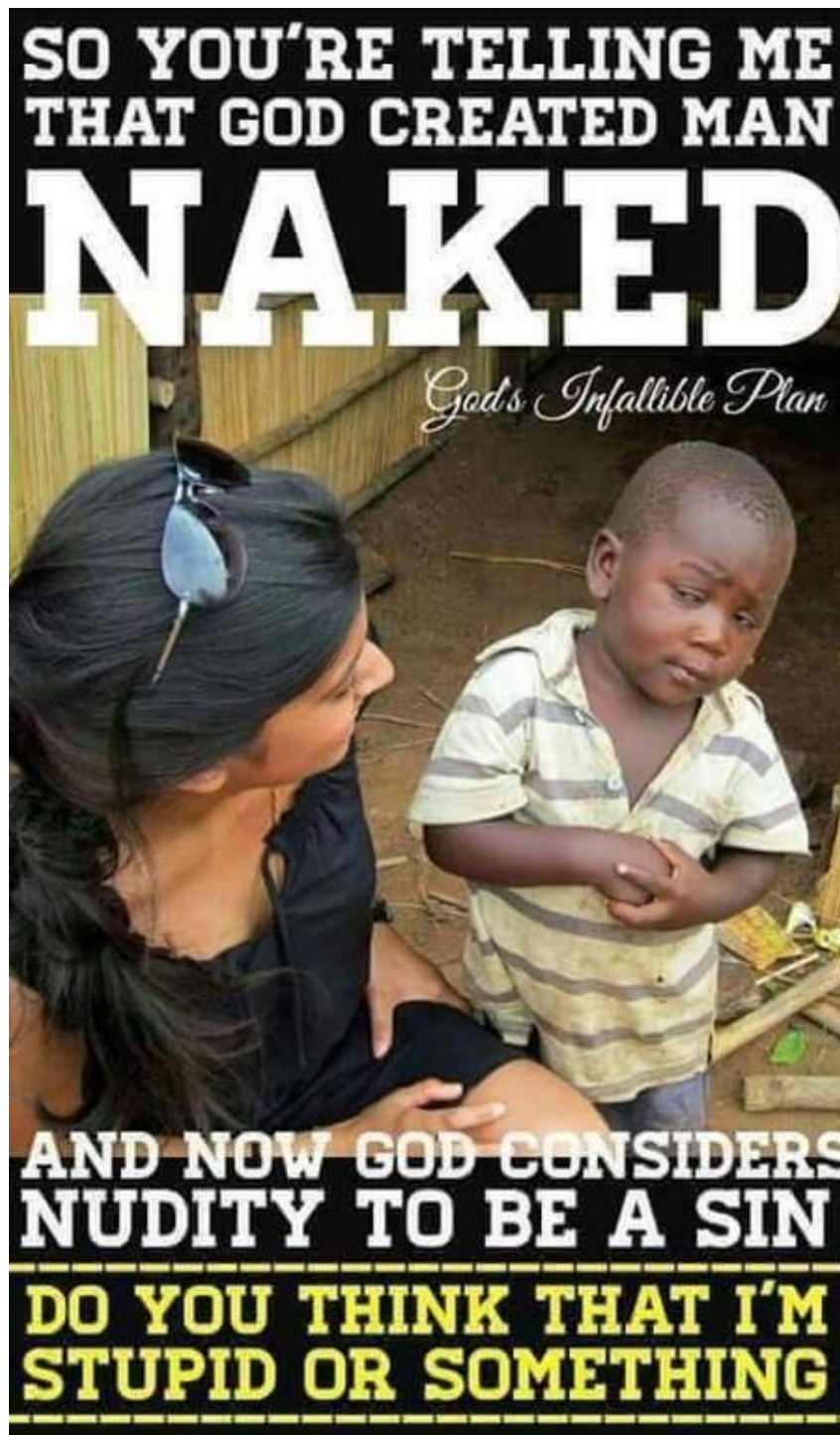


9.30.19 - Think About It

I want to give some reactions to a few cartoons and pictures that we came across recently about how ridiculous the textile position looks if you do not need to defend their false belief.



It would be very interesting to hear what kind of response he'd get from her out of that one. How can you tell someone he is not stupid and still tell him that he is wrong when it is so clear that he is right? She could tell him that when man was naked before the fall, he had a "righteous glow". He lost it when he ate the forbidden fruit and so now, he needs clothing to make up for the glow. If we help the boy a little with his response it would go something like this: "But if He created them naked then the glow was a covering so then they were not really naked." She could tell the boy that part of the punishment for eating the forbidden fruit was a need to wear clothing. His response could be: "So God would expect a man who would not stay away from the forbidden fruit with plenty of other fruit to eat will restrict himself with clothing? I have heard that it was too warm for clothing. God knows everything, right, then why not plan on the fall and not make them naked at all?" At this point the lady has an urgent need to be somewhere else, even if she does not. If you think about it, the only connection between the statement at the top of the pic and the bottom is changes after the fall. God knew when he created Adam that there would be a fall and He had the changes ready to put in place. If covering His image was part of the changes, He could have covered it from the beginning of creation. He did not cover it, so He wants it displayed even after the fall whenever the environment will not harm it. Yes, God made "coats" for them in Genesis 3, but we do not know what they looked like and God left no instructions on when they were to be worn or how much needed to be covered. If we study the whole Bible looking for a foundation for nakedness being a sin, we will not find any. Let me say that again, you will not find a single one!



I have a background in science education and a love for a definitive right answer. Believe me when I tell you that explaining the rocket science can be easier than convincing a textile believer to accept what the Bible says about nudity. When the question is asked the way that it is in the picture above, you'd think that we should all get it right. Until it was pointed out to me that God might want us to display his image, I would have given the wrong answer. Again, it seems obvious, but if He didn't want His image in us displayed...why create us naked? Here, again a little thought

will make it clear what the right answer is. God designed us and could make us anyway He wanted. Since He made us naked, He expected us to be naked when possible. To cover His image in us incorrectly implies that God did not get His image right and that I need to keep it hidden so that God is not dishonored. It might imply that we could improve on God handiwork with clothing. Neither implication is likely to go over well with God. A few years ago, I made a desk for my granddaughter. If when I visited, I found the desk covered with a sheet, and her books on top of the sheet I would ask myself, “Is the finish that bad that it needs covering?” Another game textile people play is to blur the gender differences to the point that you need to look for facial hair to be sure to which gender the person belongs. It is not difficult when the clothing is absent. A silhouette is enough to tell.



This is an example of **Rom 1:22**. The gal has a body that is very similar to the nude one. The guy certainly has a pretty good idea what was under the gal's bikini. Where is the cause for panic? We like to think that we are rational beings, but something like this makes it hard for me to believe that's true. What is at stake here is

the false belief that people will do “stupid things” when in the presence of a naked body of their own species, but this shows them doing stupid things to escape from “stupid things.” This implies that their environment controls them and not their thinking. The people we associated with as we were growing up programmed us to respond with haste when in the presence of a naked person and not to be naked ourselves in the presence of others. Maybe we should take more of the “why questions” from young children serious and even check if we were trained in the way of truth before we go on with the training. The answer to these “why questions” is the start of the panic scene shown in the cartoon. “Why do I need to wear clothing on such a hot day?” “Why do I need a bathing suit to go swimming and not to take a bath?” “Why can’t I wear my birthday suit all day?” “Why do I need to wear clothing if I stay inside?”

It seems that the simplicity of a child’s thinking is all that is needed to understand such a simple concept such as if God created us naked then how can naked be a sin? It’s kind of like the simplicity of the salvation message...if I am a sinner and sinners go to hell, but Jesus died for sinners then why not choose to ask for His forgiveness and accept Him and what He did for me personally? Seems like God knows how to make a simple message, it’s adults that complicate it.

So, here’s the message:

1. God created us in His image
2. God created us naked to display His image
3. We are still made in His image today
4. We should still be displaying the image that He wanted displayed

This is not to say there wouldn’t be times when protective covering would be allowed such as cold or rough environments. This is why God recorded making coats for Adam and Eve after the fall,

but it is to say that God certainly still wanted to display His image in them or there would have been a direct command at that point to forbid nakedness. You see, just because God allows certain behaviors does not mean that He prefers certain behaviors. God allows divorce today, does that mean that everyone should get divorced...of course not! To say that because God allowed a covering that everyone should now be covered is just as “stupid” of an idea!

God allows for divorce, but He prefers that people stay married!

God allows for a covering, but He prefers that people stay naked!