



## **Preface**

In making these two sermons available in one booklet, it is our heart's desire and prayer that many will measure to its enlightenment and will come to that place where they will find it in their hearts to comply with the Apostle Paul's instructions as found in the letter to the Romans, the twelfth chapter and the second verse: (We are going to quote this verse from three translations.)

"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (*King James Translation*).

"Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but be a new and different person with fresh newness in all you do and think. Then you will learn from your own experience how his ways will really satisfy you" (*The Living Bible Translation*).

"Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mold, but let God remold your minds from within, so that you may prove in practice that the plan of God for you is good, meets all his demands and moves toward the goal of true maturity" (*J. B. Phillips Translation*).

These sermons first appeared as two separate messages—the one, "Long Hair on Men" on a Sunday morning and the other, "Short Skirts on Women" the evening of the same Sunday at the Church of God on God's Acres, Newark, Ohio.

They next appeared as two separate articles in the holiness journal *The Gospel Trumpeter* published by the Church of God here in Newark, Ohio.

Any who are readers of this booklet and who are not subscribers of *The Gospel Trumpeter* may have it coming into your home regularly (monthly) by just mailing in your name, address, and zip code to:

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"In which at one time you walked habitually. You were following the course and fashion of this world—were under the sway of the tendency of this present age—following the prince of the power of the air. (You were obedient to him and were under his control,) the (demons) spirit that still constantly works in the sons of disobedience—the careless, the rebellious and the unbelieving, who go against the purposes of God" (*The Amplified Bible—Ephesians 2:22*).

## Long Hair on Men

There are several Scripture texts that we want you to read. Actually there are two subjects which we want to deal with, but they are too great to deal with both at one time. Thus, this booklet is divided into two parts. These subjects are long hair on men and short dresses on women. One is just as much of the devil as the other one. Someone said, "You are being hard on good church members." Truth does not hurt good church members, but it does hurt many people who are deceived into thinking that they are good church members.

Let us look at Isaiah 62:10, which says, "Go through, go through the gates; prepare ye the way of the people; cast up, cast up the highway; gather out the stones; lift up a standard for the people." That is still the minister's job. Everyone in the congregation cannot lift up the standard, but they can hold up the standard that the pastor has lifted up. You are just as responsible to hold up the standard as the pastor is to lift it up.

In Isaiah 58:1 we read, "Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet; and show my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins." Revelation 20:7-8 certainly brings us up to the day and time in which we are living when the dragon power has been loosed again. It states: "And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth . . ." Revelation 16:13 tells us how Satan is going out: "And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon [paganism], out of the mouth of the beast [Roman Catholicism], and out of the false prophet [Protestantism]."

First of all, we can see from the Scriptures that this dragon which has been loosed to deceive all nations is working through unclean spirits. Brother, these spirits are definitely unclean spirits; and they are causing people to rebel and raise up against the standard and teaching of God's eternal Word. When you put the right kind of heat on people, they will show you what kind of spirit that they have within them. You do not have to put too much heat on them to find out that there is an unclean spirit working there. When I say unclean, I mean anti-holiness.

The Spirit of God is a clean Spirit; but these unclean spirits are against holiness, righteousness, purity, morality, and the things that God has ordained to be clean and pure. These unclean spirits are working to bring defilement on every side. The sad part is that there are too many people claiming to be God's people who cannot even recognize the working of the devil. This is the thing that wounds me deeply. Through the devil's deception, people are made to feel that this is just a little custom that we are passing through. However, those things which you are calling little customs that we are just passing through are not some little fad or custom. They are definitely a work of Satan against God's eternal cause. Unless we see it that way, we are going to be affected by it.

Church, we are in a battle. Someone said, "We have been in one a long time." We have never been in one like we are in now. If you have been living very close to God the last two or three months, you can see something happening among the people like never before. I stand amazed at the work that this dragon power is getting done. In fact, I just had more confidence in people. I actually thought that people had enough religious scruples and enough morality about them that they would never succumb to many things that they have succumbed to. We are living in a most deceptive age, and it will get worse as we go on. We might as well shake ourselves, realize who we are, and seek out for our own heart and mind what the Word of God says about these things. Then we need to line up with the Word of God or else make the decision that we are going with the world. Let me say again that I am amazed at how swiftly people are moved away from sound teaching and godly principles.

No doubt, some readers will think me strange to deal so extensively with these issues. However, if there is any question in your mind why Brother Wilson is dealing with the subject of long hair on men and short skirts on women, I will tell you quickly: "Because it is needed!" We need to recognize some things: schools are being disrupted, homes are being divided, churches are being confused, and society is being wrecked over these very issues. The same devil that is loose out there will turn right around and make you and me feel that we are wasting the saints' precious time if we spend a whole

message on one of these issues. We just might as well face the issues where the devil is working. Certainly, I agree with the thought that if people get real and full salvation and the Spirit of God leading their lives, they will not do these things. However, I also know that unless people are taught and re-taught along these lines, the devil will deceive good people and make inroads right into the lives of men and women that would live good otherwise. Therefore, this subject definitely needs to be examined in the light of God's Word.

Let me say again that the current craze for males to wear long hair is not the harmless fad that many people assume. This is the thing that amazes me as I talk to people that are supposedly good people. Their children look like hippies. They laugh and say, "This is more or less a fad or craze that has come on the people. It will pass one of these days, and they will be wearing burr haircuts again." From an outward viewpoint, this may be true; there may be some changes made as far as the long hair is concerned, the thing which you are failing to see is that there is a spirit working back of this long hair. Furthermore, the spirit has worked on you before your hair ever grew.

Therefore, I am not jumping up and down on the thought of a man's hair being so long; brother, I am warring against the spirit that is working. Unclean spirits and anti-God spirits are working rebellion in the hearts and lives of men and women. They do it in such a slippery, slimy manner that people, are made to feel that this is not the devil's work, but just a craze that is come on the public. Brother, that is the way that the world looks on it in their darkness, but you and I are supposed to have some spiritual insight. If you are a child of God, you are supposed to be able to see a little deeper than the world sees.

Before we read further from the Bible, let us look at some facts. Long hair on men is a calculated plan to break down the manliness of the American men. Any of you who want to take enough time to look in the Congressional Record will find that one of the Communist goals listed there was to put long hair on every American man and make a feminine creature out of him. Friend, they are doing it; and you are allowing it. You know that the Communist move is nothing more than one of

the instruments of the devil. He is against the very scruples and teachings of God's eternal Word. He would like to sell us on the idea that long hair on men is just a craze and a fad, but IT IS NOT. Long hair on men is open rebellion against God's eternal Word; it is sin, and it is of the devil!

When the Communists began to move in on our supposedly Christian nation, one of their goals was to put long hair on every American man, take away his masculine force, and as they put it, let him end up as a unisex. That is right in their goal. Well, I did not think so much about this at first. My thought was that this is something that is in their goal, but it will never happen. Then, one day when I was on a sick call, I saw a new hair parlor that has opened up. It has in big letters UNISEX. I thought, "My! My! Here it is!" Right in our city, they are advertising for unisexes to come and get their hair fixed.

What is a unisex? That is neither a man nor a woman! Well, that is what you are when you let your hair grow. You are developing into a unisex. I pray that we will have girls with enough godly virtue in them that they will not have a thing to do with you if you are letting your hair grow, your sideburns run down your face, and your whiskers grow around your nose. I am not going to marry any unisexes.

Someone said, "Why, Brother Wilson, you do not need to worry. We will never be affected by it." Do not tell me that. From the time that I was a little boy till I was married, I only saw two or three men in all this country that had long hair. They wore it in a knot on the back of their head. There was something about it that made you sick to look at them. However, human beings can adjust to almost anything. Today we have lost our sickness.

Someone said, "It should not make you sick." The Bible says in Psalm 15:4 that a vile person ought to be contemned in your eyes. Long hair on men ought to make you so sick that you could not stand it. But you become adjusted to it. Your long-haired sons eat at your table, and you claim that you are living for God when the Bible says that you are the master of that house and what comes in and goes out of that house is up to you. You are developing unisexes who sit right at your table; then you wonder why you have no power with God. These things stir me; I still get sick when I see them. Why?

Long hair on men is contrary to nature.

My friend, a Satanic power has moved in, and in a deceptive manner caused long hair on men to be accepted. It makes me so sick. Then there is something about me that gets stirred when I see men who claim to be Church of God preachers with their hair running down over their necks trying to administer the work of God. It is no wonder that He could spue you out of His mouth! It is a sickening thing. The devil is not satisfied to bring the church down from that lofty spiritual position of holiness and leave her on a natural level. He wants to drag her down to an unnatural condition. Then it seems as if the devil wants to throw it right back into God's face and say, "Look at Your creatures now." If you begin to see this as God wants you to see it, and if I can get the burden off my heart onto your heart, you will see why God in the days of Noah repented that He ever created man. Brother, we are bringing that same kind of wrath from the heart of God right down on us day after day. It is bad enough out in the world; it belongs there, but let it not once be named among us that claim to be saints of God!

Just as the Communists ordained, they are developing a bunch of unisexes—a population of weaklings. Wearing long hair degrades a man. Long hair victimizes our young men who pattern their hair after dope addicts, homosexuals, and antichrists. This is plain; but, brother, when it is needful, we should speak plain.

We may not answer every question in your mind. But we want to highlight some things from God's eternal Word. Even though you may know all about this subject, you do not have much of the Spirit of Christ if you have no concern for others who need help.

Now let us look at 1 Corinthians 11:14, which says, "Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?" Too many people say, "The Bible does not forbid long hair; it just said that nature teaches you." Brother, the Apostle Paul was writing under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost to the people at Corinth. He proved to them that the Bible not only said that it was a shame for man to have long hair, but even nature teaches that it is wrong. Therefore, nature and the Bible stand right together on the

thought of it being a shame for man to have long hair.

Someone said, "Brother Wilson, what is long?" We will deal with that question a little later. May God help us to get these issues clear in our minds so we can live it. Another person said, "I cannot affect the world." God has promised us that we will affect the world if we live it right. If there is not power in us living right, why does the devil work so hard to get us to cut a corner? Some people take the attitude that it is up to every individual to do what he wants to do. However, if there is not power in living according to the Bible, why does the devil work so hard to get us to cut the corners? The Bible declares that long hair on men is wrong, and it is time that we stand on it.

In the order of this great universe, God has established a place for every living creature and every created thing. He created the planets and the solar system, and every one of them are in their place. Some are larger planets than others, and some are traveling several thousand miles an hour; but they never get one millionth of a second out of time. God has a place for the animal kingdom and a place for the vegetable kingdom. The angelic hosts of Heaven have their place. Then, the Bible plainly teaches us that there is a place for man, and there is a place for woman. Now I am not going to elaborate on the women's liberation movement, but it is nothing but rebellious hearts of ungodly individuals who want to rebel against the place that God in His wisdom put women in.

Anyone who has studied the Word of God very much knows that the first of God's created beings to get out of step was man, and the first sin that He ever committed was the sin of rebellion. You may ask the question, "Why bring up the sin of rebellion?" Friend, the whole hair question, whether it pertains to a man or woman, revolves around one pivot point—rebellious against the authority of your headship. This is not difficult to understand.

Someone may say, "I cannot see where the thought of rebellion along certain lines is so awful." I would bring to your mind 1 Samuel 15:23 where Samuel said to Saul, "For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft." We are living in a day and time when people are being sold on the idea that they can rebel against this portion and that portion of the Word of God.

Still they want to be held in high esteem in a Christian fellowship; but as far as God is concerned, the sin of rebellion is the same as the sin of witchcraft. Stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the Word of the Lord, God hath rejected thee. I just want to leave that Scripture where God put it. You cannot reject any part of God's known Word and have God. Right here is where this deceptive spirit works. It lets people who know that they have failed God carry on with a profession, and it makes them feel that they are all right. We need to remember that when we reject God's known Word, God rejects us. Why? Because when we reject the Word of God, we are rejecting God.

Now we want to read some more Scriptures that pertain not only to men's hair but women's as well. In 1 Corinthians 11:3 we read, "But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God." Let me deviate here to say that this "Jesus only" business will not work. Christ has a Head. Christ is not the Head; He is the Head of the church, but Christ has a Head. He is just ruling over the kingdom while it is here. Then when the end comes, 1 Corinthians, Chapter 15, says that He will deliver the kingdom up to the Father. It is God's kingdom; and Jesus is reigning over it as king, but He has a Head. The Head of every man is Christ and of every woman is the man. This verse does not say husband, although I have heard many preachers erroneously preach it that way. Then, these young unmarried girls run around thinking that they have no head. In the Old Testament, as well as the New Testament, you will find that a girl was responsible to her father till she was married. Her father is her head till she is married; then her husband fills that position.

Let us read on in 1 Corinthians, the 11th chapter: ". . . the head of the woman is the man and the head of Christ is God. Every man praying or prophesying, having his head covered, dishonoureth his head. (Christ) But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head (the man, according to verse 3): for that is even all one as if she were shaven." In the Old Testament, when did they shave a woman? When she became rebellious, stubborn, and unsubmitive, they shaved

her.

The Apostle Paul will make it plain as we read further. Verse 6 says, "For if the woman be not covered, let her also be shorn: but if it be a shame for a woman to be shorn or shaven, let her be covered." People say today, "It is not a shame any more for a woman to have her hair all cut off." I know it is not a shame according to the world's standard, but it is according to God's. The world will never shame you. Why, the world will not shame you if you go naked. They will clap their hands in applause. However, it is still a shame as far as God is concerned.

We read in verse 7, "For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of the man." For lack of space, we will skip to verse 12: "For as the woman is of the man, even so is the man also by the woman; but all things of God. Judge in yourselves: is it comely that a woman pray unto God uncovered?"

The Apostle Paul wrote this letter to the church at Corinth, and in the church at Corinth were Jews and Gentiles. The Jews said that the woman must have a veil when she prayed or took part in the service. That old custom is still carried on today; some women still think that they cannot go to a funeral unless they have on a hat. Now the custom was that a woman could not pray, prophesy, or take part in the service unless she had on a veil. The custom that was causing the trouble was not long or short hair; the custom that was causing the trouble was whether a woman had to wear a veil or not. The veil was the custom, not the hair. Paul was merely writing to take the contention away. Read verse 13 again: "Judge in yourselves: is it comely that a woman pray unto God uncovered?" No sir, every woman that takes part in the service needs to have her head covered.

You may ask the question, "Does that mean we all have to wear a veil or a hat?" Paul answers this question in the following verses. (14) "Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him? But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering." Therefore, a sister with long hair has a covering when she takes part in the service.

The Apostle Paul was merely getting the people to see that it was not necessary to wear a veil or some other covering because God gave long hair to the woman for a covering. This is one thing that has divided God's people: some people say that they have no such custom as the long hair, and another group says that they have no such custom as the short hair when the hair is not even the custom—the veil was the custom. When a woman wears her hair long, she has a covering; and she shows subjection to her husband and to God.

In the above verses, Paul let us know that a man wearing long hair is a dishonor to Christ. Secondly, Paul showed us that a woman wearing short hair is a dishonor to man and God. Both long hair on a man and short hair on a woman are symbols of rebellion.

Many times I have been asked, "How long is long?" From New York to California, people ask that question; but I always ask one question before I answer. Is your question asked in sincerity, or are you seeking a loophole? If you are seeking a loophole, you can let your hair grow to your ankles; and you will still go to hell, because your attitude is not right. You would be surprised at the fewer number of questions that would be asked if they were asked in sincerity.

God knows your heart when you are asking the preachers something to make a loophole for your situation. The preacher may not understand what you are getting at and give you an answer. You think that you have a loophole; but if you ask a question with that thought in mind, the answer will not do you an ounce of good. Some people say that they have arthritis (I believe God can heal the arthritis), but there are many other reasons that people give for bobbing their hair. There are some questions, which I cannot answer, nor do I know of any minister who can answer every question. All I can tell you is what the Bible says. I firmly believe that the Bible is the rule; but I also believe that in some circumstances and situations God Himself can make exceptions to the rule.

For example, the Bible teaches one man and one woman for life, but sadness can happen in married life to the degree that there is no repair. Jesus made exception to the rule for cases like that, and the exception is just as true as the rule is. Therefore all I can do is be fair to you and let you know what

the rule is. Then, you be mighty careful that this exception that you are working out is clear before God and not just an excuse for a way out.

I war against a spirit that works on people to the place that they jump through these loopholes. Then, they go right on and begin to tell others, "Why, you don't have to obey that. I haven't." Hell will be doubly hot for ones who do that. I believe that the lowest place and the hottest place in hell will be a place reserved for people that sat in a Church of God congregation where a pastor almost sheds blood to lift the standard up, and they worked against him, undermining and working against that standard. That is as bad a sin as you can commit, and too many are guilty of it.

Now since we are dealing with women's hair here, let us go a little further and clarify how long is long from the Bible. 1 Corinthians 11:5-6 says, "Every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head (her husband) for that is even all one as if she were shaven. For if the woman be not covered, (How is she covered? Verse 15 says that her long hair was given her for a covering.) let her also be shorn or shaven, let her be covered." Again, verse 15 tells you how she is to be covered—her long hair.

Now right there in those verses, the Bible mentions three ways that women could wear their hair: shaven, shorn, and long. Also, in these verses, Paul said that there was not an ounce of difference between shearing and shaving. Webster says that shorn means to cut or clip the hair.

You may say, "Well, I have my own way fixed up!" Well, make sure that it is fixed good, because you are going to face God at the Judgment. I am not telling you here what I think or what I like. I am telling you what the Bible says. We are answering the question "What is long?" and the answer is anything that is not shaven or clipped. Although you may not feel that way about it, I am still telling you what the Bible says. Paul made it definitely clear what long hair is in verses 6 and 15.

Let us read 1 Corinthians 11:14-15 again: "Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him? But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her. . . ." Where did you get your

hair? Someone said, "Mine came from the wig shop." God gave the woman her hair, and He gave her just the kind that He wants her to have. One man said, "Well, I feel it is all right if my wife . . ." You can believe what you want, but you cannot back it up by the Bible. The Gospel is universal; it will work in any country. If we begin setting standards and say that long hair is that which hits the shoulders, then it will only work in one part of the country. However, if we will leave the Bible like it is, it will work everywhere. Among some races around the world, women's hair does not grow but two or three inches long.

However, if they let it be just like God gave it, they can walk right in the light of God's Word. Even though God has given women of other races hair that will reach clear to their ankles, they can fit right in, too. However, when man sets standards, they will not work among all races.

Let us just face facts. Sometimes mankind lets something affect him to the place that he does not want things like God fixed them. For example, God gives some people curly hair, and they iron it. He gives other people straight hair, and they curl it. He gives others black hair, and they "paint" it white. Your fancies or my fancies will not do; we must stick right to what the Bible says. God wants women to have the kind of hair that He gave them.

Now let us go back to the subject of long hair on men. We have read from 1 Corinthians 11:14 that nature teaches us that long hair on men is a shame. Therefore, we say that it is a shame, and on we go. However, if we just stop and study the Word of God a little bit, we find out that long hair on men is worse than we think it is. One writer wrote that no doubt if the Lord tarries, historians writing of our day will conclude that we people of the twentieth century had enough intelligence to build a great civilization, but we did not have enough moral strength to preserve our great civilization. I agree wholeheartedly with this writer. We are living in the wisest age that man has ever lived in. God has given us wisdom that we could build the greatest civilization that has ever lived on this earth, but we do not have moral strength and ability to preserve it.

A great Bible scholar and a great man of God once wrote,

"One of the great tasks today is to demonstrate to the young people of this generation that there is nothing stupid about righteousness." I could almost take the words right out of some of your children's mouths when you begin to tell them about the Bible standard. They say, "That is stupid." Now we have a job on our hands proving to our children that there is nothing stupid about living according to God's eternal Word.

The scholar went on to say, "To demonstrate to the young people of this generation that there is nothing stupid about righteousness, we must stop negotiating with evil." As long as we negotiate with evil, we are exactly like Lot. When the time came for Lot to persuade his children to leave Sodom, he was as one that mocked. Why? He had negotiated with evil.

We read in Revelation 16:13 about the three unclean spirits coming out of the mouth of the dragon, the beast, and the false prophet. You probably know that the spirit of the dragon is the spirit of atheism a spirit that will build up unbelief in your mind against God's eternal Word. Just like the serpent did with the first woman, he will make you feel that God does not mean just what He said.

Then, along comes the spirit of the beast—man rule and human heads in religion. That spirit will cause you to feel that you are able to decide what you should do about some of these things regardless of what the Bible says. If that spirit does not work on you, along comes the spirit of the false prophet, which is a compromising spirit. Oh, how this spirit works on every one of us! Oh, you would not let your hair grow like a woman, but that spirit has caused you to let your sideburns grow long. Also, you no longer have the razor used on the back of your neck; you are blocking your hair at the top of your shirt. Do you know what the spirit of compromise is? It means that you will not go all the way.

There are two things existing in your heart if you compromise. First, pride is still there. You want to be well thought of by the world. You do not like for them to think of you as that peculiar person that will not bend or bow. Secondly, you have a fear of taking a definite stand and living according to it.

Someone said, "The fashions of the land do not affect me." Well, why did you not let your sideburns down until the

world did? Why did you not start it first? Let me say again that I am dealing with more than long sideburns and long hair; I am dealing with a spirit that will damn your soul in hell if you do not quit compromising with it. You must stop negotiating with evil. The devil is getting souls by the millions on compromise. He may not be able to get you to go all the way; you are against that. However, you just compromise enough till both the world and the church will still recognize you as one of theirs. We must take a definite stand against evil if we intend to make it to Heaven.

Look at Psalm 15:1-4 with me: "Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle [or who is really in the church]? who shall dwell in thy holy hill [who actually has a Mount Zion experience]? He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart [that is where God is looking]. He that backbiteth not with his tongue. . . ." If you are making derogatory statements behind someone's back, do not be deceived any longer; you are not in Mount Zion. There is none of that in His holy hill. If you think that people are so wrong that they need to be righted, the Bible plainly tells you to go to them. Verses 3-4 say: "He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbor, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbor. In whose eyes a vile person is contemned."

Who is a vile person according to the Scripture? One that raises up against God's eternal Word. In the eyes of a real Christian, that person is contemned. Contemned means to despise. You cannot stand them; it makes you sick to be around them. The devil would like to make people feel today that there is a fine line between the world and the church. However, there is a great difference between the world and the church.

Speaking on these verses in 1 Corinthians, Chapter 11, Matthew Henry, a noted Bible scholar says that a woman's long hair is a natural covering to wear. It is a glory to her; but for a man to have long hair, it is a token of softness and effeminacy.

The Greek word for *shame* used in 1 Corinthians 11:14 is the same Greek word used in Romans 1:26 where the Bible speaks of a perverted morality until God gives a people up to

vile affections. Too often we just say that it is a shame for a man to have long hair, but we do not look at the depth of what the Scripture says about it. We need to look where God looks. God puts it as a vile thing, a dishonorable thing and a disgusting thing which He hates. God associates men with long hair with the vile affections of Sodomites or homosexuals!

Let us read it from the Bible in 1 Corinthians 6:9-10. I know that this type of message does not gather; it sheds. Some things are removed. However, sometimes people are so in love with things that they will choose to be removed themselves rather than remove the things which are wrong. Whatever it takes, let us have a clean work for God. First Corinthians 6:9-10 says: "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortion's, shall inherit the kingdom of God."

God put the effeminate right in the same group with the homosexuals, the fornicators, and the adulterers. Now do we feel that way about it? Would you still put your blessing on your son if he were dealing in homosexuality? No, you would have the church up all night praying; but he can let his hair grow like a woman's, and it does not even bother you.

The long hair is not the issue; the spirit that is working in there is the issue. That long hair is just an index. The spirit was working inside when the hair began to grow long. These things cropping out on a man are merely indications that let us see that there is a spirit working in there. The same spirit of rebellion against God and nature works in the fornicators, adulterers, and the homosexuals.

Look up the word *effeminate* in the dictionary, and see if that is what you want your son to be. I am only trying to help you avoid some grievous situations. What is the use of waiting until that spirit makes a homosexual out of your son or wrecks him in some other manner? God expects us to not be ignorant of Satan's devices. We need to recognize these spirits when the first indications appear.

I want this message to encourage the young people who

are going away to college as well as the others who are in school. Be very sure that you are clear before God and that your heart is fixed on godly principles. Even if the whole school raises up against you, stand on those godly principles anyway. Every student that I ever talked to that went to college, I have told to go to college and live for God. However, when they bring you to a place of decision where you must give up God to stay in college, give up college, come home, and live for God. What would it profit you if you gain the whole world and lose your soul? What would it profit you if you earn a doctor's degree but you spend your soul in gaining it? There would be no profit in it whatsoever.

We need to see how God looks at this thing. We are not saying in any way that long hair on men and homosexuality go together every time. Someone said, "Brother Wilson, the way you are talking, if a boy has long hair, he is a homosexual." I did not say that; but I am saying that in God's Word, they are thrown in the same category because the same spirit is working. The Bible will back me up. Long hair on a man and homosexuality in a man both represent a revolt against God-given nature and God's Word. I am sure that many who wear long hair have no intentions of being hippies or rebels; but let us face facts, church. Long hair in today's society is already accepted as a symbol of rebellion. All who wear it are classified in that category, no matter what their intentions are.

Someone said, "The hair does not mean anything." The newspaper, as well as the Bible, will let us know that the hair does mean something. The youth who lets his locks grow long is silently broadcasting a message to the world whether he necessarily wants to spread it or not. Here is proof of what I mean. A long-haired young man wrote to a newspaper columnist. Previously, a distraught mother had written to tell of the constant conflict that she and her husband were having with their son because of his hair. The columnist had replied that hair is not important; so the youth wrote the following letter to the columnist:

"You said that hair is not important. I disagree with you; hair is very important. I know because I have lots of it. Hair is an effective means of nonverbal communication. When I show up any place, I do not need to tell others, 'Hey, look, I'm

against the Vietnam war, racism, poverty, and pollution. I dig grass, black power, and revolution.' The moment that they look at my hair they know that I am for all these things. My parents think that I am wasting my life, but they are wrong. I think that they have wasted theirs. I have no desire to be a respectable producer and consumer. All I want is a small plot of land where I can grow my own food, get stoned, listen to music, and make love. I am willing to let the rest of the world alone, but I insist on the same privilege. My hair tells the story, and I believe it to be a very important story."

Now this is the way that the world looks at it. This is the way the individuals who are really into the thing look at it. That hair tells the story. The writer signed himself, "Flower Power." Unless you want to walk around giving everyone you meet the impression that you favor narcotics, revolution, illicit sex, and oppose the free enterprise system of American life, you ought not to wear the identification.

The dragon, the evil system through which Satan works, is deceiving many today just as Revelation, Chapter 20, declares to us. Here is the devil's deception. He reaches into history and drags great statesmen of the past into the picture as examples of long hair on men. However, the devil is not satisfied there; he reaches into religion and brings in Jesus Christ as an example of a man wearing long hair. The devil is not telling the truth about either example.

Brethren, many of those statesmen did not have long hair; they wore wigs when they were officiating in office. I have looked into this matter, and I know that this is true because I was in the Cayman Islands down in the West Indies that are controlled by England yet. It is still a custom of England that before the judge takes his bench down in Grand Cayman, he puts on his robe and his wig. If our great statesmen of the past saw how they were being dragged into the midst of this rebellion against the very principles for which they gave their lives, they would shave their heads today.

Let me say again that these Satanic forces are not satisfied to drag our great statesmen in as examples to try to support long hair on men, but they want to bring Jesus into it, too. Perhaps you know what the Bible teaches about that, but let us look briefly into this matter. Archaeologists reject current

pictures of Christ. Go look for yourself. They will tell you that the oldest representation of people who lived in Jesus' day reaches back to the first century. This evidence found in the catacombs of Rome proves that all men except Nazarites wore their hair short. Pictures kept of King Herod who lived in Jesus' day show him with short hair. Among the Jews, none but Nazarites wore their hair long. If every man had worn long hair, long hair on the Nazarite would have been no sign to the people. Those Nazarites had to make some moves that made them a peculiar people so that anyone could distinguish them from others no matter where they went.

The sixth chapter of Numbers will tell you what a Nazarite had to do: he must not touch anything dead; he must not drink of the fruit of the vine; and he must never put a razor on his head, because his hair had to grow long. Jesus was a Nazarene because he came from Nazareth just as everyone else was a Nazarene who came from Nazareth, but Jesus was not a Nazarite. He never followed the Nazarite vow. That Nazarite vow was merely a type of the full consecration that you and I must make to God. This consecration makes you and I a peculiar people and separate from the world.

We know that Jesus was not a Nazarite, because a Nazarite could not drink the fruit of the vine. However, every time Jesus kept the Lord's Supper, he drank of the fruit of the vine except on one occasion. A Nazarite could not touch anything dead; but when Jesus met a funeral procession, He walked over and touched the dead person. Then, the person got out of the casket and walked away. Jesus did not have long hair. This is just another deception of the Satanic forces.

When you say anything about long hair to people in the world, a surprising number of people answer, "Well, Jesus wore it." However, the truth is Jesus did not wear long hair. The Talmud, a book of commandments written by the scribes, will help us to understand this matter. In the fifteenth chapter of Matthew, Jesus charged the scribes with adding to the Word of God, because the scribes had some commandments of their own which they were making people live by rather than the Word of God. Nevertheless these commandments will help us to understand the day in which the scribes lived. You can read right in the Talmud that every priest had to have

his hair cut at least every thirty days. They wore short hair.

Furthermore, if Jesus had worn long hair like modern artists picture Him, and all the other Jewish men of that day wore short hair, Judas would not have needed to point Jesus out on the night of betrayal. All Judas would have had to say was, "Get that one with the long hair." However, because Jesus looked so much like the rest, it took someone who knew Him personally to point Him out.

Not too long ago when I was preaching out of town, I made the statement that Jesus did not have long hair. Two elderly ministers were stirred, and they accosted me as soon as the service was over. They said, "Preacher, you will have to take that one back." I replied that I would never take it back.

They said, "We have a book at home which proves that Jesus wore long flowing locks. I told them that I had a Book right in my hand that said that Jesus did not have long hair. I showed it to them. Paul said in 1 Corinthians 11:23, "For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you . . ." and the Lord said that it was a shame for a man to have long hair. Peter said that Jesus was our example in all things. Now how could Jesus have long hair and tell Paul that it was a shame for a man to have it? This theory that Jesus had long hair is nothing more than the work of Satan.

Now people are running all over the country calling themselves "Jesus People," but they are nothing more than "religionized" hippies. They live, smell, and act just like they did before they called themselves "Jesus People." The fad of long hair on men did not originate with George Washington, Martin Luther, or Jesus Christ. As far as our nation is concerned, the fad of long hair originated with an immoral group called the "Beatles." They were so immoral and unclean that England was glad to get rid of them. Because the church as a whole was in such a weakened condition when those individuals came to our nation, that spirit has been sown over our land in a multitudinous manner until it has marked the youth in almost every home in the nation and left us in a rebellious condition that is tearing our nation asunder.

The "Beatles" led our youth in a rebellious move that is shaking our nation as never before. The sad part is that much of Christendom was too weak to withstand the shock.

Consequently, much of the church world fell right under the power of this Satanic move; and now ministers with their hair growing long, including nationally known evangelists, are filling the pulpits. The devil stands back and laughs while a man supposedly stands up to preach the Gospel and to war against the spirit of the age but wears the devil's uniform while he is preaching. May God help us to see this!

Revelation, Chapter 12 tells us how the dragon worked in the morning time. He shot the flood out of his mouth to try to move the woman (the church) away from the solid foundation and position on which God established her. This is exactly what the devil is after today, Church of God. If the devil can budge us from the sound teaching and principles of God's Word, he has moved us into a powerless position.

One parent asked, "What am I to do if I have a son who is wearing his hair long?" This depends on many things. Your son's age will enter into it. If he is a grown son or a married individual, you will have to respect him as a man and talk to him as God directs you. Certainly if you are not careful in your dealings with your son, the same devil that caused your son to let his hair grow long will work to put him in a position where you will never reach him. I am not telling anyone who has grown sons to cut off their sons' hair. However, if your son is yet in his early teens and living at your home, you do need to cut off his long hair. Your sons living in your home are representing your home. Certainly, you will have to use wisdom. However, if you do some real praying, God will not let you rest till you make some moves along this line.

Too long the devil has tried to hinder the Church of God from standing on her own message. If we do not stand on our own message, we are powerless. May God help us to see that the dragon is trying to move the church to a powerless position. In too many cases, he has done it.

Just as Isaiah, Chapter 59, declares the enemy has come in like a flood. May we let the Spirit of the Lord lift up a standard against him. You are duty bound to hold up what the minister lifts up, but it takes the Spirit of the Lord to get the minister to lift the standard up; and it takes the Spirit of the Lord in you to hold it up. The enemy has come in like a flood. Long hair on men is accepted; and, first of all, the devil wants

to sell you on the idea that long hair on men is just a fad. You need to see deeper than that; long hair on men is rebellion against God's natural plan for mankind.

Someone asked, "Well, what are we to do?" The Apostle Paul told us in Ephesians 6:10-11: "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the WHOLE armour of God." Paul picked up this metaphor of the whole armor while he was down in jail. No doubt, as Paul looked at the guard wearing the armor, he thought about this truth. When Paul spoke about putting on the whole armor, he was dealing with one thought: do not let the devil cause you to come short on one teaching of God's eternal Word. We need every bit of truth that God has given us. We do not need truth just for understanding; we need it for an armor. Furthermore, truth is no armor till you put it to practice.

Now why did Paul say this to us? Verses 11-13 gives us the answer: "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand."

This will help you understand why you need to put on the whole armor. God does not give you what you do not need. God sent this message because we need it, church. We are up against the unseen powers of evil that control this spiritually darkened world. The deceiving power of Satan in the world is trying to make you feel that long hair on men is just a fad—people are just having a good time now, and they will do something else one of these days. Church, we need to get our eyes open. The spiritual agents from the headquarters of evil are seeking to gain control of you and me.

In Hebrews 13:7 the Apostle Paul said, "Remember them which have the rule over you." Paul told you what the rule is: we have spoken unto you the word of God—that is the rule. This is not man rule, this is Bible rule. Certainly, Paul meant for you to remember in prayer those who have the rule over you and remember them in many other ways; but, most of all, remember that they are not preaching a man's fancy. Do not

ever let the devil sell you on the thought that this message is Brother Wilson's idea. It is the Word of God.

Someone asked, "What do we need to do?" Submit to it. If God has shown you through His Word that there is rebellion working in your heart, you need to submit and repent. If you have let a compromising spirit work in your heart or in any way negotiated with the world's ways, you need to repent.

Let me say again that this is not a man's fancy or a man's idea. This is the standard of Heaven, and the standard of Heaven is the standard for the church. We must live that way here before we ever reach Heaven.

## Short Skirts on Women

People in modern religion would tell us that time is being wasted by preaching on such far out subjects as long hair on men and short skirts on women; but we still want to say that these are issues that are affecting the world and the church in a greater way than we truly realize, and so we make no apologies for the messages. Truth will still set us free, and it will still keep us free. It will still guide us in the paths of righteousness; and if we will live by it, we can live a victorious life here and die and go to Heaven. After all, that is the desire of every honest heart. It would be a wonderful thing if everybody who reads this article would give up to Jesus completely.

We realize, as we go into this subject of short skirts on women, that the devil is causing many in the religious world to do what Peter said they would do. They would wrest the Scriptures to their own damnation. They will pick out a few Scriptures and make us feel that we should not even deal with such thoughts; just preach along spiritual lines and get men's hearts right and all else will come right. One such Scripture that they use is Matthew 23:25-26: "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites ! for ye make clean the outside of cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess. Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also." Jesus was speaking to Pharisees and He called them hypocrites because they were sticking strictly to outward forms of religion when their hearts were not right. You can measure up on every line of the Gospel on the outside that you have the ability to measure up to, but if your heart is not right, if you do not have a real experience with God and God does not dwell in your heart through the Holy Spirit, you are wasting your time and you will be lost in the end. Jesus is often misquoted as saying that if you get the inside of the cup clean, the outside will come clean. He did not say that. He said to cleanse first the inside and then cleanse the outside. There is Scripture that deals strictly with the outside of the cup, because the outside of the cup needs cleansed just the same as the inside.

Galatians 3:28 is often misunderstood, also. Paul stated that there is no difference between male and female; we are all one in Christ Jesus. Let us not misuse this Scripture—Paul was dealing with the thought of the change that came about when Jesus Christ came and brought a new covenant that makes no difference whether you are bond or free, Jew or Greek, male or female. Your promise in the inheritance is just the same regardless of what kind of skin you have, what nation you come from or whether you are a male or a female.

There is teaching in God's Word and Scriptures that make a definite distinction between men and women; Scriptures that separate and govern each one. God plainly tells us in His Word that He does not want men and women interchanging their positions before God; but He wants them to live, act, and dress so that everyone will know whether they are a male or whether they are a female. Let us read Deuteronomy 22:5. This may be an Old Testament Scripture, but God has not changed His mind about these things. Jesus did not come to do away with the Law; he came to fulfill it. "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." God makes a definite difference not only in the clothes that the man or the woman should wear, but he made a difference in the way the hair should be worn. In 1 Corinthians, Chapter 11, He let us know that it was a shame for a man to have long hair; but a glory for a woman to have long hair.

The Bible has something to say about the dress question. The religious world tends to let it be a conscience matter and let the people do what they want to do about it. Well, let us see what the Bible says. First Timothy 2:7-10 tells us: "Where unto I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle, (I speak the truth in Christ, and lie not;) a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity. I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting. In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works."

Titus 2:1-5 reads: "But speak thou the things which

become sound doctrine: That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience. The aged women [or the mature women] likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love, their husbands, to love their children, To be discreet chaste [that is *c-h-a-s-t-e* not *c-h-a-s-e-d*; too many are trying to be chased] keepers at home, good obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed." The reason that the world has no more confidence in the Word of God than they do is because of people that claim to be Christians and profess it in a great way but live contrary to what the Bible says.

First John 2:15-16 states: "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world." I am told that there was a time when people could be left, to their better judgement to maintain a standard of dress that was suitable to God; however, if that day ever existed, it is past now. We are in a world that is on its way down; waxing worse and worse, and we are being asked to accept nudity as decent attire. Now, when I use the word *nudity* I am using it in the light of a Bible text speaking of nakedness. We are being brought to a place of decision. We must either accept the worldly attitude or else determine the Bible standard and live according to it. The Word of God needs to be sounded out as never before. Every true child of God, when they hear the truth, will accept it, walk in it, and stand for it.

Stop and think a little bit. This thing has moved upon us casually, deceitfully and in such a manner, little by little, that we have lost feeling over it. There was a time when we saw a man with long hair that it made us feel sick at our stomach; but we see so much of it now that it does not affect us very much if we are not careful. The lady saints are dressing modestly by keeping their dresses just below their knees. However, they are wearing their dresses right now just exactly where the flappers wore them in the Twenties. If you had lived then, they would have thought you a perfect flapper with your

dress right at your knee caps. If a lady showed the calf of her leg, she was plenty fresh, and any decent gentleman did not want to be around her.

The devil got the dress hemlines up to the knee and got the women over their shamefacedness and blushing, and now he has pulled them ten inches above the knees, and they still do not blush. I am not trying to put you back in the horse and buggy age, but I am telling you how deceitfully this thing has worked on us until we accept it today. We are in a battle where the spirit of the enemy is working through the most deceptive and diabolical manners, and he has one thing in mind: to clip our power with God. You need to realize that the devil does not want your life to be effective. He does not want your testimony to be effective, and he has ways and means of keeping it from being effective. In 1 John 2:15-16, John made it plain that to be a Christian, we must be free from these three things: the pride of life, the lust of the eyes, and the lust of the flesh. If any of these things work in us, the love of the Father is not in us. We are not in the Father; we are still in the world.

John was writing to Christians and letting them know that they must not love the world or the things of the world. Why? They had been made new creatures; they had new desires. Pride in the heart causes one to dress desiring to draw attention to the individual's body. Let us get right to where the trouble is. Man has always been prone to worship the human body or parts of it. The heathens used to worship the man's body, but today it is the woman's body. You do not believe it? Look at the advertisements; almost always it is the woman's body that you will see, no matter what is being advertised. I want to say again that it is pride in the heart that causes one to dress to draw attention to his own body. You can see them on the street if you want to look. They walk in such a way as to say, "Take a look at me. Am I not something desirable?" However, God is looking at more than the dress and the strut. He is looking at that pride in the heart. When an individual dresses in the pride of life to draw attention to his own body, it turns into the lust of the eyes which leads right into the lust of the flesh, causing mental adultery to be committed many times in the heart of a man and often leads into the actual act.

It all started because somebody did not dress right.

I speak from a heart of love. Christians must accept the Bible standard regardless of cultural standards. Everyone of you know that cultural drinking is accepted. Cultural standards are going to change, and they are not going to get any better; but whatever the cultural standards are, a true Christian must accept and live by the Bible standard.

Any of you who read the newspaper or listen to the radio know that society is increasingly accepting pre-marital and extra-marital intercourse and homosexuality. We must realize that customs of men have nothing to do with the standard of God's eternal Word, and even though society is increasingly accepting such sins, we must stand for sexual purity before and after marriage. The Bible declares it so.

There is no more reason for us to accept the standard of dress from a promiscuous society than to accept any other standard from it. We will not accept their standard on drinking; we will not accept their standard on sexual impurity; so why should we accept their standard on dress? If they are wrong on one point, there is a good chance they are wrong on the rest. The Bible says that the majority is on the broad way and going to hell, and you and I who have lined up with God's eternal Word and live according to the teachings of God's Word and have let the Holy Spirit have control of our lives, will just make it into Heaven (1 Peter 4:18).

I quote 1 Timothy 2:9 from *The Amplified Bible*: "Also (I desire) that women should adorn themselves modestly and appropriately and sensibly in seemly apparel, not with (elaborate) hair arrangement or gold or pearls or expensive cloths:" *The Amplified Bible* just makes it a little plainer. *King James Version* of 1 Timothy 2:9 says, "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety." The first thing I want to say is: the Bible declares that a woman needs to adorn her body in modest apparel. The word modest means not extreme or excessive either way. There are three standards of dress now—mini, maxi, and modest. Modest, if you please, is not extreme either way. There are two ways to look at modest apparel. First of all, the dress must be modest before you put it on. Secondly, you must wear it modestly; it must fit you

modestly. It must be modest when you are standing in it; and it must be modest from where other people are standing looking on. "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness. . . ." If you are a Christian woman, there will be some shamefacedness about you. Shamefacedness is a deep shame for any undo exposure of your body whatsoever.

We read in Romans 12:1-2: "I beseech you therefore, brethren (neither male nor female), by the mercies of God that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world. . . ." *Phillips Translation* of that second verse is: "Do not let the world around you squeeze you into its mold." The Bible means just what it says here. It means that body that you have your clothes on; that is the body that God wants presented to Him. I know Paul was dealing with complete consecration here, but he went right on in the second verse and said that after you present yourself to God, you are going to have to watch how you live. Watch your conduct, and watch what you put on that body; because if you do not watch, the world around you will squeeze you into its mold. Every one of us knows that our bodies are the temple of the Holy Ghost, and since our bodies are the temple of the Holy Ghost God cares a whole lot about how we take care of it.

I know that when I begin to deal with these Scriptures, the ladies can say, "Well, I feel my dress is long enough, and you cannot tell me just how long to wear it." No, I cannot tell you just how long to wear it; but the Bible does use the word modest, and the Bible does teach you that your dress was given to cover your nakedness. All of you know that, but here is where the misunderstanding is: too many people do not know what God calls nakedness. If I ask you, "What does God call nakedness?" You probably would say, "If a person had all his clothes off." The world is full of people who think that their nakedness is not showing unless certain spots of their bodies are revealed. They can reveal everything else up to an inch of those spots, yet they think they are not showing their nakedness. Remember, there is a spiritual phase working back of it all, and it is a deceptive thing.

Let us look into God's eternal Word and see what the

Bible classifies as nakedness. When Adam and Eve sinned against God, they took some fig leaves and made themselves some bikinis; but God made them coverings of animal skin. That tells us that the covering of the hips and the upper thighs is not enough to meet God's demand for covering, biblically.

Let us go to Exodus and study the old priesthood and gather something there that will let us know just exactly how God feels about these things. I cannot tell you how long the dresses ought to be, sister; but the Bible will tell you. In Exodus is found the Law that governed the building of the tabernacle and the setting of the priests in order. Exodus 20:26 says, "Neither shalt thou go up by steps unto mine altar, that thy nakedness be not discovered thereon."

If you read the whole chapter, it will tell you that God said not to put the altar up on steps where the priests would have to go up steps and bend over and handle the sacrifices; because when they leaned over being on an elevated position above the people, the nakedness of their body would show, and that is an abomination unto God, He said. The Priest's clothing consisted of long flowing robes that reached to the floor. To make sure that the nakedness of their bodies would not show, God had Moses make breeches for the priests to wear under their robes. Exodus 28:42 says, "And thou shalt make them linen breeches to cover their nakedness; from the loins even unto the thighs they shall reach." If you look at a picture of the breeches that the priests wore, you will see that they come down to the end of the thighs where the knee is hooked onto the thigh. God wanted them well covered so that if they had any kind of an accident while handling the sacrifices, their nakedness would not show. We have found out that anything above the knees is nakedness in God's sight. Bible commentators agree that the breeches came to the knees, and that if in any way when they bent over that the robe fell apart, their nakedness would not show. Because if their nakedness showed, they would have iniquity in their lives right while they were offering the sacrifices. If you want to know one reason why God is not healing the sick or why people are not getting soundly converted, it is because we are trying to offer sacrifices unto God while our nakedness is showing. Exodus 28:42-43 says: "And thou shalt make them

linen breeches to cover their nakedness; from the loins even unto the thighs they shall reach: and they shall be upon Aaron, and upon his sons, when they come in unto the tabernacle of the congregation, or when they come near unto the altar to minister in the holy place; that they bear not iniquity, and die. . . ." If they showed their nakedness while offering the sacrifices, they were guilty of iniquity. God did not want the altar up on steps above the congregation, because when you are up on a stage, the angle of perception is different than when you are on the level.

Why was God so careful? In Old Testament times the pagan priests that served the pagan gods went into their temples naked—not a stitch of clothing on. So, when God set up the tabernacle in the wilderness for Israel to worship in, He was very precise; and He is still just as precise today. When nakedness shows, it is still iniquity and an abomination unto God. God help us never to smile on something that He frowns on.

Here is a quote from an article by Paul Harvey, noted writer and newspaper columnist:

### **Attention and Then Trouble**

"Girls' skirts started creeping upward in 1964. The higher hemline then was most conspicuous only because it rode up when they sat down. Simultaneously, however coincidentally, crimes against women began a dramatic increase in the same year. The Federal Bureau of Investigation crime files show the rate of forcible rape shot upward in 1964 and each year since. In England where the short skirts had a head start, the rape rate in those five recent years increased 90%. In the United States the increase has been 68%. Last year forcible rapes increased more than any other violent crime. Is there a correlation? The contention of law enforcement officers in fifty states is, yes, there is a correlation between the two. Women do not see miniskirts from the same point of view the men do. A girl accustomed to appearing in public in a swim suit cannot comprehend the

difference between that and the propagating promise of possible view of the intimate areas. Professional law enforcement officials in fifty states were asked, 'Does the short skirt invite sex crime?' Those in 61% of our major cities reported 92% yes. The juvenile commander of one large city spoke the consensus view when he said, 'Some sex crimes are committed by individuals aroused by their sensory perception, and short dresses and some girls provoke such an attack.' When forcible rape is now our nation's fastest growing crime, a separate category of molesting young girls is also increasing at a record rate. Mary Quant, designer and mother of the mini-skirt (she designed the first one), said on November 12, 1967, 'Mini clothes are symbolic of those girls who want to seduce a man!.'

Is it possible that Christian women are contributing to such a picture as this? "Mini clothes are symbolic of those girls that want to seduce a man," Mary Quant said; and, as if to confirm her conclusion, the years the skirts went up, crimes against women demonstrated a parallel increase. The late J. Edgar Hoover of the Federal Bureau of Investigation places the frightful rise in cases of rape in the past years squarely on the door of the near-nudity of the modern girl. Dr. Lee E. Maxwell, one of God's great men, said: "We are often staggered at the Christian women who are still infatuated slaves of fashion. They would rather appear indecent than different. How they fear the frowns of their social set! Before their unblushing faces, the fear and frowns of God have long passed away." Dr. Maxwell declared his determination to hold the hemline to Heaven's plumbline.

We need to think on this, Christian women. I want to ask the question, "Are you actually contributing to sex crimes?" You may answer, "Why, I do not wear a mini-skirt!" Well, what about the compromising spirit? You do not wear a mini-skirt, but you have compromised an inch or two; and an inch or two is just as bad as six if you did it from pride in the heart. I am going to tell you what I would do if I were a Christian lady. I would dress clear away from that standard. I would never rob

God of an inch or two of cloth. Since His Word has taught me that from the knee on up is nakedness, I would not want mine to be right at the knee—the naked point—but I would gladly put the hemline two or three inches below the knee.

We read in Luke 17:1-2: "Then said he unto the disciples, It is impossible but that offences will come: but woe unto him, through whom they come! It were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he cast into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones." The "mother" of the miniskirt said that short dresses were made with one thought in mind—to seduce men—and there are plenty of men being seduced. God in Heaven only knows how many dozen times men short of the grace of God have committed mental adultery while they walked down the street. Sister, do not forget that according to God's eternal Word, if you caused that offence, if you caused that individual to commit mental adultery and have the wrong thought that shut him out of the Kingdom of Heaven and doomed him in hell, YOU WILL GO TO HELL, TOO! Away with this idea that "It is not anybody's business how I dress!" It is everybody's business how you dress. Woe be unto that individual by whom offences come. Offences come through what we do, what we say, how we act, how we dress, and where we go.

Romans 15:1 tells us, "We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves." This fits right into the message on dress: Everyone of you sisters ought to dress so that the weakest brother could be around you and never, because of the way you wear your clothes, be made to think wrong thoughts.

Romans 15:2-3 says: "Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification. For even Christ pleased not himself; but, as it is written, The reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me."

Romans 14:7-13 states: "For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord both of the dead and living. But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we

shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God. Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way." That falls right into the category of the way we wear our clothes. Judge this one thing for sure, that we do not put a stumblingblock in our brother's way.

Someone may say, "Brother Wilson, I think I ought to be free on what I feel." Read 1 Corinthians 8:9-12: "But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumblingblock to them that are weak. For if any man see thee which hast knowledge sit at meat in the idol's temple, shall not the conscience of him which is weak be emboldened to eat those things which are offered to idols; and through thy knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ." Somebody said, "He's talking about meat." Yes, he is talking about meat, but it will work on any other line where you sin against your brother and make a stumblingblock for him to fall over. We have a job on our hands, church, to lift up a standard in the kind of world we are living in now; but God will help us.

We need to see that this "undressed parade" is a diabolical plot; because unsaved and impure women dress to excite the basic desires of men and arouse their nature. Young girls, you need to know that men are not wood and stone. Not even Christian men. Christian men do not have ice water running through their veins. They have blood, heated blood. I can hear someone say, "Brother Wilson, you are going way out now." No, I am not going way out; I am just staying right in the limits of the teaching of God's eternal Word. There is just too much looseness with no thought whatsoever of what kind of a position you are throwing somebody else into. I want to say again men are not made of wood and stone. Neither do they have ice water running through their veins. God created every man with a sexual desire that is perfectly proper and correct in its right place. I will add on to that that the right place is in the confines of a

married life with the one woman that God has given him as a life partner. Speaking plainly (in a plain age, we have to speak plainly, but not vulgarly, or you do not get the message) but truly, the unclothed body and the sexual enjoyment are for married couples, who belong to each other, and to whom God has given the right of an intimate life.

In Genesis 2:24 God states, "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh." Now, with this thought in mind, I want you to look at Hebrews 13:4. I want to help you, dear one. Do not ever let the enemy of your soul make you feel because you are Christian you have a lot of liberty. In the sight of God you do not have any more liberty than a sinner has along these lines that I am dealing with right here. There have been more Christian young people ruined because they took liberties thinking that their thoughts were pure. Maybe their thoughts were pure when they started playing around, but it was not very long until a nature got stirred up within them. It was not a carnal nature, just a human nature that is in every sound individual, and it is possible to get into an uncontrollable situation and get into terrible grief because of it. We need to realize there are some things that are just not done. I will quote Hebrews 13:4 from *The Amplified Bible*, "Let marriage be held in honor-esteemed worthy, precious, (that is,) of great price and especially dear-in all things. And thus let the marriage bed be (kept undishonored,) undefiled; for God will judge and punish the unchaste (all guilty of sexual vice) and adulterous." That verse tells you that God's judgment is upon those who tamper with sex and trifle with the flesh when they are not married.

Young lady, you can cause a young man to act right no matter what kind of man he is, if you will be a LADY, especially a Christian young lady, and dress like one and act like one. Someone asked me the question, "Can a young lady be a Christian and slap a young man's face?" I answered, "Yes. If she tells him to behave himself, and he continues to press his affections upon her, she has a perfect right to give him a good one right in the face and let him know that she means what she said. When she spoke to him as a young lady (Christian or not Christian), and told him to stop, she

dealt with him as with a gentleman; but when he pushed his affections on her, he ceased to be a gentleman. He was a beast, and she needed to treat him as a beast just as you would kick a dog that was biting you.

Yes, let him have a good one. May God help us. I want to tell the young reader that when you ride around in those cars sitting almost on top of each other and laying your hands on each others legs, you are just asking for a lot of heartache and trouble. The kind that God is not going to help you out of; because you are overstepping the teachings of God's eternal Word. Someone says, "I don't do any of those things." Well, you watch that compromising spirit or the devil will get you to compromise one way or another. Our bodies are sacred unto the Lord (God will always hold them that way), and whenever we get to the place that we do not hold our bodies sacred as the temple of the Lord, the Lord cannot use us no matter who we are. Since our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit, shall that which is holy be exposed to the licentious gaze of lustful men? Mother, do not ever let the devil make you feel that you can dress that little girl in dresses clear up to her hips, and then when she gets to be ten years old, you will straighten her out. How you train her is going to be the way she dresses when she grows up.

Christian sister, you ought to quit trying to hold the hemline right at the naked point. Give God a few inches. If others can be so bold for the devil as to wear their dresses ten inches above their knees, surely you would not mind being just as bold for Jesus and wear your dresses a few inches below your knees. Let us set the right example of modesty for a lost and dying world. The salvation of our children's souls depends on you and I measuring to God's eternal Word.

We read in 1 Peter 1:13-15: "Wherefore gird up the loins of your minds be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; as obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: but as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation [or the Greek says *conduct*]." Saint, you cannot fashion yourself according to your own lusts, your own likes, or your own desires; because you belong to the Lord. Peter said that as

He that called us is holy, we must be holy in all our conduct. There is only one way to be holy, and that is to live according to the standard of the Holy Bible, walking in holiness and righteousness.

First Peter 1:15-17 states: "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy. And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear." I write from a heart of love; please do not let the beggarly things of this old world get such a hold on you that you turn down the precious redeeming blood of Jesus Christ and the power of His Holy Spirit from your life. I learned a long time ago that there is a moral law of sowing and reaping. If I honor God, He will honor me. If I forgive people freely, I can be forgiven freely. We can make our own way easy or hard. Do not be afraid of overdoing it for God. The Bible teaches a balanced position.

**The End**