

Glorify God in Your Body

by Erlo Stegen

Erlo Stegen emphasizes the importance of glorifying God through our bodies and clothing choices, rooted in biblical principles and accountability.

Scripture: John 19:23

Topics: "Glorifying God", "Body as a Temple"

Description

Erlo Stegen emphasizes the significance of glorifying God through our bodies, drawing parallels between the crucifixion of Jesus and the way we present ourselves. He highlights the prophetic fulfillment of Jesus' garments being divided, illustrating the importance of our physical appearance as a reflection of our spiritual state. Stegen urges believers to recognize their bodies as temples of the Holy Spirit and to dress in a manner that honors God, avoiding worldly practices such as tattoos and inappropriate clothing. He calls for parents to guide their children in understanding God's standards for their lives and appearances. Ultimately, he reminds us that we will be accountable to God for how we live and present ourselves in our bodies.

Transcript

Summary of sermon by Erlo Stegen, 07 April 2013

John 19

23 Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took his garments, and made four parts, to every soldier a part; and also his coat: now the coat was without seam, woven from the top throughout.

24 They said therefore among themselves, Let us not rend it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be: that the scripture might be fulfilled, which saith, They parted my raiment among them, and for my vesture they did cast lots. These things therefore the soldiers did.

In this portion we read a word spoken by David long before - what would be done to His clothing.

In those days the soldiers used to share the clothing of the condemned among themselves. David prophesied this almost a thousand years before it actually took place!

Ps 22

18 They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.

So many detailed prophecies all came into fulfillment in Jesus that those who have studied it said that even mathematically it can be proved that Jesus is the Messiah. There are more than 365 distinct prophecies that all came into fulfillment in Jesus.

Some say that they cannot believe because it cannot be shown scientifically that Jesus is who He claimed to be. But those who have studied it mathematically and historically have shown that it's mathematically beyond doubt that Jesus is the Messiah and even historically the records testify to His existence and uniqueness, that He is who He claimed to be, if you study it in truth.

This tunic Jesus wore was all in one piece like a dress all the way down to the knees. It was a special piece of clothing, made from one piece, worn by kings. We don't know who gave this tunic to the Lord Jesus. Some refer to it as a royal robe.

While Jesus hung on the cross the soldiers were dividing His very last belongings among themselves, in four parts, for every soldier a part. They realised that if they would start cutting this tunic to divide it, it would be destroyed. As they were dividing His belongings, they had to choose whose the tunic's would be, and therefore cast the lot for it as David prophesied.

After Adam and Eve sinned they realised that they were naked, and so our Lord hung naked between heaven and earth to bear your and my sin. Do you realise the price our Lord had to pay for your and my sin, to clothe us with salvation?

Why does the Bible spend so much time on the clothing He wore? It shows that we need to consider it.

Let's look at clothing and how we ought to clothe ourselves.

1 Cor 6

19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

You are not your own, your body belongs to God, your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. When you put on clothes, you clothe the temple of the Holy Spirit! Do you realise that?

It is also written to "present your bodies a living sacrifice to God which is your reasonable service" (Rom 12:1).

In the Old Testament the children of God are also clearly told "you shall make no cutting in your body, or tattoo any marks on you" (Lev 19:28).

Yet we find those who claim to belong to Christ to fill their bodies with cuttings and tattoos! The whites love to do that to their bodies, which is supposed to be the dwelling place of the Most High!

We should not do what the world does, and allow our children to do in our houses what the world does. If you allow it in your house one has to ask if Jesus is in your heart or the devil? Are you a wise or foolish servant?

Parents, are your children in the world, because you did not teach them God's way clearly?

A certain lady asked a counsellor why we wear dresses and not trousers. The counsellor said to her to go to her room and pray and ask God to show her. She did so and had a dream that there was a beautiful pair of trousers, but when she put them on she was itching all over. She tried another and then another with the same result. Eventually she tried on a dress and it fit perfectly and she felt totally at home in the dress. She then went and told her counsellor the following day that God had answered her. She said that she got her answer from God and therefore was satisfied even if others should tell her differently.

Deut 22

5 The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the LORD thy God.

We see that even thousands of years ago God spoke about clothing in detail.

Friend you have to decide, should we discard this Book and say it pertains to that time and not to us? I'll leave it over to you to decide for yourself.

The Bible also speaks about hair and the way a man and the way a woman should wear their hair.

There is a day when each one will have to stand before God and give account before God for all the things done in the body.

Someone might say all these things are stupid and foolish and childish to speak about, but when people act in foolish ways we have to speak about these things.

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