
BIBLE TALK

This week the question is: **Should Christians wear bathing suits?**

The short answer to this question is simply: **No, Christians should not wear bathing suits.**

Now, let me give the Bible reasons for this answer.

FIRST: Public nakedness is shameful and sinful.

Nakedness between a husband and wife is Biblical and pure (Heb 13:4; Gen 2:25), but public nakedness is shameful according to the Bible.

Revelation 3:18

¹⁸ I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that **the shame of your nakedness** may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.

SECOND: Having scanty cloth stretched tightly over one's body does not mean nakedness has been covered.

Job 22:6

⁶ For you have taken pledges from your brother for no reason,
And **stripped the naked of their clothing.**

Q: How does one "*strip the naked of their clothing*"? After all, if someone is naked, that means they don't have any clothing at all, doesn't it? How then can a naked person have clothing stripped from them?

A: When someone has such little clothing that does not adequately cover their body, they are considered naked by God.

In Job 22:6, the passage is describing poor people who have so little clothing they are considered naked and bullies try to take away what little clothing the poor do have.

So, having a tight swimming suit stretched out over a small portion of the body does not mean one's nakedness has been adequately covered.

THIRD: Women who expose their bodies are tempting men to lust.

Men are primarily sexually aroused by sight. This is why the Bible places the emphasis on modest apparel on how women dress themselves. Because men are sexually aroused by sight, it is important for godly women to cover up their bodies so as not to arouse sensual desires in men who are not their husbands.

In private, let the wife wear what she wishes in the privacy of her own home and with her own husband. But in public, let the woman wear modest clothing which covers her body and prevents other men from lusting after her.

Matthew 5:27-28

²⁷ "You have heard that it was said to those of old, '*You shall not commit adultery.*'

²⁸ But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

It is true that men should work on guarding their own eyes and thoughts (Job 31:1), but it is also true that when a woman exposes her body so as to invite lustful thoughts, she shares in the blame of lustful thinking on the part of men.

Conclusion

In conclusion, God's people are exhorted to be different than sinners. Rather than conforming to what everyone else is doing, God's people should be taking their standards for living from holy scripture.

1 Timothy 2:9-10

⁹ ... women [must] adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing,
¹⁰ but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works.

Be honest in asking yourself the following question:

When people see you wearing a swimming suit in public, is the first thought going thru their minds, "*I'll think that person must be a Christian. There's something about that swim suit that professes godliness.*"

Most people, if they're honest, will admit that godly thoughts are not what goes thru a person's mind when they see someone in a swimming suit.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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