



---

A  
Ministry  
of:

**CORNERSTONE  
BAPTIST  
CHURCH**

54 Brighton Street  
P.O. Box 438  
Belmont, MA 02478  
Tel: 617-489-2498

Pastor  
**ROLLAND C. STARR**  
Editor

---

## **CARNALITY IN FUNDAMENTAL CHURCHES!**

**April 2004**

It has been a while since we've written about immodest dress among Fundamentalists and I think it is time for another article on Christian dress and modesty. It is not a popular subject among God's people. Most preachers just ignore it! I would like to begin by quoting a few others (there are only a few) so you can see it is not merely a hobby with me. It is a serious sin of many children of God. Rick Flanders (*Sword of the Lord*, 9/23/03) speaking of Exodus 32, where Aaron had made the people naked, showed that nakedness is not necessarily nudeness. He said: "There is a problem with immodesty in the more strictly fundamentalist churches too. Christian women and girls are letting the trendy stores in the mall decide how they will dress. Too much skin is allowed to show on the top by low necklines and wide armholes, in the middle by short tops and sagging bottoms, and at the bottom by short skirts, short culottes, and just plain shorts. Clothes worn by too many believers are too tight and otherwise revealing even when not too much skin is showing. There is too much nakedness among believers and the main problem is it offends God. We cannot blend the worship of Jehovah with nakedness." Clarence Sexton in *The Baptist Vision*, said he was seated on an airplane next to a man, a foreigner, whom he asked, "What are your observations of our country?" The man replied, "...I want to tell you, I have never seen as much nakedness as I have seen in this country." The man was from Europe, not exactly the home of modesty. Now, we don't expect much from the world, but our concern is that many professing Christians are dressing sensually, like the world. Jim Harmon ([http://www.pamweb.org/modesty\\_ignored.html](http://www.pamweb.org/modesty_ignored.html)) says that "...popular fashion is, to speak bluntly, toward nakedness...physically revealing and sensual, pervasive. What is troublesome is that many in the Church have bowed the knee to the pied pipers of provocative fashions...yet the church remains strangely silent."

The Bible says, "**In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness (bashful, timid as opposed to bold) and sobriety (self control)...**" Modest means *decorous, that which is appropriate*. Is it appropriate for a Christian woman to wear the kind of clothing described above? Is it appropriate for a woman to dress so as to attract the inordinate attention of men? Would God approve of this? The answer is obvious! Let us be done with all the excuses and dress as becometh children of God. I am convinced the greatest problem with improper dress in our Fundamental churches is the pastors. Preachers simply are not willing to take a stand; they know that it will make some people unhappy and some will leave. I can vouch for both of those situations for I have had it happen too often. It is amazing how many professed Fundamental Baptist women (their husbands going along with them) think more of being able to dress sensually than they do of pleasing and obeying God and His Word. We have had any number leave our Church because we have a dress code and endeavor to live by it. Some have gone to New Evangelical churches rather than remain and dress modestly; others go to so called Fundamental Baptist churches that have no standards. Some have come and were happy until they were informed of the dress code. We do not like to lose people, but I'd rather lose some carnal Christians than try to worship and serve God with such a display of the flesh.

**FAMILY BIBLE CONFERENCE!**

JULY 11-16, 2004

*Great Preaching**Good Fellowship**Children's Meetings - Nursery**Vacation Bible School*

Children grades 1 - 6

Monday - Friday, 10:00 - Noon

**PASSION OF CHRIST FILM.** We are absolutely amazed by the number of supposed Fundamentalists who are promoting this wicked film. We urge all true believers in Christ to avoid it like the plague. We have a 45 minute message on it: \$6 pp. Three for \$12 pp.

**CHALLENGE SUBSCRIPTIONS.** We receive letters, saying the Challenge is a blessing and help. That is our goal. We'd like to reach others who might be benefited by the articles and information. If you enjoy receiving it, why not send in some gift subscriptions - only \$3.00 each. The price represents only about one-third of our costs and is primarily to keep from wasting the Lord's money by sending it to people who do not want it.

**THEY PAID THE TITHE, BUT NOT TO GOD!** A Pastor asked another Pastor, "How many members do you have?" "I have 1900," he replied. "How many of them are tithers?" The surprising answer- "All of them!" Wanting to know the secret, the first said, "How did you ever get them all to sign pledge cards, agreeing to pay the Lord's tithe?" "I didn't," was the prompt reply: "Only 347 them signed a tither's pledge, which they have faithfully kept. The others are tithers too, but God has many ways of collecting it; through adversity, sickness, unemployment, etc. They pay the tithe all right, but not always to God." The Bible message is very clear: **"Ye looked for much, and, lo, it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. Why? saith the Lord of Hosts. Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house."** ~ *Haggai 1:9*. In *Malachi 3:8* it says, **"Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings."** Yes, all Christians pay the tithe one way or another. Why not give it to God and get the blessing?

**MY GREATEST PURCHASE.** John Wanamaker (founder of the Wanamaker's Dep't Stores) was eleven years old when he purchased a Bible. In later years, he said, "I have of course made large purchases of property in my time, involving millions of dollars. But it was as a boy of 11 years that I made *my greatest purchase*. In a mission Sunday School, I purchased a small Bible for \$2.75 which I paid for in small installments. Looking back over my life, that little book was the foundation on which my life has been built, and the thing which has made possible all that has counted in my life. I know now that it was the greatest investment and the most important and far reaching purchase I ever made."

**YES, IT COSTS SOMETHING!** It doesn't cost us anything to become a Christian. Jesus paid the price of our sins and it is simply up to us to believe God's message and receive the gift He offers. However, it does cost something- it costs everything to be a useful, fruitful Christian. Remember this also, it costs something to be a worldly Christian; Oh, Yes, it costs a great deal. Think about the following worldly believers.

- ☞ Worldliness vexed Lot's righteous soul and caused him to lose not only his riches but his family.
- ☞ Worldliness cost Samson power with God and in the end it caused him to be a suicide.
- ☞ Worldliness nearly cost Jehoshaphat his life when he joined affinity with ungodly Ahab.
- ☞ Worldliness cost David his testimony and untold grief for the rest of his life.
- ☞ Worldliness cost Solomon, the wisest man on earth, his testimony and the kingdom.
- ☞ Worldliness cost Demas his place of service with the apostle Paul; and also a full reward.

God says: **"Love not the world..."** Worldliness can only be the ruination of the child of God. The Bible declares: **"And be not conformed to this world but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind..."**

**SENTENCE SERMONS:**

Everyone has the choice between truth and something else; you can't have both.

What you love and what you hate, say a lot about what you really are.

If you want to do business with God, you will have to sever relations with the devil.

Be sure of this: If you are going to be the friend of God, you will have some enemies.

The reason a dog has so many friends is because he wags his tail instead of his tongue.

## NEWS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

**"BORN AGAIN" NOT BORN AGAIN!** A George Barna poll (*World* - 12/6/03) reveals that many (I would say the vast majority, without a doubt) who claim to be born again do not know the true meaning of those words. These statistics show it and I am sure the overall percentage is far greater than these numbers reveal. For example, many, many Roman Catholics now claim to be "born again" but know nothing Biblical about it.

- ❖ 26 percent of "born agains" believe that all religions are basically the same.
- ❖ 50 percent believe that a life of good works will enable a person to get to Heaven.
- ❖ 35 percent do not believe that Jesus rose physically from the dead.
- ❖ 52 percent do not believe that the Holy Spirit is a living entity.
- ❖ 29 percent believe that it is possible to communicate with the dead.
- ❖ 39 percent believe it is morally acceptable for couples to live together before marriage.
- ❖ 33 percent accept same-sex unions.
- ❖ 45 percent do not believe that Satan exists.
- ❖ 10 percent believe in reincarnation.

The plain truth is these people are religious but not "born again." What a grand delusion it is to think that practicing Roman Catholics are saved. See Mark 7:6.

### **INCREASING CHURCH ATTENDANCE.**

*Religion Today* (12/3/03) reported on how a Church of God in Largo, FL tripled attendance at their Wednesday night service. They patterned the service after David Letterman's TV show calling it Wednesday Night Live, hosted by Pastor Rodney McKinley. He says, instead of three points and a prayer, he opens with a monologue and some lighthearted banter with his co-host. Then, they welcome guests: costumed characters straight out of the Bible. There is a live band that provides musical interludes. People like this do not have a clue as to what God's Church is all about! How anyone in his right mind could think that God is in this, I do not know.

**HOW TO TELL A FALSE PROPHET.** There have always been false prophets. The true prophets in Bible times constantly had to deal with them. False prophets abound in our day. One among a host of them is Kenneth Copeland. This is from *The Stand* (Jan.-Feb. 2004). False prophet extraordinaire, Kenneth Copeland, in a dedication service on 12/02/01... predicted that close to one billion Muslims would be saved in the next few months. Copeland said: "And

there are going to be multiplied millions upon millions, there's going to be close to a billion people that have been trapped in that religion, that over the next few months are gonna come into the kingdom of God (cheering). That's gonna happen, you watch and see what I'm telling you...." This is only one reason I know Copeland is a false prophet? God says, "**And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the Lord hath not spoken? When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing the LORD hath not spoken, but that prophet hath spoken it presumptuously...**" Deut. 18:21,22.

**WHY SOCIAL SECURITY IS IN TROUBLE.** The reason is multitudes are receiving payments who never put a dime into it. Now there is a plan, supported by the Bush administration and no doubt all Democrats, to give S.S. benefits to the millions of Mexicans who live in Mexico but work in the States along with those who are here illegally. This will take billions of dollars per year. - *TREA Senior Citizens League*. According to Chuck Baldwin (1/9/04) more than 10% of Mexico's population is already living *illegally* in the U.S.

**HOMOSEXUALS NOT TO GIVE BLOOD!** Joel Belz, Editor of *World* magazine says that he gives blood through the Red Cross regularly. Here is what he said in *World* (12/20/03): "Walk into the lobby, and you're handed 'the book,' a bulky three-ring binder you are asked to read through to see if you qualify. 'The book' gives you half a dozen opportunities to disqualify yourself before anyone sees the first drop of your blood...Next stop...is 'the clipboard' in the next room. Here, you're asked to check off more than 50 separate fine print questions...Here's the point that leaped off 'the clipboard' with startling clarity. Under the heading, 'Who cannot be a blood donor,' was disqualification No. 7: 'If you are a male. [and have] had sex even once with another male since 1977...' In other words, no honest practicing male homosexual can be a part of the blood donor system in our culture... Granted, 'the clipboard' also makes it clear that others may not give blood...But not a single one of those conditions involves a conscious lifestyle choice like that exercised by homosexuals." Ed. Can they say the Red Cross is guilty of homophobia and bigotry? No, the plain truth is that the homosexual *lifestyle* is an unnatural and unhealthy way to live. And remember, it is their choice. I remember reading somewhere that the average homosexual life span is about 47 years while the overall average is around 75-77. Of course, God says that it is a sin!

## YOU ARE TOO STRICT!

Dr. A.W.Tozer wrote: "I must confess as a pastor that I have had to say 'Goodbye' to people...when they have said, 'We cannot worship here. You are too strict. Your standards are too strict for this day and age. Your message is too strict.' My only apology is, I am still not as strict as the Bible. I have to confess that I am not up to the standard of the Scriptures. I am trying, but I am not that strict. But occasionally, we have to say farewell to someone who says they have to find a different kind of church, an easy-going church, a church that majors in relaxation. What did Jesus say to us? He said that unless we are ready to turn from everything and follow Him with devotion, we are not yet ready to be His disciples, and unless we are ready to die for Him we are not ready to live for Him. The whistle is going to blow for us one of these days and then, we will have to appear and tell God how we carried on His work, how we conducted ourselves in the light of what Jesus said. So, we cannot afford to let down our Christian standards just to hold the interest of people who want to go to hell and still belong to a church." Many professing Christians want a church where there are few if any standards and an easy-going, fun filled program. They want contemporary music, no dress standards, fewer and shorter services, twenty minute sermons with plenty of jokes and funny stories. If this is what you want, it's easy enough to find; just remember, you're going to meet the Lord someday - maybe soon! Then, you will be judged by His standard!

**Cornerstone Baptist Church**

**54 Brighton Street**

**P.O. Box 438**

**Belmont, MA 02478**

[www.cornerstonebaptistmetrobooston.org](http://www.cornerstonebaptistmetrobooston.org)

## WHAT ARE YOUR SPECULATIONS?

When Michael Faraday, the famous nineteenth century English physicist, was dying, some of his conferees were eager to obtain from him a brief statement of his final conclusions. That is, they wished to know if he had made any discoveries which had not yet been made known, hoping if there were any that he might share them. One asked, "What are your speculations?" "Speculations!" he exclaimed. "I have none for I am resting on certainties. **For I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.**" I ask you, what are your speculations concerning the future and where you will spend eternity? Many put their trust in the speculations of the evolutionists. Others place their confidence in this or that religion. Some foolishly hope that there is no judgment. Relative to man's future state, every philosophy outside of the Bible is nothing more than speculation, for man simply cannot know these things unless they are revealed to him. Scripture declares: **"But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit..."** ~1 Corinthians 2:9,10. The hymn writer put it this way: *"My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus blood and righteousness..."* **"These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God: that ye may know that ye have eternal life..."** ~1 John 5:13. Trust Christ today!