets an inch or two, their dresses would be modest, and they would be clean much more easily, and would wear longer.” 1T458.4
- “Were they to exchange the extreme long dress for the extreme short one.” (the American costume). 1T460.2

What constituted the American costume?

- “They imitate the opposite sex as nearly as possible. They wear the cap, pants, vest, coat, and boots, the last of which is the most sensible part of the costume.” 1T459.7
- ***“We do not think it in accordance with our faith to dress in the American costume, to wear hoops, or to go an extreme in wearing long dresses which sweep the sidewalks and streets.”***
1T458.4

American Costume & Bloomer Costume

- Advocated by the feminists of the day, masculine trousers, boots and jacket with very short skirt
- True it certainly was better for health-- but God said it was an abomination, too much like a man. It was also worn by the spiritualist movement. Even then, Satan was mixing health & Spiritism!



Key points to note are the following.

- The trousers are masculine.
- The skirts are short just flying about the knees
- They are spiritualistic.
- Not fit at all for those who profess the fear of the Living God.
- Imagine Holy Angels dressing like that!
- Women cannot wear trousers alone and still be accepted of the Lord as dressed modestly and different from the men. But how do they dress today, even professed Christians?

How should we dress for church worship?

- “Especial care should be taken to dress in a manner that will show a sacred regard for the holy Sabbath and the worship of God.” MYP 349.2
- “All who meet upon the Sabbath to worship God should, if possible, have a neat, well fitting, comely suit to wear in the house of worship. It is a dishonour to the Sabbath, and to God and His house, for those who profess that the Sabbath is holy of the Lord, and honourable, to wear the same clothing upon the Sabbath that they have worn through the week while labouring upon their farms, when they can obtain other.” 2SM474.2

Continued...

- They assemble in His house, which is as the audience chamber of the Most High, where heavenly angels are in attendance, with **but little respect, or reverence, as their clothing indicate.**” 2 SM475.1
- **“Better if they had ever remained outside the ranks of God’s loyal people. The house of God is dishonoured by such professors.”** 2SM 474.2

Continued...

- “They assemble with God’s people upon the Sabbath, with their clothing dusty, and soiled, and even with gaping rents in them, and placed upon their person in a slovenly manner
- This class, if they had an engagement to meet a friend honoured by the world,... would exert themselves to appear in his presence with the best apparel that could be obtained;

–for his friend would feel insulted were they to come into his presence with hair uncombed, and garments uncleanly, and in disorder. Yet these persons think that it is no matter in what dress they appear, or in what condition of their persons, when they meet upon the Sabbath to worship God.” CG 428

What is the daily practice of those that disregard these instructions?

- “Demoralizing extravagance prevails everywhere, and souls are going to ruin because of their love of dress and display. The life of nine tenths of those who are devotees of fashion is a living lie. Deception, fraud, is their daily practice; for they wish to appear that which they are not.” MYP 359.1

How do women often tempt men?

- “Women are too often tempters. On one pretense or another they engage the attention of men, married or unmarried, and lead them on till they transgress the law of God, till their usefulness is ruined, and their souls are in jeopardy.” LYL 74.5
- “If women would only elevate their lives and become workers with Christ, there would be less danger through their influence; but with their present feelings of unconcern in regard to home responsibilities and in regard to the claims that God has upon them, their influence is often strong in the wrong direction, their powers are dwarfed, and their work does not bear the divine impress.”{ {AH 333.1}

Continued...

- The women in this age, both married and unmarried, too frequently do not maintain the reserve that is necessary. They encourage the attentions of single and married men, and those who are weak in moral power will be ensnared. Thoughts are awakened that would not have been if woman had kept her place in all modesty and sobriety. {LYL 74.3}

Woe unto tempters!

- By being circumspect, reserved, taking no liberties, receiving no unwarrantable attentions, but preserving a high moral tone and becoming dignity, much evil might be avoided. {LYL 74.4}
- |"woe unto the world because of offences! For it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh!" Matthew 18:7

Are you shopping at Satan's mall?

- Those who would have that wisdom which is from God **must become fools in the sinful knowledge of this age**, in order to be wise. They should **shut their eyes, that they may see and learn no evil.** {AH 404.1}
- **Influence of Debasing Books and Pictures.**--Many of the young are eager for books. They read everything they can obtain. **Exciting love stories and impure pictures have a corrupting influence.** Novels are eagerly perused by many; and, as the result, **their imagination becomes defiled.** In the cars **photographs of females in a state of nudity are frequently circulated for sale.**

Continued...

- These disgusting pictures are also found in daguerrean saloons [photo shops] and are hung upon the walls of those who deal in engravings. This is an age when corruption is teeming everywhere. The lust of the eye and corrupt passions are aroused by beholding and by reading. The heart is corrupted through the imagination. The mind takes pleasure in contemplating scenes which awaken the lower and baser passions.
- These vile images, seen through defiled imagination, corrupt the morals and prepare the deluded, infatuated beings to give loose rein to lustful passions. Then follow sins and crimes which drag beings formed in the image of God down to a level with the beasts, sinking them at last in perdition. {CG 439.2}

Continued...

Avoid reading and seeing things which will suggest impure thoughts. Cultivate the moral and intellectual powers. {2T 410.1}

THE BEAT, TAFRIJA, H2O, TRACE MUSIC, GRAPE VINE, EXTREME MUSIC e.t.c?

Read the following texts.

- Could you be a lover of soap operas where these evils are propagated? By beholding we become changed into that image.
- Could you be a tailor designing and making these fashionable clothes?
- It is deeper than you had previously thought. (Habbakuk 2:15.) Change is mandatory!
- Ezekiel 23:13, 14, 23.
- Isaiah 33:14-17.
- John 2:13-17.

Why is it that they do not follow them?

- There is no use in telling you that you must not wear this or that, for **if the love of these vain things is in your heart**, your laying off your adornments will only be like cutting the foliage off a tree. The inclinations of the natural heart would again assert themselves. You must have a conscience of your own. . . . {SD 292.2}
- Just where the conscience of the Bible Christian warns him to forbear, to deny himself, to stop, just there the **worldling steps over the line to indulge his selfish propensities**. On one side of the line is the self-denying follower of Jesus Christ, on the other side of the line is the self-indulgent world-lover, pandering in fashion, engaging in frivolity, and pampering himself in forbidden pleasures. On this side of the line the Christian cannot go. It is no place for him. {SD 292.4}

How should Christian weddings be ?

- ***The wedding ceremony is a sacred service, not a time for hilarity.***--It has always seemed so very **inappropriate** to me to see the marriage ordinance associated with hilarity and glee and a pretense of something. No. It is an ordinance ordained of God, to be looked upon with the greatest solemnity. As the family relation is formed here below, **it is to give a demonstration of what they shall be, the family in heaven above.** **The glory of God is ever to be made first.**--AH 101. {PaM 202.2}



What about the wedding ring?

- Some have had a burden in regard to the wearing of a marriage ring, feeling that the wives of our ministers should conform to this custom. **All this is unnecessary...Not one penny should be spent for a circlet of gold to testify that we are married.** In countries where the custom is **imperative**, we

- We have no burden to condemn those who have their marriage ring; let them wear it if **they can do so conscientiously.** TM 181, 182.



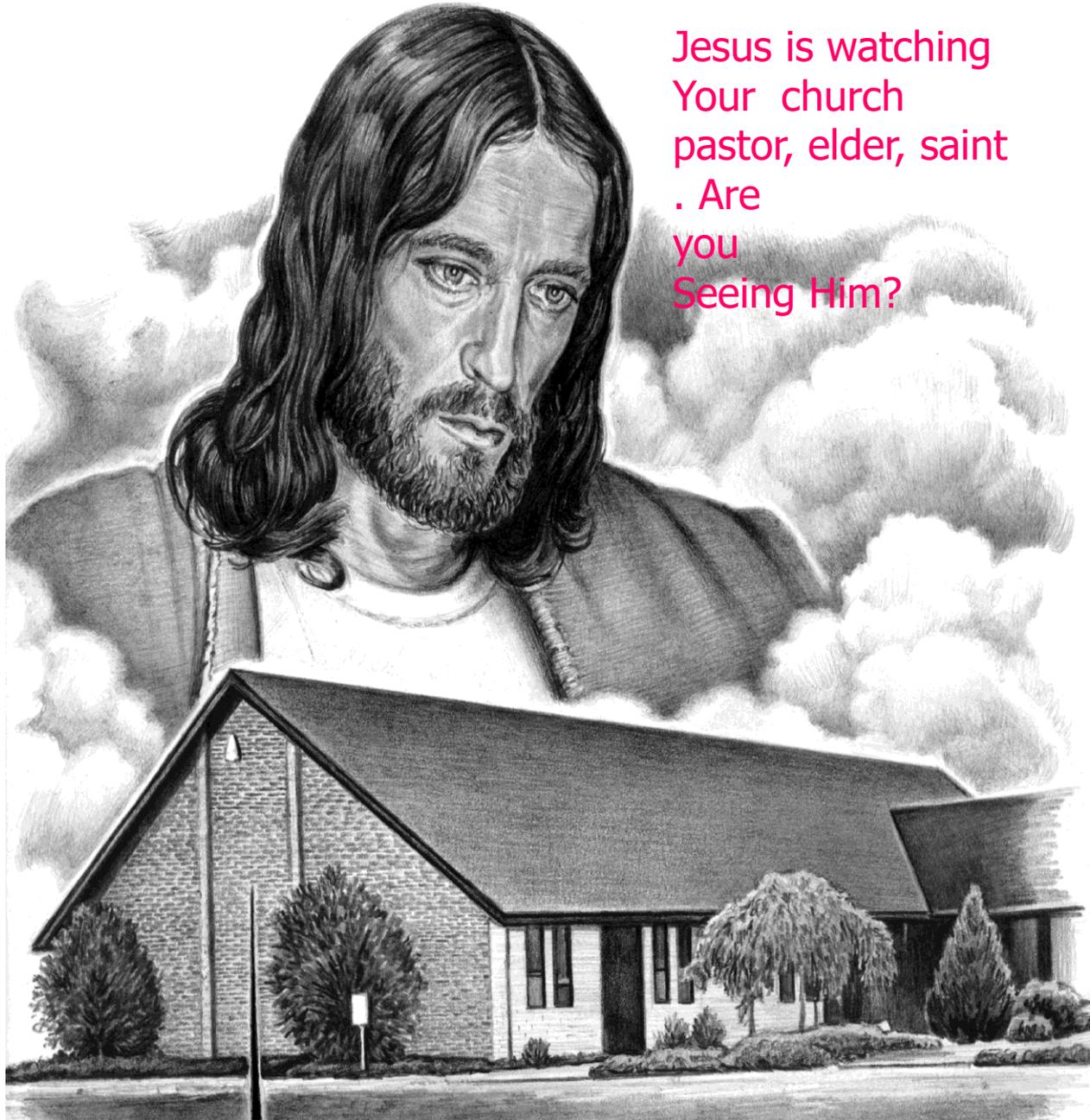
Is it a sin to disregard these instructions?

- Pride and extravagance in dress is a sin to which woman is especially prone. Hence the injunction of the apostle relates directly to her." {MYP 355.2}
- Confirm with **Ecclesiastes 7:25-29.**

Why is the influence of the Church so weak?

- “It is one thing to join the church, and quite another thing to be united to Christ. **Unconsecrated, world-loving professors of religion are one of the most serious causes of weakness in the church of Christ.**” MYP 357.1
- “**The influence of believer would be tenfold greater if men and women who accept the truth, who have been formally careless and slack in their habits, would be so elevated and sanctified through the truth as to observe habits of neatness, order, and good taste in their dress.** Our God is a God of order, and He is not in any degree pleased with distraction, with filthiness, or with sin.” MYP 349.3

Jesus is watching
Your church
pastor, elder, saint
. Are
you
Seeing Him?



Why should husbands be concerned how their wives dress?

- “Let the sisters adopt the American costume and they would destroy their own influence and that of their husbands.” 1 1T457.1
- You are the salt of the world.

What is it that seeks to set aside God's clear and direct instructions?

- **Human reason** has ever sought to evade or set aside the simple, direct instructions of the word of God...departure from the teachings of the gospel leads to the adoption of the fashions, customs, and principles of the world. Vital godliness gives place to a dead formalism." MYP 354.2

What is the effect of these bad habits on the health?

- Dear youth, a disposition in you to dress according to the fashion, and to wear, and, and, will not recommend to others your that you profess. People of discernment will look upon your attempts to beautify the external as proof of weak minds and proud hearts.” MYP348.3
- Instead of preserving their health for the trying emergencies that are sure to come, they by their wrong habits too often sacrifice not only health but life, and leave to their children a legacy of woe in a ruined constitution, perverted habits, and false ideas of life. {CT 304.1}

How do we judge a person's character?

- Simplicity of dress will make a sensible woman appear to the best advantage. **We judge of a person's character by the style of dress worn.** A modest, godly woman will dress modestly. A refined taste, a cultivated mind, will be revealed in the choice of a simple, appropriate attire. **The young women who break away from the slavery of fashion will be ornaments to society.”** MYP 355.2
- **The dress, and its arrangement upon the person, is generally found to be the index of the man or the woman.** Those who are careless and untidy in dress are seldom elevated in their conversation, and possess but little refinement of feelings. They sometimes consider oddity and coarseness, humility. {2SM 475.2}

Are such women a blessing to the society?

- In this age of the world there is an unprecedented rage for pleasure. Dissipation and reckless extravagance everywhere prevail. The multitudes are eager for amusement. The mind becomes trifling and frivolous, because it is not accustomed to meditation, or disciplined to study. Ignorant sentimentalism is current. God requires that every soul shall be cultivated, refined, elevated, and ennobled. But too often every valuable attainment is neglected for fashionable display and superficial pleasure. **Women permit their souls to be starved and dwarfed by fashion, and thus they become a curse to society, rather than a blessing.**--Review and Herald, December 6, 1881. {MYP 357.2}

Are today's women so bold in fashionable sins?

- “I was shown that some of the people of God imitate the fashions of the world, and are fast losing their peculiar, holy character, which should distinguish them as God's people. I was pointed back to God's ancient people, and then was led to compare their apparel with the mode of dress in these last days. **What a difference! What a change! Then the women were not so bold as now. When they went in public they covered their face with a vail. In these last days fashions are shameful and immodest. They are noticed in prophecy. 4bSG 35.**
- The small bonnets, exposing the face and head, show a lack of modesty. The hoops are a shame. The inhabitants of earth are growing more and more corrupt, and the line of distinction must be more plain between them and the Israel of God, **or the curse which falls upon worldlings will fall upon God's professed people.” 2SG 227.1**

How women dressed in Bible times.



principles

Seeing this boldness, what should we do?

- “We see steadily gaining ground in the church an evil which the word of God condemns. What is the duty of those in authority in regard to this matter? Will the influence of the church be what it should be, while many of its members obey the dictates of fashion, rather than the clearly expressed will of God?” MYP 355.
- “Such madness concerning the changing fashions of the world should call forth an army of reformers who would take their position for simple and plain attire. Satan is ever inventing fashions that cannot be followed except through the sacrifice of money, time, and health.” MYP 359.2

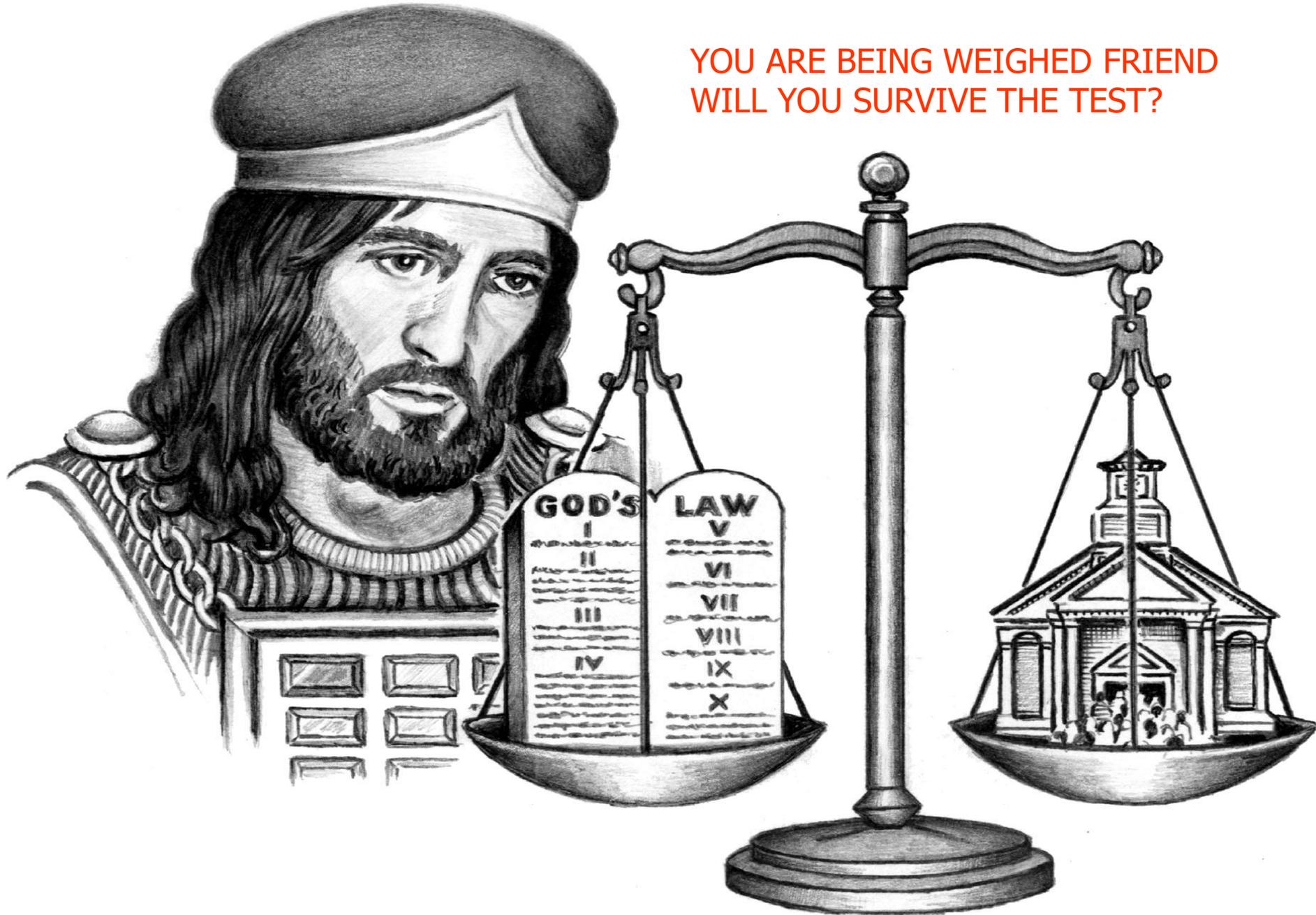
Should we spend time and money in this sin?

- God's Claim Upon Our Time and Money.--We have no right, my Christian sisters, to waste our time, and give example to others who are less able than we to waste their time and energies upon needless ornaments, upon dress or furniture, or to indulge in superfluities in food. We have religious duties to perform, and if we neglect these duties, our time to needless things, we will dwarf the intellect and separate the affections from God. The Author of our existence has claims upon our time and our money.”
The Health Reformer, June, 1873. (WM148.1)

Are you really confessing Christ in your dress and deportment?

- “Are we confessing Christ in our daily life? **Do we confess Him in our dress, adorning ourselves with plain and modest apparel?** Is our adorning that of the meek and quiet spirit which is of so great price in the sight of God? Are we seeking to advance the cause of the Master?” SD 292.2

YOU ARE BEING WEIGHED FRIEND
WILL YOU SURVIVE THE TEST?



IT'S ALL ABOUT JESUS

- DO YOU LOVE HIM?
- THEN KEEP HIS INSTRUCTIONS, ALL OF THEM. John 14:15, 21
- BRING NOT SHAME UPON THAT HOLY NAME.
- AIM HIGHER AND DAILY AIM AT A HIGHER STANDARD
- WITH JESUS CHRIST, ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE.
- AMEN AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL.