

THE DRESS DOWN AND THE UNDRESS CRAZE.

June 2000

The following is from *The Wall Street Journal* (taken from *Reader's Digest*): "When I was a boy, a youngster began the slow metamorphosis from childhood to manhood when, during such activities as going out to dinner with the family, attending a semi-formal dance, he hung up his baseball cap and sported a fedora, a smaller version of the one Dad wore. Girls put aside their Girl Scout berets and stocking caps and began imitating their mothers more dignified millinery...A complete ensemble of such adult clothing gave the wearer an appearance and sense of dignity...We have lost much of the personal dignity inherent in ones clothes. More and more are now dressing like children...No man, and certainly no woman looks good or sporty or 'cool' in a reversed baseball cap. They look like...'dorks.' Grandfathers and grandmothers, once figures of respect...are now seen disporting themselves in public in sweat pants. These are among the ugliest clothing ever conceived...Three generations of the American family, children, parents and grandparents - can promenade the avenues of the world's cities in baggy shorts, T-shirts with cartoons of woodpeckers or wart hogs or other images of popular-culture icons or asinine one-sentence philosophies, enormously garishly decorated...ridiculous "fanny packs" around their waists and those inevitably ghastly caps...When I was a boy, grown men and women had too much respect for themselves and their families to dress like clowns..." The writer is not a Christian; he makes no reference to God or the Bible, but he does have some common sense. Jesus said, "The children of this world are wiser than the children of light." This stupid philosophy has all too quickly engulfed the churches, and the Fundamental churches have not escaped. Let the worldly crowd do what they will, while the world dresses down God's people should dress up, not try to mimic them!

What disturbs me is Christians who go along with the current and ever worsening dress down craze. Many Christians will dress up to attend the funeral of a dead man but will dress down to attend church to worship the Living God. Many Fundamental churches let this sort of thing go on without a word from the preacher; some encourage it. A more serious problem is the ever growing trend toward sensuous dress and undress. Hollywood is becoming bolder and extremely wicked. The world quickly falls in with it; after all, they like "the lust of the flesh." But tragically, many Christians have also been ensnared. We don't expect much (actually nothing) from the worldly crowd. But Christians ought to know better and should seek to please God not themselves or others. I do not have space to say a whole lot (we have a two page article on this) but God says it is an abomination for a woman to dress like a man (slacks, etc) and vice versa. The Bible also says that we are to dress modestly. Christian women: short skirts, slit skirts, low cut blouses, tight blouses or sweaters and any other clothing that appeals to the old nature, are not modest. God expects women to be feminine, but He does not expect them to dress sensuously! If you are not guilty of these things, praise God. If you are, please take this to heart and get right with God; then your dress will be right. God says, "WHATSOEVER YE DO...do all to the glory of God."

YOUTH CORNER

STAY AWAY FROM HARRY POTTER! You have probably heard of the three (soon to be seven) Harry Potter books. Well over seven million have been sold at this writing and it is read by adults and children alike. According to the story, Harry's parents were killed by a wicked wizard, Lord Voldemont. Harry, one year old at the time with a thunder-bolt purple scar on his forehead, was miraculously saved. He lived a miserable existence for the next ten years in his uncle's home. But on his eleventh birthday everything changed. He discovers he is a wizard of great fame, someone who once conquered death and crippled a devilish foe. (Sound familiar?). Harry is accepted to Hogwarts - a coveted boarding school for aspiring wizards. It's a story of spiritual forces: of potions, spells, a magic broomstick, transformation (turning one thing into something else), and divination. Author, Joanne K. Rowling, says, starting with the fourth book, the series will grow darker...some good characters will have to die. You may say it is only a story. Yes, but it is a story of the occult, and like Pokemon, is dangerous. This sort of thing is related to demonism and one can easily be captured by Satan. I have personally seen more than one person's mind totally messed up by fooling around with this sort of thing. They thought it was harmless, but found out too late the devil was in it.

OBE IN OPERATION. We have written and spoken about Outcome Based Education (OBE) which is mandated for all public schools. It is a part of the "dumbing down" of American education. Simply put, it means that the most important lesson students must learn is to be politically correct. A true example: A 12 year old boy was recently "separated" from his class and put in a special "mentoring" program. He will remain there and be tutored so his "thought processes" can be corrected and he is no longer a threat to the school. His crime? He expressed support for the First and Second Amendments to the Constitution! This sort of thing is going on all over the country. Children cannot construct a basic sentence correctly, do simple math, etc., but OBE requires a child shall not get a diploma if he is out of step with what the wicked liberal establishment deems correct. He must not hold negative opinions about homosexuality (or any other sin). He is not to be patriotic but have a one world view, have environment- ally correct ideas, etc. John Adams said, "We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Our Constitution was made for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." You need to read "None Dare Call It Education." We'll send it to you - \$5.00 pp.

IT'S HARDER TO GO IT ALONE! Have you ever heard the geese honking? Seen them flying in V formation? Two engineers calibrated in a wind tunnel why geese fly in formation. Each goose flapping its wings creates an uplift for the goose that follows. The whole flock gains 71% greater flying range than if they journeyed alone. Because it is harder to be the leader, the one out front of the V formation falls back periodic- ally to let another take the point. The truth is obvious. It is harder to go it alone. Christians need to be united to a local Church because it is God's will. We can do a whole lot more together than when we try to go it alone. God's plan is for His people (the local Church) to unite together. When you try to get along outside the local Church, you will soon lose your way. Young people need to be saved then, they need to be baptized and join a local Fundamental Baptist Church. Bythe-way, when the geese honk, they are calling to those who are lagging to catch up. If you are starting to lag behind, you are not faithful in the Church, better catch up before you get into serious trouble. "They continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship..."

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

-Hebrews 10:25

KEN COPELAND'S IDEA OF GOD! Copeland and Hinn are of the same stripe. Copeland says God is very much like us. The Stand (10/11/99) quotes Copeland: "The Bible says, 'He measured the heavens with a nine inch span.' (It doesn't say "nine inch"). Now, the span is the distance between the end of the thumb and the end of the little finger...The Amplified Bible translates the Hebrew text that way. He measured the heavens with a nine inch span. Well, I got a ruler and measured mine and my span is eight and three-quarters inches long. And, so, God's span is a quarter of an inch longer than mine. And, so, you can see that faith didn't come billowing out of some giant monster somewhere. It came out of the heart of a being that is very uncanny, the way He is very much like you and me (sic). A Being that stands somewhere around six two or six three, that weighs somewhere in the neighborhood of a couple hundred pounds (200 + little better), has a span of nine inches across, stood up and said, 'Let it be' and this universe situated itself and went into motion. Glory to God." Did you ever hear such nonsense? How can a man be saved who has that kind of understanding of God and His Word? And to think that thousands, maybe millions, follow him and help make him wealthy.

POPE MAY BE DESCENDED FROM MONKEY.

The Pope has said that evolution is "compatible with faith." and "we may have descended from monkeys." Later, Cardinal O'Connor said Adam and Eve "may have been some other form than human...Perhaps Adam was a lower animal." -CNV Newsletter Maybe he came from a monkey, but I know I didn't!

YOU WON'T BELIEVE THIS!

This is from Chuck Baldwin's Food for Thought...(5/9/00): World Net Daily recently published an interview with retired U.S. Army Brigadier General Albion K. Knight, Jr. According to WND, "During the 1980's Knight...and others were asked by the Reagan administration to draft a list of goals that would be the framework of a Marxist President if one were elected." What follows is what they came up with. "A Marxist and/or communist president would focus on the transfer of national sovereignty...to international organizations. He or she would weaken the Armed Forces physically, mentally and spiritually. The 'dumbing down' of our school system would accelerate. (He) would assist all or most of America's enemies - Russia, China, Cuba, radical Islam, North Korea and others. He would disregard the Constitution...executive orders would mark his administration. Bogus arms control agreements would earmark the administration. He would buy off Congress by stealing FBI files of its members. He would attempt to intimidate and control the media." Knight was quoted as saying, "He (Clinton) has hit every one of the above actions and more...Clinton has helped Marxists and terrorists and their 'world revolution' at every opportunity. He has been giving us a bad example that it is all right to lie, cheat, steal, threaten and even rape women if it is done in high office. There is a steady movement toward a Gestapo-like control over the people...Clinton has been selling and giving our nuclear and other high technology secrets to China and giving Russia the money to rearm at U. S. taxpayers expense." Ed. If you know what is going on, you know that all of this has happened. The amazing thing is this was predicted long before anybody knew of Clinton. Also, he has had the help of both political parties. Friends, America is truly in deep trouble and one wonders is if it not like Jeremiah's day when God said do not pray for them!

Cornerstone Baptist Church
54 Brighton Street
P.O. Box 438
Belmont, ATA 02478
www.cornerstonebaptistmetroboston.org

PITIFUL IGNORANCE

About forty years ago someone wrote: "We are living in a day when people are getting converted without being regenerated, and when they are 'making decisions' for Christ without being 'born again." It is much worse today. Almost everyone you speak with thinks he is saved, but has not the slightest notion of what God says in His Word. You have Evangelicals signing documents with Roman Catholic leaders which state that those in both groups are saved. You have Fundamentalists giving invitations for people to come forward for salvation when the Gospel has scarcely been preached. People make decisions for Christ, but their lives do not change and most of them do not care for Church. Jesus said, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God...Ye MUST be born again." ~John 3. There are two pertinent questions: WHAT does it mean to be born again, and HOW can I be born again! Jesus was speaking to a very religious man - he knew something of the Bible, but he did not understand. Jesus said, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh." You've had a physical birth; but you need another birth. He said, "That which is born of the Spirit." Man is spirit as well as material. To know God, you must have a spiritual birth from God - through His Holy Spirit! You don't need to understand it; you can't. Jesus said it is like the wind which you cannot see. The WHAT is a new birth from God! The HOW? Jesus said, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life." Note: "BELIEVETH in him," Jesus. What must you believe? That He died on the cross for your sins and rose the third day (I Corinthians 15:3,4) - that He was "lifted up" for your sins. Have you dealt with your sins before God? Is there evidence of a new life? II Corinthians 5:17.