

## I. What Is Nakedness as God Defines It?

1. Once Adam and Eve became aware they were naked, they sewed together fig leaves to make aprons ([Gen. 3:7](#)).
  - a. aprons (*hagorah* H2290 noun) is used five times in the Old Testament.
    - i. Four out of five times the sense is a belt ([2 Sam. 18:11](#); [1 Kgs. 2:5](#); [2 Kgs. 3:21](#); [Isa. 3:24](#)).
    - ii. One out of five times the sense is a loincloth ([Gen. 3:7](#)).
    - iii. “**covering**, i.e., a garment made of plant leaves ([Ge 3:7](#)+), note: the amount of skin covered is not known, but at least the private parts of the body” (DBL Hebrew).
  - b. Loins describe the “Region of the body from the chest to the lower part of the hip” (Elwell, Walter A., and Barry J. Beitzel. “Loins.” Baker Encyclopedia of the Bible, vol. 2, Baker Book House, 1988, p. 1346.).
  - c. From the context of [Genesis 2-3](#), Adam and Eve did not wear any clothing prior to this so nakedness is defined initially as **without clothing**.
2. The aprons Adam and Eve fashioned for themselves were deemed inadequate by God as he made them coats of skin in order to clothe them ([Gen. 3:21](#)).
  - a. coats (*kuttonet* H3801 noun) is used 29 times in the Old Testament.
    - i. “**tunic**, garment, i.e., clothing as a covering more complete than a loincloth, a basic garment reaching the knees and so a common garment for common wear and work” (DBL Hebrew).
    - ii. The tunic is a “Loose-fitting, knee-length garment worn next to the skin” (Brand, Chad, et al., editors. “Tunic.” Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary, Holman Bible Publishers, 2003, p. 1632.).
    - iii. This word describes a garment that reached at least to the knees and would go up to the shoulders.
    - iv. Some other translations for this word are “robe” (e.g., [Isa. 22:21](#)), “garments” (e.g., [Ezr. 2:69](#)), and “coat” (e.g., [Job 30:18](#) observe that this coat had a collar i.e., a mouth or opening).
  - b. This same word is used to describe one of the priest’s garments.
    - i. High priest’s brodered coat of fine linen ([Ex. 28:4](#), [39](#)).
    - ii. Priest’s coats ([Ex. 28:40](#)).
  - c. The priests were also required to wear linen breeches for the express purpose of covering their nakedness ([Ex. 28:42](#)).
  - d. Today, each Christian is a priest ([1 Pt. 2:5](#), [9](#)).
  - e. From [Genesis 3:21](#), Adam and Eve needed **more** clothing than they had on, so the definition of nakedness is now modified to be without **adequate** clothing.

3. Nakedness, as God defines it, would be exposure of the body between the shoulders to the knees.
  - a. We must remember we do not define nakedness by man's definition but by God's definition.
  - b. Nakedness is not arbitrary, subjective, or cultural as the human anatomy remains the same since the first man and woman, Adam and Eve.
  - c. The definition for nakedness also does not change due to our proximity to water (e.g., at the beach, lake, or swimming pool) or playing sports in public (especially mixed) settings.
  - d. While being without clothing completely is nakedness, not having on **adequate clothing** is also naked in God's sight.

## **II. What Is the Purpose of Clothing Biblically Speaking?**

1. It was not for protection of the human body, at least initially.
  - a. Adam and Eve lived in the garden of Eden before the fall ([Gen. 2:8-15](#)).
  - b. The way the world functioned was different then ([Gen. 2:4-6](#)).
  - c. Some believe that prior to the flood, the Earth was much warmer, almost like a greenhouse (see [Gen. 1:6-7](#) with the firmament).
2. Clothing is for the protection of the eyes.
  - a. Prior to sin, Adam and Eve were naked and not ashamed ([Gen. 2:25](#)).
  - b. After sin, Adam and Eve were ashamed of their nakedness ([Gen. 3:7-10](#)).
  - c. Adequate clothing provides protection for others who would look upon us.
    - i. Jesus stated that looking precedes lusting ([Mt. 5:27-28](#)).
    - ii. The harlot understands lust begins with looking ([Pr. 7:6-10](#); e.g., [Gen. 38:13-15](#)).
    - iii. Job made a covenant with his eyes, why ([Job 31:1](#))?
    - iv. One of the avenues that Satan uses to tempt is through the eyes ([1 Jn. 2:16](#)).
    - v. He used this avenue with Eve in the garden ([Gen. 3:6](#)).

## **III. What Must I Do Regarding Nakedness?**

1. The apostle Paul charged the Corinthians to examine themselves ([2 Cor. 13:5](#)).
  - a. Does my clothing cover my nakedness as God defines it?
  - b. Does my clothing adequately protect the eyes of others?
  - c. If the answer is "no" to either of these questions then I need to make a change in my clothing.
2. Christians are to be separate from the world and not to love it ([2 Cor. 6:17](#); [Jn. 15:19](#); [1 Jn. 2:15](#)).
  - a. Just because "everyone is doing it" or it is the popular style or trend does not mean I should be doing it ([Ex. 23:2](#)).