





Ordinary Holiness

BIBLE WISDOM *for* EVERYDAY LIVING



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WHAT



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WHAT

WHY



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BIBLE WISDOM *for* EVERYDAY LIVING

WHAT

WHY

HOW

Humans are (basically) →
the only creatures that wear
clothes. What's that about?



WHAT
— IS CLOTHING —

WHY

HOW





“WRONG ANSWERS ONLY”

“Clothing is the thing that makes you say, ‘I have nothing to wear,’ while standing in front of a full closet.”

“Clothing is a human invention designed to ensure your brand new jeans immediately go out of style.”

“Clothing is how we hide our shameful bodies.”



WHAT
— IS CLOTHING —

WHY

HOW

*Clothing is a
Covering for Nakedness
that Restores Dignity*

1

**SIN BROUGHT SHAME & CLOTHES
ACKNOWLEDGE OUR NEW REALITY**



WHAT

— IS CLOTHING —

WHY

HOW

“Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.”

Genesis 2:24-25
English Standard Version

“Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both **naked** and were not ashamed.”

Genesis 2:24-25
English Standard Version

“Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become **one flesh**. And the man and his wife were both **naked** and were **not ashamed.**”

Genesis 2:24-25
English Standard Version

**Clothing is a boundary
marker between public
& private, shared & intimate.**



WHAT

WHY

HOW
— WE DRESS —

“Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.”

Genesis 3:7
English Standard Version



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“Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.”

^
the first 'clothes'

Genesis 3:7
English Standard Version



Shame

Naked and **not ashamed**



Naked and **hiding**



Shame

“the man and his wife **hid** themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden... ‘I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.’ He said, ‘Who told you that you were naked?’”



Shame

“the man and his wife **hid** themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden... **‘I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.’** He said, ‘Who told you that you were naked?’”



Shame

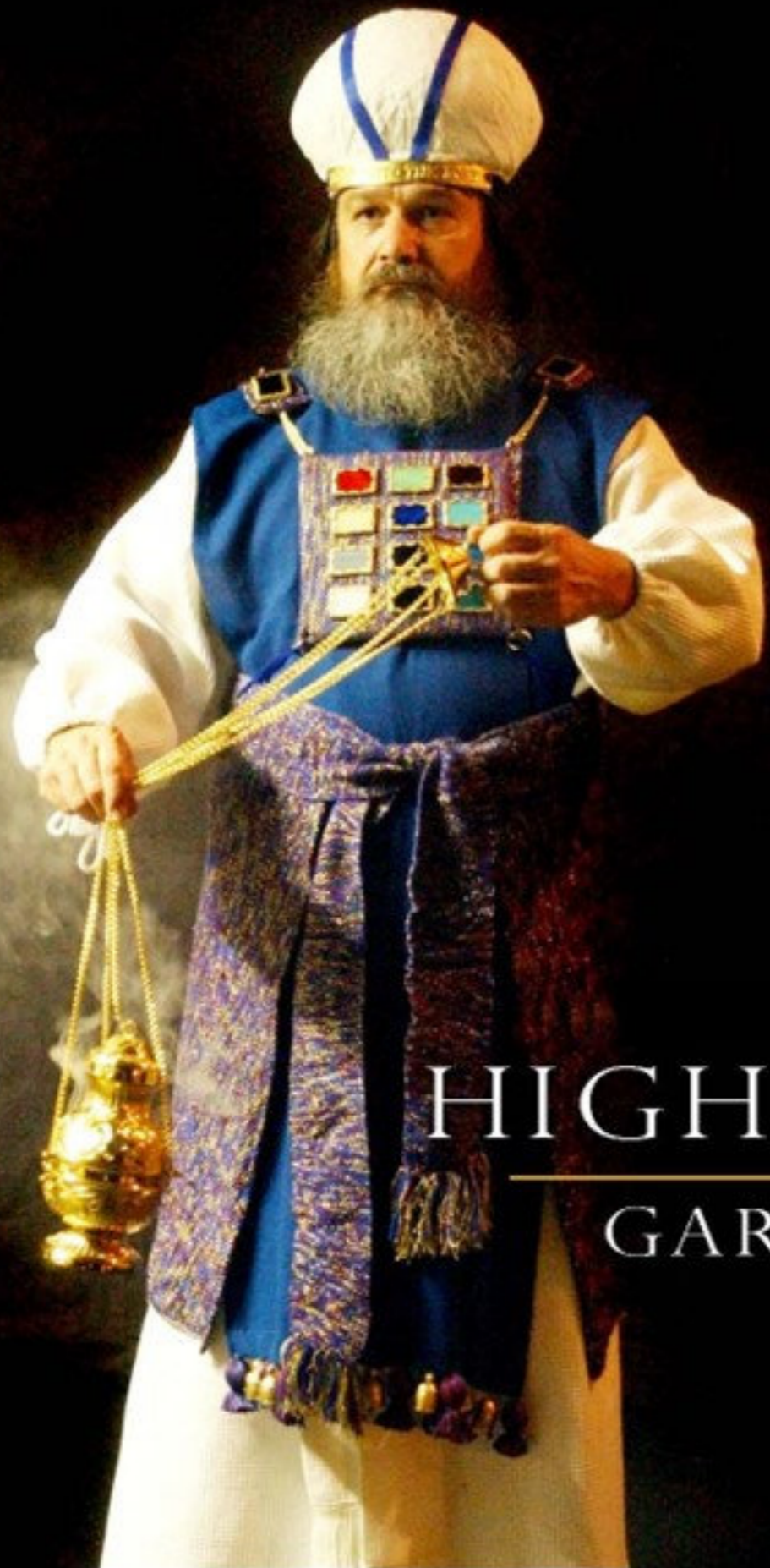
“the man and his wife **hid** themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden... ‘I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.’ He said, ‘**Who told you that you were naked?**’”



Shame

“the feeling of **vulnerability to inspection** that makes urgent the need to **hide oneself**”

D.A. deSilva; Dictionary of the Old Testament: Pentateuch



**“You shall make for them linen
undergarments to cover their
naked flesh. They shall reach
from the hips to the thighs”
(Ex 28:42)**

HIGH PRIEST

GARMENTS



WHAT
— IS CLOTHING —

WHY

HOW

Clothing is a Protective Provision from God

2

WE REPLACE ANXIETY WITH TRUST THROUGH GOD'S CARE



WHAT
— IS CLOTHING —

WHY

HOW

From fig loin coverings to animal-skinned tunics that would go to the knees or ankles — God provided what Adam & Eve lacked.



WHAT
— IS CLOTHING —

WHY

HOW



Consider the lilies ... even Solomon in
all his glory was not arrayed like one of
these. But if God so clothes the grass ...
how much more will he clothe you, O
you of little faith!

Luke 12:27-28

English Standard Version



She is not afraid of snow for her household, for all her household are clothed in **scarlet** ... her clothing is fine **linen and purple**

Proverbs 31:21-22
English Standard Version





WHAT
— IS CLOTHING —

WHY

HOW



WHAT

WHY

HOW

“WRONG ANSWERS ONLY”

“Because society isn’t ready for the alternative!”

“Because what you wear says what you’re worth.”

“Just because February in Indiana is no joke!”



WHAT

WHY
- WE WEAR THEM -

HOW

Clothes Convey Meaning

3

APPEARANCE SENDS SIGNALS
ABOUT RESPECT & INTENT

??



WHAT

WHY

- WE WEAR THEM -

HOW

People form judgments of others within milliseconds of seeing them & clothing is one of our strongest cues.



These judgments are unconscious & not always fair or accurate, but they're real & influential.



WHAT

WHY

HOW
— TO LIVE IT —

**“I didn’t mean to say
anything with my clothes . . .
but they spoke anyway.”**



WHAT

WHY
- WE WEAR THEM -

HOW



WHAT

WHY
- WE WEAR THEM -

HOW



WHAT

WHY

HOW

“WRONG ANSWERS ONLY”

“By collecting new shoes like a prepper collecting canned goods.”

“By desperately matching the cool kids like social camouflage.”

“By dressing for attention and calling it self-expression.”

“By trying to blend in ... or stand out ... I’m not sure.”



WHAT

WHY

HOW
— TO LIVE IT —

Dress *with Modesty*
Shaped by Context

4

WISELY CHOOSE CLOTHES
FITTING SITUATION & CULTURE



WHAT

WHY

HOW

— TO LIVE IT —

Do not let your adorning be external—
the braiding of hair and the putting on
of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear
but let your adorning be the hidden
person of the heart with the
imperishable beauty of a gentle and
quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very
precious.

1 Peter 2:9
English Standard Version

Do not let your adorning be **external**—
the braiding of **hair** and the putting on
of gold **jewelry**, or the **clothing** you wear
but let your adorning be the **hidden**
person of the heart with the
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1 Peter 2:9
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imperishable beauty of a **gentle** and
quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very
precious.

1 Peter 2:9
English Standard Version



WHAT

WHY

HOW
— TO LIVE IT —

Consider Others with **Clothing**

5

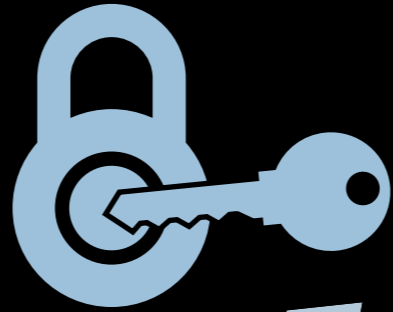
LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR GUIDES
OUR CHOICES & JUDGMENTS



WHAT

WHY

HOW
— TO LIVE IT —



Freedom!

*Salvation from our guilt & shame can't be
"an opportunity for the flesh, but serve one
another through love"*

(Gal. 5:13; See Rom. 13:14; 14:13)



WHAT

WHY

HOW
— TO LIVE IT —



WHAT

WHY

HOW
— WE LIVE IT —

Value **Person** above
the **Inner** **Appearance**
Outer

6

PRIORITIZE CHARACTER OVER
PRESENTATION TO SEE CLEARLY



WHAT

WHY

HOW

— WE LIVE IT —

*The Gospel Thread
Putting on Christ*





Shame

Naked and **not ashamed**



Naked and **hiding**



Shame

Making our own **inadequate**
coverings in our shame



Saved!

Making our own **inadequate**
coverings in our shame



Receiving the **covering** we
need from God, not based on
our goodness but His grace



Saved!

Now watch **HOW**
He did it!

In John 19:23–24, the soldiers take both Jesus' outer garment and his under garment (chiton) leaving him naked. Fittingly, in bearing the shame of our sin (Isa. 53:5; Heb. 12:2), he was stripped of the dignity of being publicly clothed.



“a body stripped of clothing and jewelry (Ezek 16:39) is a body bereft of the insignia of social standing and identity. A naked body is not a sign of freedom from society’s constraints but of incalculable loss of place and honor. When the naked Gerasene demoniac is delivered by Jesus and restored to his community, he is found “clothed and in his right mind” (Mk 8:27, 35 RSV)... nakedness can be a fitting image of judgment... (Jer 13:22 NIV). The central biblical image of public shame and judgment is the naked Jesus hanging on the cross.”

(Leland Ryken et al., Dictionary of Biblical Imagery)



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(Leland Ryken et al., Dictionary of Biblical Imagery)



“in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God,
through faith. For as many of you as
were baptized into Christ have put on
Christ”

Galatians 3:26-27
English Standard Version



“in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God,
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were baptized into Christ have put on
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Galatians 3:26-27
English Standard Version



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English Standard Version



Shame

Making your own **inadequate**
covering in guilt & shame



Saved!

Making your own **inadequate**
covering in guilt & shame



Put on **Christ** in faith &
baptism, not because of your
goodness but His grace

