



FAIRHAVEN BOOK REVIEW

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"CHRISTIAN MODESTY & THE PUBLIC UNDRRESSING OF AMERICA"

BY JEFF POLLARD

INTRODUCTION

This book, written in 2004, traces the lineage of the swimsuit in American culture. The author does an excellent job of using secular historians to show that the evolution of the swimsuit had a design and purpose. The purpose was to get Americans comfortable with more and more "skin" exposed so that it would become commonplace to have "nakedness" without public outcry.

OVERVIEW

The author is writing to Christian parents, pastors, and youth leaders to encourage them to review their concept of modesty as it pertains to Scripture. The author guides the reader from issue to issue, such as defining the terms that need to be addressed to showing that God was the original designer of clothes. His premise is that the fashion industry had a design and purpose in the development of the swimsuit. The author shows that "nakedness" had to become more and more acceptable in our society in limited situations at first. As fashion designers and the media were able to get Americans to let down their guard in these limited areas, they could advance further in their attack on Christian modesty.

SUMMARY

The author uses a quote from Samuel Bolton at the start of his discussion which shows his desire to let God adjust the reader's heart on this subject. The following is a section of the quote: "It is my earnest desire that what is here made obvious to the eye, the God of truth would make evident to the heart."

ASSESSMENT

The author does a great job in leading the reader from a historical study to a spiritual decision point based on Scriptural analysis. One analysis brings this idea out, "Guilt for this decaying and debauched state must not be laid entirely at the feet of women, as it often is. The problem lies squarely with the men in the pulpits and homes of this nation." He then continues this admonition by showing that the media has been allowed to change the average Christian's modesty principles away from God's Word. Another quote also reveals this, "They have followed their silver screen icons into nudity, and not the purity of Jesus Christ."

CONCLUSION

Some may find parts of this book wordy or philosophical, but that is mostly because our society has become dulled by silly mantra and cannot normally handle a diet of solid thought and intellectual "meat." The author has done his homework, and it is evident. The book is a short read and can be easily digested over a few evenings or mornings.

RESOURCES

You can purchase the book at the following link:
<http://bookstore.fairhavenbaptist.org/product/christian-modesty-the-public-undressing-of-america>