

# *The Sunday Reader*

Vol. 07 No. 12

*Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine...*

MARCH 25, 2007

## “SKIN IS IN”

By David Diestelkamp

Advertising this spring and summer’s bare fashions, a popular magazine’s cover reads, “Skin is in!” Of course, public exposure of skin has always been “in” with some, but it has rarely been so socially acceptable. Bare and revealing styles have, in fact, now become expected. Today, social pressures are compounded by the difficulty of finding decent clothes in the stores.

Are we thinking? Most people act as though they are not thinking about decency. Maybe this is to be expected of the world, but even some Christians act like God doesn’t care what we wear. Have we forgotten that Jesus is Lord both of our bodies and how we clothe them? God has spoken, “...women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation..., but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works.” (I Tim. 2:9-11). Is this the foundation of our thinking while shopping for our wardrobe and getting dressed in the morning?

Are we searching? I am well aware of the fact that some Christians struggle with the verse in determining exactly what is modest. Unfortunately, the question, “Where do you draw the line?” has turned into a worn-out excuse for having no objective line at all. This question should drive us, hungering and thirsting (Matt. 5:6), into a daily search of the Scriptures to find out what is right (Acts 17:11). In all other areas we say, “Stand still – don’t act – until you know you can do so in full faith that it is right!!” How can we allow ourselves to wear clothing that we are not 100% sure is modest?

What is our standard? Everyone has a “line”—a point of propriety and decency for at least some situations. The world derives its clothing standards from things like what feels good (pleasure, comfort,

sexual appeal, etc.), what looks good (style, attractiveness, etc.), and popularity (fashion, fad, etc.). Note that these are based in the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. John warns us that this “...is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.” (I John 2:16-17). As Christians, we are looking to a much higher rule. It is God and His Word which are our standard in all things. Does what we wear appeal to the standards of God or men? Stop wearing it if it cannot be justified by God’s Word.

It is disturbing that many Christians act as though we need authority for everything we do, except for what we wear. They reject lessons on modesty and propriety, as well as suggested biblical “lines”, but then offer nothing as a substitute standard. The rejection of an interpretation or proposed standard does not free someone to act lawlessly—it obligates them to find the truth!

What do your clothes say? We are speaking to God, not just men, by what we wear. Do our clothes say that we are “professing godliness, with good works”? Of course we won’t always be dressed like everyone else—they aren’t professing the same thing we are! In fact, we are going to stand out “...in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world”. (Phil. 2:15). –via “Think On These Things”, April-May-June 2000

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*Bear in mind that children of all ages have one thing in common...they close their ears to advice and open their eyes to example.*

*--unknown*

## Upcoming Assignments:

### **Wednesday March 21, 2007**

Song Leader ..... G. Collier  
Opening Prayer ..... Assigned  
Invitation ..... F. Bacon  
Closing Prayer ..... Assigned

### **Sunday AM March 25, 2007**

Announcements ..... F. Bacon  
R. German  
Prayers ..... B. Webber  
S. McCalpine  
Song Leader ..... W. Holland  
Communion ..... W. Darrington  
G. Collier  
Assist Communion ..... T. Irvin  
J. Nesmith  
Greeter..... C. Davis

### **Sunday PM March 25, 2007**

Song Leader ..... B. Tuten  
Prayers ..... M. Shepherd  
T. Irvin  
Scripture Reading ..... M. Shepherd Jr.

### **Prepare Lord's Supper March 25, 2007**

Marian Tuten

### **Making Communion Bread for April**

Maggie Bacon

The four hardest tasks on earth are neither physical nor intellectual feats, but spiritual ones: To return love for hate; to include the excluded; to forgive without apology, and to be able to say 'I was wrong.'

-Author unknown-

## The Information Box

- Group 3 meets tonight after services
- Remember in Prayer:
  - Joe Lamont
  - Donna & Ed Pickett
  - Audrey Rivera (due any minute!!)
  - Mike & Courtney Bidney (We are sorry to hear that Mike's mother, Louise Bidney, passed away Tuesday morning. Mike will be staying with his father a couple of weeks to help him with paperwork and adjustment).
  - Lois Barrett, Connie Collier's mother
  - Ruth & Jerry Poss
  - Annette German's mother, Betty
  - Marshall's sister's mother, Stella
- Out of town this weekend:
  - Bill & Lois Webber
  - Wendell & Jane Holland
  - Monroe & Sybil Duke
- The Friday morning Ladies' Bible class meets at 11:00 at the building.
- Remember our Scripture Reading on the 1st Monday night of each month. We will be reading **I & II Thessalonians** on Monday night, April 2, 2007, at 7:30 pm.

**A teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan, in which a man was beaten, robbed and left for dead. She described the situation in vivid detail so her students would catch the drama. Then, she asked the class, "If you saw a person lying on the roadside all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?" A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence saying, "I think I'd throw up."☺ A merry heart does good like medicine, But a broken spirit dries the bones.**

### Rockdale Church of Christ

705 Smyrna Road  
Conyers, GA 30094  
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**Determined to serve God  
according to His will.**

### Schedule of Services

#### Sunday Morning:

Bible Study - 9:30  
Worship - - - 10:30

#### Sunday Evening:

Worship - - - 5:30

#### Wednesday Evening:

Bible Study - 7:30

### Elders:

Forrest Bacon - 770-918-1932  
Wendell Holland - 770-761-6987

### Deacons:

Gary Collier - 770-483-6017  
Marshall Irvin - 770-483-5745

### Today's Sermons:

By Ross Fink