

## Beauty and Modesty (2)

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Joseph Carty / General

Live Ministry / Clothing; Modesty; Sabbath and Rest; Elijah (prophet); Mount Carmel; Truth / 1 Peter 3:4

How should I decide how I dress, what I watch, and how I talk? Are my feelings and tastes just supposed to grab onto whatever I like about the latest trends? What does God have to say about these types of choices and how do these choices affect my spiritual life (as well as the life of the body as a whole)?

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- Continuation from last Sermon

Story

## Rain

- Symbolism of Rain
- Spiritual Connotation

### **Hosea 6:3 ESV**

Let us know; let us press on to know the LORD;

his going out is sure as the dawn;

he will come to us as the showers,

as the spring rains that water the earth.”

- Rain = Spirit

**Isaiah 44:3 ESV**

For I will pour water on the thirsty land,  
and streams on the dry ground;  
I will pour my Spirit upon your offspring,  
and my blessing on your descendants.

**Last Days**

**Acts 2:16–18 ESV**

But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

“ ‘And in the last days it shall be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams;  
even on my male servants and female servants  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

## Drought

- God allows droughts:

### **1 Kings 8:35–36 ESV**

“When heaven is shut up and there is no rain because they have sinned against you, if they pray toward this place and acknowledge your name and turn from their sin, when you afflict them, then hear in heaven and forgive the sin of your servants, your people Israel, when you teach them the good way in which they should walk, and grant rain upon your land, which you have given to your people as an inheritance.

- Drought Caused by sin:

### **2 Samuel 21:1 ESV**

Now there was a famine in the days of David for three years, year after year. And David sought the face of the LORD. And the LORD said, “There is bloodguilt on Saul and on his house, because he put the Gibeonites to death.”

## Why God Uses Droughts

### **Amos 4:6 ESV**

“I gave you cleanness of teeth in all your cities,

and lack of bread in all your places,

yet you did not return to me,”

declares the LORD.

- What did God want?
  - for them **to return**

## **Spiritual Drought**

### **Amos 8:11–13 ESV**

“Behold, the days are coming,” declares the Lord God,

“when I will send a famine on the land—

not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water,

but of hearing the words of the LORD.

They shall wander from sea to sea,

and from north to east;

they shall run to and fro, to seek the word of the LORD,

but they shall not find it.

“In that day the lovely virgins and the young men

shall faint for thirst.

- Just like physical drought
- There are spiritual droughts
  - (lack of spiritual power)

- The cause is the same:
  - SIN

## Elijah

### **1 Kings 17:1 ESV**

Now Elijah the Tishbite, of Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, before whom I stand, there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word.”

### **Why?**

- Turn People Back to God

Why Drought ?

- sin...

### **1 Kings 16:33 ESV**

And Ahab made an Asherah. Ahab did more to provoke the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger than all the kings of Israel who were before him.

# Showdown on Mount Carmel

## **1 Kings 18:19 ESV**

Now therefore send and gather all Israel to me at Mount Carmel, and the 450 prophets of Baal and the 400 prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table."

- Bring Prophets
  - Showdown

## **1 Kings 18:24 ESV**

And you call upon the name of your god, and I will call upon the name of the LORD, and the God who answers by fire, he is God." And all the people answered, "It is well spoken."

- Whichever God
  - **Answers by Fire!!!**
- Prophets of Baal
  - yell
  - dance
  - cut

- Elijah Makes fun
  - bathroom
  - journey
  - asleep

### **Elijah's Turn**

- Repairs Altar
- Pours Water

Simple Prayer:

#### **1 Kings 18:36–37 ESV**

And at the time of the offering of the oblation, Elijah the prophet came near and said, “O LORD, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel, and that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your word. Answer me, O LORD, answer me, that this people may know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back.”

### **Fire from Heaven**

#### **1 Kings 18:38 ESV**

Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt offering and the wood and

the stones and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench.

- Everything devoured
  - offering
  - wood
  - stones
  - water

## **Recognize Sin**

### **1 Kings 18:39 ESV**

And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, “The LORD, he is God; the LORD, he is God.”

- People see
- Face-to-face
  - sin
  - rejection of God
  - normalization of sin
- Next Step?



## Dealing with Sin

### 1 Kings 18:40 ESV

And Elijah said to them, “Seize the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape.” And they seized them. And Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon and slaughtered them there.

- Sin must be dealt with
  - swiftly
  - decisively

## Steps to Heart Change

- Recognize Sin
  - Repentance
  - Deal with Sin
  - Seek God
- 
- Same Steps for us...

## Recognize Sin

- How did they
  - get to that point.
- **Normalization of Wickedness**
  - Everyone does it!
  - Salvation Issue?
  - Not big deal...

### **Are We in a Drought?**

- God moving?
- Evangelism?
- Unity?
- Charismatic Gifts
  - Africa
  - 3rd World

### **Why Drought?**

- Always Sin Related
- First step,
  - recognize sin...

## Worldly Media

- God's Plan for
  - media use.

### **Philippians 4:8 ESV**

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

- Call ourselves Christians
  - Feed off of
    - same garbage
      - of the world.

### **Media Of World**

- Hollywood movies

- Worldly Music
- Social Media
  - Tic Toc
  - YouTube
  - Facebook
- Video Games
- Disney
  - Magic
  - Christmas
- Binge Watching

**Psalm 1:1-2 ESV**

Blessed is the man

who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,

nor stands in the way of sinners,

nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

but his delight is in the law of the LORD,

and on his law he meditates day and night.

- Progression of sin
  - Walk
  - Stand
  - Sit

**Proverbs 17:15 ESV**

He who justifies the wicked and he who condemns the righteous  
are both alike an abomination to the LORD.

- What sins have we become comfortable in?

## Worldly Dress

**1 Timothy 2:9–10 ESV**

likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works.

Kids in Mall

## **Modesty**

- Some Body Parts are:
  - Private
  - Personal
  - Marriage
- These Clothes
  - show every curve
  - leave no imagination
- Style
  - show it all
- Righteous Woman
  - Hides what
    - belongs to
      - future husband

## **Jewelry and Adornment**

- braided hair
- gold
- pearls
- costly attire
- plastic?
  - cheap?
- Cost one factor
- Other factor
  - Drawing Attention
    - to outward appearance
- Next passage:

### **1 Peter 3:1–5 ESV**

Likewise, wives, be subject to your own husbands, so that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by the conduct of their wives, when they see your respectful and pure conduct. Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing

you wear— but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God’s sight is very precious. For this is how the holy women who hoped in God used to adorn themselves, by submitting to their own husbands,

Again:

- braiding of hair
- putting on of gold jewelry,
- clothing you wear

God’s Desire:

“let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God’s sight is very precious...”

- Don’t try to
  - draw attention to external
  - splashy makeup
  - nail polish
    - unnatural colors
- Seek



- meekness
- What if it is not extravagant?
- What if it is cheap?

[1 Peter 3:3](#) (HCSB)

Your beauty should not consist of outward things like...

- It does not say too much
- It just says don't do that.
- Some translations
  - added words

Actual Words of Bible:

[1 Peter 3:3](#) (ESV)

Do not let your adorning be external...

NKJV:

[1 Peter 3:3](#) (NKJV)

Do not let your adornment be “*merely*” outward...

- Italicized...
  - Added...
- I promised 3 Issues
  - Worldly Media
  - Worldly Dress
    - number 3:

## Worldly Sabbath Observance

Biblical Sabbath Observance:

- Seeking Spiritual Things ([Isa 58:13](#))
- Corporate Worship ([Heb 10:25](#))
- No Work ([Ex 20:8-11](#))
- No Buying/Selling ([Neh. 13:15-21](#))
- Nobody Working for You ([Ex 20:10](#))

## Seeking Spiritual Things

- We should ask
  - Would Jesus do this
  - on the Sabbath day?

### **Isaiah 58:13** **ESV**

“If you turn back your foot from the Sabbath,

from doing your pleasure on my holy day,

and call the Sabbath a delight

and the holy day of the LORD honorable;

if you honor it, not going your own ways,

or seeking your own pleasure, or talking idly;

- Worldly Gatherings
  - parties
  - weddings
  - etc.

## Corporate Worship

**Hebrews 10:25 ESV**

not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

- Sabbath is for
  - corporate worship

**Isaiah 66:22–23 ESV**

“For as the new heavens and the new earth

that I make

shall remain before me, says the LORD,

so shall your offspring and your name remain.

From new moon to new moon,

and from Sabbath to Sabbath,

all flesh shall come to worship before me,

declares the LORD.

**No work**

- Secular labor
- Paid work
- Home chores

- Emergency Work
- Needed for Life
  - Refuse Pay
  - Give gains to God
- Preparation Day
- Education for Career

## **No Buying/Selling**

### **Nehemiah 13:15–21 ESV**

In those days I saw in Judah people treading winepresses on the Sabbath, and bringing in heaps of grain and loading them on donkeys, and also wine, grapes, figs, and all kinds of loads, which they brought into Jerusalem on the Sabbath day. And I warned them on the day when they sold food. Tyrians also, who lived in the city, brought in fish and all kinds of goods and sold them on the Sabbath to the people of Judah, in Jerusalem itself! Then I confronted the nobles of Judah and said to them, “What is this evil thing that you are doing, profaning the Sabbath day? Did not your fathers act in this way, and did not our God bring all this disaster on us and on this city? Now you are bringing more wrath on Israel by profaning the Sabbath.”

As soon as it began to grow dark at the gates of Jerusalem before the Sabbath, I commanded that the doors should be shut and gave orders that they should not be opened until after the Sabbath. And I stationed some of my servants at the gates, that no load might be brought in on the Sabbath day. Then the merchants and sellers of all kinds of wares lodged outside Jerusalem once or twice. But I warned them and said to them, “Why do you lodge outside the wall? If you do so again, I will lay hands on you.” From that time on they did not come on the Sabbath.

- Buying and Selling
  - enforced under
  - penalty of jail time
- Today
  - going out to eat
  - shopping
  - gas
  - snacks

### **Nobody Working for You**

#### **Exodus 20:10 ESV**

but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates.

- No Work
  - No servants
  - No animals

- No Gentiles
- Issues Today
  - eating out
  - Sabbath Travel
    - Plane
    - Hotel
    - etc.

## Bring the Rain

- God withheld rain
  - Because
    - SIN
    - un-confessed
    - un-repent
    - normalized
    - Christianized

- Do we want rain?

Steps They took?

- Recognize Sin
  - Repentance
  - Deal with Sin
  - Seek God
- 
- We must do same...

Final Reading:

**Joel 2:1-32** **ESV**

Blow a trumpet in Zion;

sound an alarm on my holy mountain!

Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,

for the day of the LORD is coming; it is near,

a day of darkness and gloom,

a day of clouds and thick darkness!



Like blackness there is spread upon the mountains  
a great and powerful people;  
their like has never been before,  
nor will be again after them  
through the years of all generations.  
Fire devours before them,  
and behind them a flame burns.  
The land is like the garden of Eden before them,  
but behind them a desolate wilderness,  
and nothing escapes them.  
Their appearance is like the appearance of horses,  
and like war horses they run.  
As with the rumbling of chariots,  
they leap on the tops of the mountains,  
like the crackling of a flame of fire  
devouring the stubble,  
like a powerful army  
drawn up for battle.

Before them peoples are in anguish;

all faces grow pale.

Like warriors they charge;

like soldiers they scale the wall.

They march each on his way;

they do not swerve from their paths.

They do not jostle one another;

each marches in his path;

they burst through the weapons

and are not halted.

They leap upon the city,

they run upon the walls,

they climb up into the houses,

they enter through the windows like a thief.

The earth quakes before them;

the heavens tremble.

The sun and the moon are darkened,

and the stars withdraw their shining.

The LORD utters his voice

before his army,

for his camp is exceedingly great;

he who executes his word is powerful.

For the day of the LORD is great and very awesome;

who can endure it?

“Yet even now,” declares the LORD,

“return to me with all your heart,

with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;

and rend your hearts and not your garments.”

Return to the LORD your God,

for he is gracious and merciful,

slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love;

and he relents over disaster.

Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,

and leave a blessing behind him,

a grain offering and a drink offering

for the LORD your God?

Blow the trumpet in Zion;

consecrate a fast;

call a solemn assembly;

gather the people.

Consecrate the congregation;

assemble the elders;

gather the children,

even nursing infants.

Let the bridegroom leave his room,

and the bride her chamber.

Between the vestibule and the altar

let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep

and say, "Spare your people, O LORD,

and make not your heritage a reproach,

a byword among the nations.

Why should they say among the peoples,

'Where is their God?' "

Then the LORD became jealous for his land

and had pity on his people.

The LORD answered and said to his people,

“Behold, I am sending to you

grain, wine, and oil,

and you will be satisfied;

and I will no more make you

a reproach among the nations.

“I will remove the northerner far from you,

and drive him into a parched and desolate land,

his vanguard into the eastern sea,

and his rear guard into the western sea;

the stench and foul smell of him will rise,

for he has done great things.

“Fear not, O land;

be glad and rejoice,

for the LORD has done great things!

Fear not, you beasts of the field,

for the pastures of the wilderness are green;

the tree bears its fruit;

the fig tree and vine give their full yield.

“Be glad, O children of Zion,

and rejoice in the LORD your God,

for he has given the early rain for your vindication;

he has poured down for you abundant rain,

the early and the latter rain, as before.

“The threshing floors shall be full of grain;

the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

I will restore to you the years

that the swarming locust has eaten,

the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,

my great army, which I sent among you.

“You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,

and praise the name of the LORD your God,

who has dealt wondrously with you.

And my people shall never again be put to shame.

You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,

and that I am the LORD your God and there is none else.

And my people shall never again be put to shame.

“And it shall come to pass afterward,

that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh;

your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,

your old men shall dream dreams,

and your young men shall see visions.

Even on the male and female servants

in those days I will pour out my Spirit.

“And I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the LORD has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the LORD calls.

## **Steps**

- Near Coming of Final Judgment
- A Call for Repentance
- God’s People Turn
- God Relents His Punishment

- God Sends Latter Rain

## Conclusion

- God's Rain is Conditional Upon Obedience
- Repentance is Required

## Appeal

- Seek God
- Hold Each Other Accountable
- Avoid:
  - Worldly Media
  - Worldly Dress
  - Worldly Sabbath Observance