

THE APPEARANCE BIBLE STUDY

1. First we need to see how the clothing of people began:
 - a. When Adam and Eve were first created, they did not wear clothes. When they sinned against God by eating the forbidden fruit, clothing became an issue. According to Genesis 3:7 what happened to Adam and Eve after they ate the forbidden fruit? _____
What did they realize about themselves? _____
What did they feel compelled to do once they realized this? _____
 - b. According to Genesis 3:8-10 what did Adam and Eve answer to God when he asked them where they were? _____
Why were they doing this? _____
In this case their nakedness was a symbol of how their sin had made them naked and shameful before God. According to Genesis 3:21 what did God do for Adam and Eve to cover their nakedness? _____
What had to happen to the animals in order for Adam and Eve to be clothed with their skins? _____
This is a symbol of how life had to be sacrificed to cover the sin of people. Later that life sacrifice would be Jesus who could take away our sin and clothe us with righteousness.
2. Appearance does have significance, so we need to see what the Bible says about our attitude toward appearance and clothing:
 - a. According to 1 Samuel 16:7 what does man look at? _____
What does God look at? _____
Which is more important? _____
 - b. According to Matthew 6:28-30 what should be our attitude about our clothes? _____
What is the promise about clothing? _____
 - c. According to Matthew 23:27-28 what was a problem that the Pharisees had in regard to appearance? _____
What did God call them because of this? _____
What was more important than their appearance? _____
 - d. According to John 7:24 what should we **not** use as measure to judge someone? _____
How does society usually judge people? _____
What do you use to judge people? _____
3. Even though the Bible teaches that our inward character is much more important than our outward appearance and the clothes we wear, there are guidelines in the Bible about the way we should dress:
 - a. According to Deuteronomy 22:5 what types of clothing are women **not** to wear? _____
What types of clothing are men **not** to wear? _____

What is God's view of cross-dressing? _____.

Clothing styles change over time and in different societies but there is always a distinction between men's clothes and women's clothes. Why would a man want to wear women's clothes or a woman want to wear men's clothes? _____.

So what is the root problem with cross-dressing? _____.

- b. According to 1 Peter 3:3-4 what is the special need for women to focus on in terms of their appearance? _____.

Why would the way women dress be of special concern as opposed to the way men dress? _____.

This does not forbid women from dressing in modern fashion or with jewelry and braided hairstyles, instead women must focus on dress as a secondary issue.

- c. According to 1 Timothy 2:9 how should women dress?

How does a woman know what is modest? _____.

In today's culture men are also encouraged to dress immodestly, they are encouraged to try to attract women based on their body. How does a man know what is modest? _____.

4. Sometimes outward appearance does tell us something about a person:

- a. John the Baptist was considered the most righteous man on earth with the exception of Jesus. According to Matthew 3:4 how did John the Baptist dress? _____.

What did this tell us about John the Baptist? _____.

- b. According to Mark 12:38-40 how did the teachers of the law dress? _____.

Why did they dress this way? _____.

What did Jesus say would happen to these people? _____.

- c. According to Luke 16:19 how did the rich man dress? _____.

According to Luke 16:23 what happened to him as a result of his focus on himself instead of his need for Jesus? _____.

What focus do you put on your outward appearance and the way you dress? _____.

Is this the focus that the Lord wants you to have on appearance? _____.

- d. According to James 2:2-4 what is something we should not do based on the way people dress? _____.

What standard does society have regarding the way people dress? _____.

Are you going to adopt God's standard for appearance or societies? _____.

