

THE BEACON OF TRUTH

June 3, 2018

“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.” John 17:17

What Does the Bible Say About Dancing?

Chase Green

Note: This is the fourth in a series of articles regarding moral issues, entitled “What Does the Bible Say About...”

The word “dance” occurs in the KJV eight times. The past tense form, “danced,” occurs an additional six times. The plural form, “dances,” also occurs six times. The gerund, “dancing,” occurs seven times. The question is, how does the Bible view such activities. The answer lies in the context.

For instance, sometimes dance accompanied worship (in the Old Testament), or celebration over military accomplishment. This was basically an expression of joy or victory. Here are a few examples: “Let them praise his name in the dance: let them sing praises unto him with the timbrel and harp” (Psa. 149:3). “Praise him with the timbrel and dance...” (Psa. 150:4). “A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance” (Ecc. 3:4). These situations do not appear to be sinful, for they were written by the inspired penmen David and Solomon, respectively. Jeremiah 31:13 gives further Old Testament approval for such: “Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance, both young men and old together: for I will turn their mourning into joy, and will comfort them, and make them rejoice from their sorrow.” But this is not to say that all forms of dance are acceptable with God. Furthermore, we do not find dance associated with worship in the New Testament, so we must keep that in mind.

But I want to now turn your attention to the type of dance that God has never approved of — lascivious dance. A good example of this type of dance is found in Mark 6:22-23: “And when the daughter of the said Herodias came in, and danced, and pleased Herod and them that sat with him, the king said unto the damsel, Ask of me whatsoever thou wilt, and I will give it thee. And he swore unto her, Whatsoever thou shalt ask of me, I will give it thee, unto the half of my kingdom.” This context strongly implies that Herodias’ daughter danced suggestively before the king. (The Greek word for “pleased” in this context refers to bringing feelings of excitement upon an individual). This ultimately resulted in the death of the Lord’s servant, John the Baptist.

Suggestive, lascivious dance is not acceptable to God, for lasciviousness is not acceptable to God! Lasciviousness is defined as “inclined to lustfulness, ... lewd, arousing sexual desire, indicating sexual interest or expressive of lust or lewdness” (dictionary.com). The chief objective of this type of dance is to provoke in another feelings of lust and excitement. Surely this does not need further explanation, but I’ll give one anyways.

When a cheerleader jumps and gyrates in her scantily clad way, what is the (Cntd. on pg. 2).

By the Numbers:

Week of 5/27/18

Contribution – \$2239

Attendance:

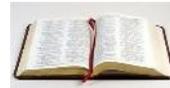
Sunday School – 27

Sunday Worship* – 52

Wednesday Night – 34

*Total for the day

Bible Trivia Question



Last Week’s Answer: The church at Smyrna (Rev. 2:10).

Q: Which congregation had a little strength and had not denied Jesus’ name?

Answer to be given next week!

Sermon Spotlight:

AM: The Church at Thyatira

- 1) What are some things this congregation was doing right?
- 2) What were they doing wrong?

PM: 1 Cor. 9:25-27

- 1) What is the main theme of this text?
- 2) What does hypocrisy do to the church?

Schedule Of Services

Sunday
Bible Study 9:45 A.M.
Worship 10:30 A.M. & 2:00 P.M.
Wednesday Bible study 7:00 P.M.

Website

Beaconofcfc.com (under construction)

Preacher

Chase Green
318-608-7418

Elders

Bill Schooley 318-396-7296
Tim Green 318-547-4026

Missions Supported

Ronnie Gootam - India
Marlon Retana - Panama
Brad Harrub - Focus Press

BEACON CHURCH OF CHRIST
2326 JONESBORO ROAD
MAIL: P.O. BOX 3057
WEST MONROE, LA 71294

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED

1. Hear the Gospel (Jn. 20:30-31; Rom. 10:17).
2. Believe (Rom. 1:16; Acts 18:8; Heb. 11:6).
3. Repent (Lk. 13:3; 24:47; Acts 3:19; 17:30).
4. Confess Christ (Matt. 10:32, 33).
5. Be baptized (immersed) (Matt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16).
6. Continue faithful unto death (Rev. 2:10).

Mailing Address

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

NEWS AND NOTES
TO OUR GUESTS—A WARM WELCOME

Thank you for coming today and please come back soon and often. If you have questions about the church of Christ, what is taught here, or the way we do anything please feel free to ask. Please fill out the Guest Register on the table in the foyer so we may have a record of your visit.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Dewey Young — Margie Tippen — The family of sister Pete Varner — Buster Keeton — Ruth Coston — Regina Simmons — Wendy Traweek — Lisa Morris — Mildred Allhands — Marcia Green — Judy May — John Motherspaugh — Kenneth Hendrix (upcoming surgery)

OTHER THINGS & UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Monthly Fellowship Meal — Every 4th Sunday unless otherwise noted
- Youth & Young Adults — Be on the lookout for monthly get-togethers! Our next get-together is scheduled for June 29th at Jarrod and Bessie's house — (If you would like to host or help with an event, please let Chase know)

(Continued from page 1)

natural response of most men? Is it not to stare lustfully upon the young woman with impure motives? Most Christian men struggle daily with combatting thoughts such as these, and yet, the modern cheer leader's objective is to encourage it.

I can go on and on describing activities with like motivations: dance clubs, music videos, artistic dance, "belly dancers" (common in certain Middle Eastern restaurants, for example), school functions such as the prom and homecoming. All of these have one important theme — Sex sells.

Why do we allow our young people to be influenced by such abominable activities? Why do we actively encourage one another to attend such events? Why do we gaze onward as the cheerleaders do their thing? (I love football as much as the next guy, but as a Christian, it is my duty to my wife, my children, and my God to look the other way!) Why do we continue to encourage what God calls a work of the flesh?

"Now the works of the flesh are manifest (clearly evident, TCG), which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness ... and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God" (Gal. 5:19-21, emphasis mine).

I don't know about you, but I can live without the so called pleasures of dancing, if it means that I'll get to participate in the heavenly reward God has for the faithful!

— With love, Chase

Modern Dances

Jeffrey W. Hamilton

Note: The following is an excerpt from a question and answer article I found at the following link: <http://lavistachurchofchrist.org/LVanswers/2003/2003-12-11a.htm>. Because of the controversial nature of this topic, I thought it best to include another article describing the provocative nature of what we are dealing with. The entire article is worth reading. — TCG

Under which category would you place today's dances? Today's dances are usually done as a form of entertainment. Dances are rarely done to celebrate (except short ones done by football players after scoring a touchdown). Modern dances also feature a sexual theme. Don't look so dumbfounded! Of course sexual arousal is a major reason people dance today. Think about it. Do you think it is normal for a man to dance with a man? Why not? It is because dancing is sexually stimulating, and we realize that it is improper for a man to arouse another man. To do so is an indication that the men involved are homosexuals. If you are having difficulty understanding the sexual overtones of modern dance, ask yourself "Would you like to see your mother doing a slow dance with a stranger?" Most of us would immediately answer NO! Such actions would suggest an affection between the two people - an affection that should only be shown between a husband and his wife.

Consider the movements involved in today's dances. The slow dances involve a man closely holding a woman against his body, which we know is very stimulating (Brother Hamilton goes on to describe that faster dancing gets far worse, TCG) ... Society seems to feel it is all right for a man and woman to pantomime sex in public.

If dancing is just an innocent pastime, why are there chaperons at all of your school dances? The chaperons are there to make sure that things do not get out of hand. When boys' and girls' passions are aroused, they will do many things that they ought not to do. For boys and girls to sneak in drinks or to sneak out for a quiet rendezvous to relieve their sexual lust is not unheard of.

Why do people that you know dance today? Do you think that sex plays a major role, even if it is not acknowledged by the people involved? Some people claim that they only dance for the exercise. It is true that vigorous dancing is good exercise, but are there not other ways that accomplish the same goal? Why are these other methods of exercise not as popular as dancing?

Note: Again, compare what you have read above with what Paul wrote in Gal. 5:19ff. Godliness and modern lascivious dancing just do not mix! — TCG

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

"Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men."

Matthew 5:13

BE SURE TO TUNE INTO OUR RADIO STATION!
FM 102.5 KCXB-LP - The Beacon of Truth
Available 24/7 on FM radio and at Beaconcofc.com