

5.10.21 – Why?

I am sure that we have all had a child ask a question and after you give an answer they ask, "Why?" After a few repeats, you are forced to give some general answer like, "That is just the way it is." We need to remember this question when talking to a textile person. To illustrate; the first question you will be asked when you share or it is discovered that you are a naturist is, "Why would you want to go naked?" Instead of giving a defense, which you will certainly be ready to do, ask them why they would want to wear clothing. Their answer may give you an opening to lead them to the truth with just questions. This is not intended to be a debate strategy. A debate usually only convinces both sides they are right as they believed before the debate began. Let's consider some answers they may give.

Certainly, you are going to hear, "Everyone else is wearing clothing." If everyone believes it, does that make it right? In Noah's day almost everyone believed wickedness was alright or they would have responded more positively to Noah's preaching. Only 8 out of millions or even billions were right. I remember the illustration a pastor from my past used for being separate. When his son used the argument "Everyone else is doing it." He would be forbidden from doing whatever everyone else was simply because everyone else was doing it. If everyone is doing it, it is probably wrong his father would say. Not 100% accurate, but the point was solid. Have you ever known the truth to be popular? Creation, be a witness, live within your means, life begins at conception, God intended marriage to be one man and one woman for life...I could go on and on. Jim recently sent me a meme that pointed out Satan did not tempt Adam and Eve with big sins, he tempted them to doubt God's Word. I replied with the question, "Why do we believe Satan sooner than God?" His answer explains why Truth is not ever going to be popular. "Because Satan tells us what we want to hear, and God tells us the truth." The Truth is not what we are looking for in most cases. Notice also that we never once say that wearing clothes is wrong, that would be ludicrous...even Jesus wore clothes, we are simply saying that not wearing them is ok too when appropriate.

Another answer you are sure to get for wearing clothing is, "To prevent lust or sexual immorality" or something along that line of thought. Have you ever seen a naked person? If so, you can imagine what any person looks like without the clothing they are wearing? Has your imagination ever made things look better than they really were? Do you think some people have dressed to accentuate certain body parts? Do you realize then that clothing might be increasing the possibility of lust instead of preventing it? As we have explained in several articles, that covering certain body parts can increase the appetite to see them. Certain cultures

cover the ankles thereby turning the ankle into a sexually desired body part. Certain cultures cover the ears making them sexually desirable. The idea that we must cover to curb the appetite for lust is not working and an honest discussion of the matter disproves the notion rather quickly. More on this in Aaron Frost's book *Christian Body*. The clothing does not keep you from committing lust any more than the nails held the Lord Jesus to the cross. You curb the appetite for lust by first getting a new heart when you accept Jesus Christ as your Savior (www.PreciousSeed.com) then in getting a renewed mind by seeing people as God sees them. God sees us as beautiful, as made in His image, as the pinnacle of His creation, as His children. He does not see us as dirty, sinful, shameful, ugly beings that need covered and hidden in shame...that's actually how Satan sees us and how Satan wants us to see each other.

Nakedness is immodest is another reason you are sure to hear. "Modest" is often misused in Christian doctrine. Webster's 1828 online dictionary does include "not loose, not lewd." Modest comes from the same Latin word as moderate, but the word is often used for the same problem that we addressed in the paragraph above. attire that prevents lust. The Greek word in 1 Tim 2:9 has nothing to do with what is covered by clothing. It deals with orderly, decorative and appropriateness. Naked women were very common in the New Testament era because bathing was done in public and hard manual work was often done naked to save the only clothing the laborer had. Because of the cost of clothing, some people could not afford any clothing. A requirement to cover certain parts with clothing would forbid them from attending the meetings. The examples in that verse suggest being appropriate. We will instead consider the question, "can we be appropriate naked or dressed?"

Appropriateness depends on the activity. There is no reason for clothing if you are swimming in warm water. Clothing does not keep you dry when you get in the water. It does not make swimming more enjoyable. It does not prevent lust. The only purpose we can see is telling everyone that you gave up your liberty to make the legalists happy. Of course, legalists won't be happy about it anyway...now they think the suit is too tight, too brief, the wrong color and etc. Another problem with wearing the suit to please the legalists is striving to please men and not God. God is not opposed to nakedness, legalists are!

Another reason you might hear for wearing clothing; "God wants us clothed because we are sinners." Where in the Bible do you find that commanded? Somewhere in Genesis after the fall. What parts need to be covered? Do these parts need to be covered at all times? Most clothing advocates will not be able to

find anything to show that God wants us clothed because it is not there. If they read something into the coats that God made, it needs to agree with God commanding Isaiah to go naked for over three years and His Son not saying anything about Peter being naked while fishing along with other similar events.

This one is usually used as an excuse to not join naturists activities, but you might hear it as justification for clothing. I feel safer covered with clothing. That is a very human emotion, fear. The KJV has the phrase "fear not" in 63 verses. That is a lot of repetition. Fear and faith cannot occupy the same space at the same time. You are either living by faith or you're letting fear control you. Isn't it funny that when you want to do something bad enough you find a way to do it anyway...you conquer your fear! If you could find a good reason to attend a naturist activity, fear would not stop you.

If your discussion has gone this far, here is another view of the conversation:
"How can you cover your body without implying that God did something wrong when He made you? That He made something dirty and in need of covering..."
The following cartoon illustrates the point.

On the 6th day of creation God declared our naked bodies not just good but very good! We cannot improve on God's creation by covering it, now can we?

BLONDIE



If you have not made your point or lost your discussion partner by now, you may still need to explain why you want to go naked. My first response is that in our house we have a rule...that if God is for something then we are for it and if God is against something then we are against it. We know without a doubt that God is in favor of being naked...how? He told us in His Word. He said that He made us in His image, He made us naked and then He called it "very good"! He then told us

in His Word that He never changes, that He is the same yesterday, today and forever. And not once in His Word, did He tell us that He had changed His mind about our naked condition. Not once in His Word, did He ever tell us that naked is a sin. In fact, we find repeated illustrations in both the Old and New Testaments of the commonplace of nakedness with no condemnation from God...some even at His command. Why else...because we believe firmly that the nonsexual naked life desexualizes the mind and desexualizes society. It creates a healthy body image, porn poofs our children and our husbands when it is practiced often. Living naked and not ashamed has health benefits and it is just simply enjoyable.

The real question, when looked at fully, really is why wouldn't you want to live as God intended from the beginning?