

(PLEASE NOTE: THE "SERMON OF THE SEVEN CHURCHES" WILL CONTINUE NEXT ISSUE)

PULPIT SERMONS

DEFENDERS OF THE WORD

The Naked Truth!!!

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Text: St. Luke 8:26, 27, "And they arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, which is over against Galilee. And when he went forth to land, there met him out of the city a certain man, which had devils long time, AND WARE NO CLOTHES, neither abode in any house, but in the tombs." Also verse 35, ". . . Then they went out to see what was done; and came to Jesus and found the MAN, out of whom the devils were departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, CLOTHED, AND IN HIS RIGHT MIND; and they were afraid." Isalah 58:1, "CRY ALOUD, SPARE NOT, LIFT UP THY VOICE LIKE A TRUMPET, and shew MY PEOPLE THEIR TRANSGRESSION, and the house of Jacob THEIR SINS."

Yes, you have guessed right, this is a CLOTHES-LINE SERMON! I very seldom preach a sermon like this, but God has laid this sermon on my heart and I must preach it, even if some of you do brand me as a HOBBY-RIDER, an OLD FOGEY and out to drive people away from the church, well, brother if you don't want to clean up and dress up, you might as well be driven away from the church, for you that knowest to do good and doest it not, to you it is a SIN. When you get through reading this sermon, if you are a Christian you will still love me, if you don't love me, then you had better find an altar somewhere and pray through.

I travel most of my time, I travel around two thousand miles a week over the highways of this nation, therefore I meet all kinds of people, mostly tourists. Last summer on one of my trips, I stopped at a restaurant to dine; as I sat there eating, in came an old man and an old woman, I guessed them to be about seventy-five or eighty years old. The elderly man was dressed in a pair of bright flowery colored shorts, with the legs of the shorts coming to about eight inches above the knees, and he had on a loud colored shirt with no sleeves and the bottom of the shirt came to the top of his shorts, and hung loose outside, also he had on a hat with about a half inch brim, with a bright-colored feather stuck in the band. He was smoking a cigarette extending from a cigarette holder about four inches long. The elderly woman was dressed in the exact same style, same colored shorts, same colored shirt, hanging loose at the waist line; her hair was cut shorter than his was, she wore fiery-red lipstick, and had her hair dyed blue. What a shameful sight. Oh! What a shame. You say, "brother, are you making

fun of those people?" When I was a boy we lived close to the State Fair Grounds. We would pay to see Clowns that weren't nearly as comically dressed as this old disgraceful couple.

This generation has become a brazen, God-defying, immoral, naked people. The man Jesus cast a legion of devils out of would not keep his clothes on, but when he met my Jesus and the devils were cast out, the Scriptures declare he was clothed and in his right mind. Now according to that scripture, those who are parading around semi-nude are either devil possessed or are certainly bordering on it, and furthermore, if they get their right mind they will put clothes on.

Our papers are filled with mystery murders and rape cases, women and girls being forced into alleys, and later found raped, beaten and murdered. Who is to blame? Womanhood is inviting this thing upon themselves by their indecent and immoral dress. No decent woman or girl will parade about exposing their bodies to the opposite sex, without inviting an insult. The men are just as bad as the women, in fact two houses from where I live, there live some boys that are of high school age and weigh about two hundred pounds apiece, and they ran around in public all summer with just a pair of tan shorts on. God help us! Who else is to blame for all this deplorable condition? The Preachers of our land, who are cowards. They have compromised. They have become afraid of their job. They are afraid that the naked crowd will not support them, nor vote them back as pastor. They would rather disobey God, than preach the Bible. If our text Scriptures we have mentioned are true, and we know they are, then God has denounced this nakedness of our age. The Pope, who seems to have more backbone than our Protestant preachers has declared, "The modern woman, with her short skirts and bobbed hair, is an insult to her Maker." A fit type of the fallen church of today is her bobbed hair, short-skirted women. Yet some pussy-footed preacher says, "I don't believe in preaching on non-essentials, I never preach on the dress question." Perhaps the reason why he doesn't, he would prefer to look at naked women. The preacher is the watchman on the wall. God has commanded the preacher to cry aloud and spare not. He is to lift up his voice like a trumpet and show the people their sins, (Isaiah 58:1). But they are compromisers afraid of the face of clay. Yea, some

Have taken their clothes off with the rest of them and run to the sea shores and resorts. No wonder they cannot lift up a standard like the Bible has declared to be God's standard. One of the nation's largest denominations that goes by the name of Pentecost, has a large campground near a large lake and resort area, where they allow their boys and girls to strip off and put on a skimpy bathing suit and parade around the lake shore in this semi-nude condition; it's a disgrace to the name of Holiness. No wonder they have become intoxicated with the "no harm devil." No wonder they oppose everyone that will raise their voice against their demoralizing sin, and has the courage to uncover their wickedness.

If you are of that group mentioned, let this be clear — you need to meet Jesus of Nazareth. You are chained with shackles of Satan. He has you bound with fetters of lust and nakedness. You need to be set free by the power of Jesus Christ who cast the devil out of the naked and devil-possessed man of Gadara. If you are trampling around in these immoral and semi-nude garbs, according to God's own word, you are not a Christian, and you need not profess to be. If you profess to be, God has already branded you a hypocrite. Christians, whether MAN or WOMAN are modest dressers. They put on enough clothes to cover up. Hear the Word of the Lord in I Timothy 2:9, 10: "In like manner also that women adorn themselves in modest apparel with shamefacedness and sobriety; . . . But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works." When Adam and Eve found they were naked they patched leaves together and tried to cover their bodies even though they were the only two on the face of the earth. Adam said he was afraid because he was naked, but God saw their nakedness and made them coats of skins, and clothed them. People in this generation surely are not afraid to go naked, they have seemingly lost all fear of God, all sense of decency and self-respect. More shameful things are worn on the streets now than were worn behind the closed doors of one's private bedroom, a few years ago. Our modern men and women seem to have lost all sense of virtue. In their flaunted brazenness, boldness, and nakedness, they are carrying the race down to hell.

Wearing so little clothing, women today outrage all decency. Even grandmothers, who ought to be examples of all that is virtuous, are seen tugging at their loin cloth, trying to cover their nakedness. A prominent writer has declared that women will soon be going naked all together; this has meant hell and destruction to every nation that has tried it. A Nation rises or falls with the virtue of its women. The degeneracy of women marks the nation's fall. As sin entered into the world through the women, in the beginning, so today she seems bent on finishing the destruction in these last days. The modern female has lost all sense of modesty. The shamelessness of many young women is appalling. The older women dress and act like girls. From a distance it is difficult to tell the difference between mother, daughter or grandmother. Elder women should set the standard for the younger and be an example.

There is no longer any glory in age or motherhood. Women who smoke and swear and drink, are not fit to be mothers of men. They are fit only as companions for the DEVIL. God pity the offspring of all such women, SOAKED IN NICOTINE, CURSED BEFORE THEY ARE BORN. What a monstrosity, is a CURSING, DRINKING, SMOKING, PAINTED, BOBBED HAIR MOTHER. She is truly a masterpiece of HELL. A few years ago, women we now see everywhere on our streets, would have been arrested for stark indecency and relegated to the red-light district. The morals of Sodom are becoming those of America, a Nation that was founded on God.

Women, you may wonder if your husband loves you; well, you can be sure of one thing, if he does love you, he will not let you run around showing your nakedness to other men. If a woman is not selling her body on the altar of lust, let her take it off the display counter. People who have something to sell usually show it and advertise it to the public. If women do not want insults and attacks of lust-filled libertines let them cover up. If mothers don't want their daughters attacked let them see to it that they dress modestly. Now men if you don't like your wife parading around semi-naked, don't set the example for her. Decency and modesty is almost a thing of the past. If a preacher opens his mouth about the naked and immoral beer gussling generation they are branded as a HOBBY-RIDER, and OLD FOGEY and out to drive people away from the church. Yes, holiness professing churches are becoming so conformed to this naked, inspired craze that hell has enlarged itself to welcome the Preacher, Sunday School Supt., Teachers and Class Leaders into hell for lust-crazed compromising holiness professors. It will make little difference what you profess if you do not meet the requirements of the Word of God.

Satan has succeeded in commercializing his plot to corrupt women and ruin the race on every side. Semi-naked women are exploited to draw trade. Every line of business has commercialized the nudity of women in their advertising. Vile pictures, that a few years ago were only fit for the beer parlor, are now flaunted on billboards. The daily press and television is filled with pictures of semi-nude women and sensual and suggestive movie scenes take up whole pages of our large city newspapers, and comprise the main attraction of most magazines. Today few public ceremonies or festivals are sponsored, unless bevy's of almost nude women in bathing suits are thrust into the vulgar foreground. Even our little girls are turned out into the streets almost naked. If people will shun nakedness, there will be less divorces, less murders, and perhaps hell will not be so populated with libertines. May the Lord have mercy on you, for the terrible influence if you are the cause of the fall of one of the opposite sex when you meet them at judgement, and find that your dress and actions have caused them to be damned forever.

The Lord says, "If a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her," (I Cor. 11:14, 15). If long hair is a woman's glory, short hair must be her shame. Mary wiped Jesus' feet with her long hair. What

a beautiful modest act! A bobbed-haired follower of Christ disqualifies herself for this act of pure devotion to her Lord. She remains a type of a fallen church with all glory gone. Short hair is the badge of a harlot. A few years ago everyone knew a harlot by this badge. The devil has tacked the badge of harlotry on the women of this nation, including professing Christian mothers and maidens. The harlot bobs her hair because of the difficulty of her keeping it arranged in her mode of living; this was the origin of a woman's bobbed hair. Think of professing Christian women adopting such a custom! Because of this, one can scarcely distinguish today between a virtuous and unvirtuous woman. They bob and dress alike. It makes it much more respectable for the harlot. Woman's fall has wrecked civilization in the past. It will wreck America also. If God's Word is true (and we know it is), without national repentance, we have nothing left to look for but God's fiery judgements. For America, it is either a quick return to God and the Bible, or it is God's judgement on sin as black as that of Sodom. There is a way to escape wrath. Are we willing to pay the price? There are no bargain commodities, no penny sales, no dollar days, when it comes to God dealing with a nation or an individual. "Break Off Thy Sins by Righteousness" Daniel 4:27. "If my people, which are called by my name shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways: Then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and will heal their land," 2 Chron. 7:14.

"Doth not even nature itself teach you. . . ? I Corinthians 11:14. Does not nature teach that it is a SHAME for a MAN to have LONG HAIR? And for a WOMAN to have SHORT HAIR? THE ANSWER TO BOTH QUESTIONS IS "YES." Women in the past have acknowledged their disobedience in cutting their hair, and in repentance, have told of their shame. Even women of the world have been known to shed tears and acknowledge their shame after they had their hair cut. Thus, nature itself shames this lack of modesty, and disobedience.

The laws of nature are the laws of God, and should be obeyed. One's will ought to be in accord with nature. Nature certainly teaches us that it is proper for women to have long hair; it is certainly not so with men. The hair of the male rarely grows like that of the female. It is truly womanish for a woman to have long hair; it is truly the act of a sissy for a man or boy to have long hair. When I was a boy I always wanted to look like a HE-MAN; NOWADAYS BOYS AND MEN want to LOOK LIKE GIRLS. Nature and the Bible says the same things. Throughout the Bible it is stressed that men and women are different. A man is not like a woman; a woman is not like a man. It is SIN for women to try to appear a man; and, likewise, it is a SIN for a man to appear like a woman. God has made the man to have one place, and the woman to have a different place. It is wrong and truly a sin for a woman to appear masculine, and it is equally wrong and sinful for men to appear effeminate. In the New Testament, the sin of being effeminate is named

as one of the sins that will prevent men from inheriting the Kingdom of God (I Corinthians 6:9-10).

Many men today are wearing their hair long. This style seems to have had its start in modern times by certain musical groups such as the Beatles and others. The hippie movement, which has spread like a plague, has adopted the long hair style for men. The "Jesus Freaks" and other religious hippie CULTS have taken the long hair road. Unfortunately many men and boys who are not hippies have started to wear their hair in this manner. Many try to justify long hair on men by stating that Jesus Christ wore long hair. This is one of Satan's lies. JESUS DID NOT HAVE LONG HAIR. Many pictures drawn by artists in recent years picture Jesus with long hair. In this they are wrong. CHRIST certainly never wore a beard and His hair was beyond a doubt closely cut. For this I have Bible proof. All of Christ's pictures down to the beginning of the fourth century at least, and some later pictured Him without beard and with short hair. In fact all Roman emperors before, during, and after the time of Christ, from Julius Caesar to Trajan, wore short hair. A Roman with long hair was an oddity — the same as it used to be in our society.

There is no Biblical evidence that Jesus wore long hair. "Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?" —I Corinthians 11:14.

Jesus was not a Nazarite! According to Numbers 6:27, a Nazarite did wear long hair. However, Jesus was a Nazarene and not a Nazarite. While the two words look similar in English, they are entirely different in looks and meaning in the original language of the Bible. A Nazarene was one that lived in Nazareth, according to Matthew 2:23. A Nazarite was one who took a Nazarite vow, according to Numbers, Chapter 6. The Nazarite vow was usually a temporary vow. The Nazarite vow was a vow of separation. Three things were forbidden as long as he was under the vow. (1.) "He shall separate himself from wine and strong drink, and shall drink no vinegar of wine or vinegar of strong drink, neither shall he drink any liquor of grapes, nor eat moist grapes, or dried" —Numbers 6:3 (2.) He could not cut his hair. (3.) He could not touch or come near a dead body (Numbers 6:6-9).

A Nazarite could not have used any product of the vine, and thus Jesus could not have instituted the Lord's Supper if he had been a Nazarite. For in this, He used the fruit of the vine.

If He had been a Nazarite, He could not have touched the funeral "bier" (open coffin) of the dead man in Luke 7:11-18.

If he had been a Nazarite, it is doubtful that the HOLY GHOST would have caused PAUL to write, ". . . if a man have long hair, it is a shame to him" —I Corinthians 11:14.

If he had been a Nazarite, Judas would not have needed to identify Him in Gethsemane, since Jesus would have been the only long haired man there. Everything in the New Testament seems to indicate that Jesus looked much like the other

Jewish men of His age. If there had been any radical difference in His appearance, I believe that it would have been mentioned in the Bible.

"IF A MAN HAVE LONG HAIR IT IS A SHAME UNTO HIM." The above quoted words were written by Paul and were divinely inspired of GOD. Therefore, we are going to accept what God says. For the TRUE CHRISTIAN, the BIBLE is the final word, not some picture or popular tradition. It is bad enough for sinner men to wear long hair, but now the so-called, big shot preachers have started wearing long hair. If you say anything to them about women should wear long hair and men should wear short hair, they will say, "Oh! The Bible says, There is no such custom in the church." Silly, unlearned, so-called preachers, they don't even have sense enough to know that Paul ended the subject concerning the hair situation in the fifteenth (15th.) verse and started talking about the subject of CONTENTIONS in the church. He first mentioned this in the first chapter and the eleventh verse of I Corinthians. Turn to I Timothy 6:3-5, and Paul tells us here what the contention was. We should "rightly divide the Word of God."

"...If a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him." The Greek word "ATIMA" is translated "SHAME" in the above text. Elsewhere in the New Testament it is translated "DISHONOR," "REPROACH" and "VILE." Could anything be plainer? The "Shame" (atima) of long hair is elsewhere used in connection with a dead and putrefying, decaying body. In Romans 1:26, "at-ima" is translated "Vile." Let us read this verse very carefully. "For this cause God gave them up unto VILE affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, GOD GAVE THEM OVER TO A REPROBATE MIND. . . ." —Romans 1:26-28.

God is thus associating the "SHAME" of long hair with the "VILE" affections of the SODOMITES and HOMOSEXUALS. Our generation has made long hair acceptable and is seeking to legalize and popularize homosexuality. Now, we have homosexual churches and other churches gladly welcome them into their membership. LONG HAIR and HOMOSEXUALITY do not always go together, but they are VERY COMPATIBLE. They both represent a REVOLT against GOD given nature, and against HIS PRECIOUS WORD.

Parents who allow a son to grow and wear long hair are contributing to a rebellion against God and against our country. This is a sure step in losing control of a child. Preachers and Churches who compromise on this subject, hoping to reach more young people are actually fighting against God. Let us stand, whatever the cost! I believe that Christian young men, when taught the truth, will not want to be identified with the "SHAME" or revolutionary revolt that long hair symbolizes.

It is time the preacher is crying out against this sin, if they have any decency left in them. It is time that the church is taking a definite stand against this corrupt, indecent immoral naked generation. It is time that the womanhood that remains take their stand and rebuke their own sex openly for their disgusting dress and immoral appearance. Yet, it is now time that those who have been guilty of this sin turn from it, get on their knees before the Almighty God and repent and ask forgiveness before they find themselves walking the blistering pavements of damnation.

There is only one cure for this age. There is only one way out. That is to seek God with all your heart and turn from sin. A drunken, cursing father and a naked cigarette smoking, cursing, beer drinking mother and a couple of neglected children who have never had a chance in life, educated by the movies, televisions and the funny books; that is the average home life of today.

God desires and demands a praying, Bible reading father and mother and happy well cared for children with an education that will lead them to Christ early in life (and the children sure don't get that kind of education in the Public Schools of today). Anything less is displeasing to God, and those who disobey God's commandments shall give an account to God. As for me and my house we will serve the Lord.

In closing I would like for you to read this testimony that came into my office. This is a testimony of what God can do if we will pray and seek His face.

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