

I Timothy 2:9-10

⁹ 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.

Perfect evidence of how far the church has shifted from its moral roots, is the lack of modesty that is presented within the church walls. The clothing attire or lack there of, is a vivid picture of just how far we have fallen. It is nothing to go to a church, and see a woman wearing a dress or blouse that leaves no room for the imagination, when it comes to her figure. It is either so tight, or it simply is cut to where more is uncovered than covered. Is the church not a place where men can be spared for even a few hours from the pornographic filth in our society? It isn't only the breast that is exposed, but the skirts and dresses which are barely covering the bottoms of these women. Then with the tattoos which women are getting on their lower backs, it is a major stumbling block for a man to see her bend over to pick something up in a short cropped shirt. Perhaps you think that men are the problem, and not the woman wearing inappropriate clothing to church? Then you have no idea of how men are wired. Men are stimulated and drawn to something, visually. Please consider **Proverbs 27:20, Sheol and Abaddon are never satisfied, Nor are the eyes of man ever satisfied.** Our problem is that we believe if it is accepted in the community, then it should be accepted in the church. That type of thinking is nothing short of immoral, if not pagan. Too many people want to be married to Christ and the world; but you can't have both! Jesus has called every man and woman who claims to be one of His followers, out from sin and decadence. So why isn't the church any different from the rest of the community? I'm not talking about legalism; I'm speaking about a heart that is renewed, and is unwilling to do anything which might cause a brother or sister to sin.

Part of the problem, is that our society has become a moral cesspool. You can't watch TV without seeing nudity, and listen to every form of blasphemy. With time, many people begin to gauge their morality with that of their television, and not their Bible. I am convinced that the reason our society is in such distress today, is because the church has failed to take a stand in days gone by. Now, we not only silently condone what society craves, but we have coddled it in our own church walls. Many of our churches have fallen away from the statutes of God's Word. Look with me at **Leviticus 26:2, 'You shall keep My Sabbaths and reverence My sanctuary; I am the LORD.** The majority of Christians are completely unmindful of honoring the Sabbath, and they give no thought to revering His sanctuary. Take a look this week at the number of men who wear a ball cap during your church service, and then consider whether or not that God's sanctuary is honored and revered in your place of worship? Church, have we not lost a holy reverence and respect for our God? I'm not advocating strong dress codes in our churches; I'm just simply amazed that people dress better for work, than they do for church. Men and women wear clothing to church, that they would never wear to meet the President of the United States. What does this say about us? Do we really honor man above God? Friends, I exhort you to give your Lord the very best that you have, in your clothing, lifestyle and choices. He gave His best for you, what are you willing, to give back to Him?