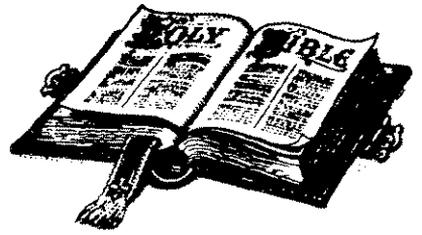


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MODESTY AND RESPONSIBILITY

In the good old summertime there are invariably two themes which gospel preachers must treat with. These items deal with immodest clothing and spasmodic service among the people of God. Lend me just three minutes of your time for a discussion of these timely topics.

In regard to modesty, we might as well face it: Our very foundations are crumbling in this field of study. To be sure the Bible has not changed in its eternal principles of righteousness. The change is on the part of the Lord's disciples who deem it wise to partake of the lustful nature of the world. I am convinced that some of our brethren in the entertainment field and perhaps several in educational circles are lowering the divine standards of chastity in this area of Christianity. The public swimming pool is no more an acceptable place for saints of God than the dance hall floor! The principles of Galatians 5:19-21; 1 Thes. 5:22; and 1 Timothy 2:9-12 are being violated by children of God who parade in shorts, halters, bathing suits, and like garments before the public. Such things ought not so to be.

Another thing that plagues the church constantly in the summer months, is the lack of devotion to duty manifested by many vacation-minded brethren. The old slogan, "Good bye, God, I'll see you in September," has a lot of truth in it for some of my friends in Christ. Actually, in many respects, June, July and August, should be the very best months in the year for the Lord's work. The climate is fine, the days are longer, most of us have more free time, school is out just to mention a few of the benefits of this span of time. Let me mention four things that will keep us from having a summer slump.

1. Determine that you will be more alive and active spiritually.
2. Set a goal of winning 3 souls for Christ before fall.
3. Remember your responsibility to the local congregation.
4. While on vacation plan ahead that you may know where to worship.

--Johnny Ramsey.

◊ "Where the Bible is the Standard of Authority" ◊