

2.22.21 - Why I Promote Biblical Naturism

I was recently asked a question that I thought really needs answered thoroughly not just off the cuff. The question was “why do I promote Christian naturism”. The person went on to say that my wife and I have gone through so much negative because of the biblical naturist lifestyle that they told me that it just wouldn’t be worth it and it couldn’t be good if so much negative came because of it. I am going to share with you here in this article just why we continue to promote biblical naturism despite all of the so-called negative that we’ve been through because of it.

My father taught years ago that when you run smack into the devil at least you know that you’re going the right direction. In other words, Satan lets sleeping dogs lie. If you are not being opposed by Satan, then you’re probably not moving forward for Christ. Another phrase I’ve heard is that they only throw tomatoes at the heads that rise above the crowd. As long as you keep your head down and don’t make any waves and don’t start making a difference for the Lord then Satan will simply ignore you. But when you start to influence people for Christ then Satan takes note and you become a focus for his attack. If you never do anything for the Lord, you are guaranteed to never become a focus of Satan’s attack. Is that reason enough to not influence people for the Lord? It’s not for us.

Let me give you a little background, then I’ll attempt to explain why we believe with every fiber of our being that biblical naturism is worth the attacks that can come. We have been biblical naturists ourselves for about 17 years now. About 7 years ago we decided that the biblical naturist lifestyle was the one that God intended and that God preferred, that it solved so many problems in the Christian life...problems like pornography addiction, like a lustful heart, like a closer intimacy with the Lord and with our fellow Christians, like a healthier image of one’s self and the body in general. So, with that in mind we made the conscious decision to begin promoting the biblical naturist lifestyle to our family and friends that we knew would benefit from it. We put the Bible study that we had done on the subject in written form to share it with others. It went well at first...a young couple that we were counseling experienced dating each other as naturists and sex

never became a thing for them before marriage, first because they committed themselves to not have sex before marriage and kept that commitment and second because naturism helped to desexualize nudity and their view of each other. They were not sexual objects to be had, they enjoyed dating as naturists and nonsexual nudity demystified the body making it easier to wait until marriage. Their purity before marriage is something that I will always be thankful for and we firmly believe that biblical naturism helped play a role in that process. A friend of ours who suffered with an addiction to pornography began to live a biblical naturist lifestyle and his testimony is that for the first time since he was 15 he felt that he was no longer addicted to pornography...that the biblical naturist lifestyle had removed the lust from his heart and desexualized his mind. Another friend who had been addicted to pornography for over 50 years began to see changes in his attitude toward the body, he said that he no longer viewed woman as sexual objects, but as creations of God, appreciated for their beauty, but not to be used for his own pleasure. He said that for the first time in his adult life he had gone 6 months and had not viewed pornography even once and felt that the desire had simply been removed from his heart. Apparently, Satan had noticed, because then the attack came.

A friend of ours who we were mentoring in the ministry, who was having some really bad health problems that were affecting his mental state who also knew we were biblical naturists got mad at us and used our biblical naturism to bring credibility to his attack. I was accused of having an inappropriate conversation with a 16 year old girl. That accusation of an inappropriate conversation led to a pastor 1400 miles away, who knew nothing about the situation, accusing us of raping that same girl and her two brothers. All of the accusations were proven to be completely false by three separate law enforcement agencies. The only reason that the accusation even had any credibility in the first place was the fact that we were naturists. We ended up losing a 20 year friendship, we lost many friends from our former church, we lost our ministry position as pastor and we went through what I will call the worst emotional period in our lives to date. The only ministry I had left was an online soulwinning ministry that I had started in 2000. Now, most would say that's enough for me to not to want to be a naturist anymore. Sounds like a good reason to stop to me. The question I would ask is that if something is right to do, are you going to stop doing it because Satan opposes you?

Now, let me tell you as Paul Harvey would say...the rest of the story. All of the negative occurred in January of 2018. In February of 2018 I received a message from a ministry in the Philippines asking us if we would consider printing a gospel tract in the Philippine language of Tagalog. We already had a ministry sharing the plan of salvation online...would I be willing to expand that ministry into the printed plan? Had I still had the other ministries there is no way I would have ever even considered this request as we were just too busy. But here I was without an active ministry, so we prayed about it and decided to go ahead and move forward. We had our English tract "How To Get To Heaven From Texas" translated into Tagalog as "How To Get To Heaven From the Philippines" and went to Office Depot to print the first 1,000 tracts. The lady at Office Depot printed the first one up and handed it to me asking me to proof it before she printed all 1,000 of them. Well as you guessed it, I don't read Tagalog and I told the lady behind the counter as much and we had a good laugh. The lady behind me in line speaks up and so I turn around to face her. She says to us, "I am from the Philippines and I read Tagalog, would you like me to proof it for you?" Well, you could have pushed me over with a feather. Now, before I tell you the rest of the account, let me ask you what the odds are in a city in Texas of 4 million people that the person behind me in line while printing a Tagalog tract would be someone who reads Tagalog? I handed her the tract and she read the whole thing, as she nears the end of the tract she begins to cry and asks me if the information is true. That Jesus, God's Son died for her sins and for her forgiveness and that if she simply asks for His forgiveness and accepts Jesus as her personal Savior that she can go to Heaven when she dies. I replied to the affirmative and she began praying and asking forgiveness right there in line at the Office Depot in Humble, Texas. I guess you never know when someone has a prepared heart what God will do for them. It turns out that the lady behind the counter was a Christian as well and we all had us a crying and celebrating fit right there in the store. The Filipino lady asked us for tracts for her whole family so, we printed the 1,000 tracts plus a few for her and sent them to the mission field. Since then we have printed over 70,000 tracts and counting, in 15 different languages on 6 continents and we have seen over 3,700 people saved that we know of. All from a ministry that I know I would not have ever even considered had we not just "lost" our pastoring ministry due to the false accusations of a friend. We have since learned that the negative that you're going through may be in God's perfect plan for your life and that he may be doing

something that you don't see yet. You see, the negative, as painful as it was, was also in God's plan and as Romans tells us worked together for good for those who love the Lord.

Now, don't get me wrong, we would have preferred to not go through the valley, but if the valley meant seeing that many saved, then we would gladly go through the valley again. The biggest negative and painful event in our lives has led to our biggest victory. You see, Satan meant it for evil, but God meant it for good!

So, why do we keep promoting biblical naturism knowing that well-meaning Christians can turn on you and accuse you of terrible things that are not true? We're going to give you a few of the reasons that we continue to actively promote biblical naturism.

1. Because the Bible tells us that God created us naked and not ashamed and called it "very good".

God doesn't do anything by accident so if He created us naked then He did it because that's how He wanted us. We can accurately infer that He did so to display His highest creation, His most valued of all that He created...the one creation on the planet that He made in His own image. When you read further into the account, after the first sin, you will see that God asks Adam and Eve who told thee, also inferring that Satan is the one to convince them to cover their naked bodies and hide themselves in fear. We also find nowhere in scripture that God ever changed His mind, in fact what we do find is that God is the same yesterday, today and forever and that God never changes. Well, if God wanted them naked and Satan convinced them to cover, then I am going to promote the ideal that God wanted not the lie that Satan promotes.

2. Because we want people to not suffer the addiction to pornography that so many Christians seem to suffer from.

If the only time we are naked is for sex, then we create a situation where as soon as we see someone naked, we have a sexual response. If nakedness is common and nonsexual then we immediately begin to desexualize nudity. There is so much more about defeating porn addiction on the MyChainsAreGone.org website that we highly recommend reading through the site and implementing a naturist lifestyle as God's method of defeating a sexual view of the body. Remember that Adam and Eve were naked in the garden and not for sexual purposes, but for gardening.

3. Because we do not want people to view the body as a dirty, sexual, shameful thing to be covered and hidden like it is some sort of evil.

God created the body...in His image, it is a beautiful thing. He put it on display just as He did the animals, the trees, the mountains and the rest of His creation. He even left fur off of us so that we could be viewed in our entirety...Imago Dei...God's image in us. It doesn't sound like God views us as a dirty thing that needs covered...maybe we had better begin viewing God's creation the way He does, not the way the world, Hollywood and Satan does.

4. Because right is right no matter who opposes it and wrong is wrong no matter who promotes it.

In this politically correct, censored world that we live in it is extremely hard to take a stand against the mainstream. You can be de-platformed today just because you believe in real science and medicine. In the Christian world, you can be de-platformed just as quickly if you actually take the Bible as it is written. Well, just because the majority is against it does not make it wrong. Just because it is misunderstood does not make it wrong. In fact, quite the opposite is typically true. If the majority is against it, then you can almost be assured that it's right. When I was growing up my father had a rule, that if the majority were doing something then we weren't. If the majority was against something, then it was a pretty good idea to do it. He said that there were exceptions to the rule, but as a rule the majority were wrong.

So, someone has to take the unpopular, but biblically accurate view and promote it. Someone has to take the unpopular, but scientifically and medically accurate view and promote it. Someone has to take a stand for Truth! Well, we decided a long time ago that as for me and my house...we will serve the Lord. That has certainly been an unpopular choice occasionally, but it has also been well worth it, with many rewards from God for doing so.

We will not allow those who criticize us for believing the Bible and for taking God at His Word to stop us from promoting His Word and His way. There are simply too many benefits from living as God intended to let others intimidate us. We promote living as God intended so that others may enjoy those same benefits. We promote living as God intended in the same way we promote salvation by grace rather than works, the same way we promote creation over evolution, the same way we promote faith over fear. We promote a godly view of the body because it's simply the right thing to do and because it's the Truth.

5. Because of all of the physical and mental health benefits that are derived from spending as much time as possible naked and not ashamed.

Study after study has been done in the scientific and medical communities that show there are significant health benefits to being naked. Stress is greatly reduced, vitamin D production goes up dramatically and is shown to reduce the risk of heart attack, strengthen the immune system reducing the severity and longevity of flus and viruses and create an overall sense of euphoria helping both physical and mental health. One study linked the removal of layers of clothing with removing layers of stress. Your skin is the largest organ on the body and benefits from being allowed to breathe...keeping it wrapped up in clothing promotes a swampy, bacteria ridden environment. An article titled *Dressed to Kill* links tight clothing such as bras and underwear to certain cancers like breast and testicular cancer due to reducing the lymphatic systems ability to drain. Sleeping naked has been shown to improve sleep and help with weight loss. Toxins are removed from the body through the skin and circulation is improved. The list of health and wellness benefits is long and distinguished...it's

almost like God created our bodies to be naked. Here are just a few links to articles showing some of the medical and scientific benefits to being naked:

<https://www.healthline.com/health/reasons-to-spend-more-time-naked>

<https://www.today.com/health/health-benefits-being-naked-how-stripping-down-good-you-t44911>

<https://www.thehealthjournals.com/the-benefits-of-being-nude/>

<https://www.lifehack.org/articles/lifestyle/10-reasons-why-you-should-get-naked-more-often.html>

<https://www.mindbodygreen.com/articles/being-naked-is-good-for-your-health>

There are many more articles and studies that can be read on the subject as there is a mountain of evidence to the mental, emotional and physical benefits of being naked.

6. Because God gave us so many illustrations of the common place of nonsexual nakedness in the Bible without His condemnation, some at His leading and some at His command that it is obvious to anyone who takes an honest look at the Bible that nakedness is not sin.

So, we start our view with the fact that God wanted us naked and not ashamed, we continue with the fact that nowhere in the Bible does God condemn nakedness and we end our view with God's preference on nudity from all of the examples of nudity in scripture.

My father always taught that God teaches through direct command, principle and by example. We cannot find any direct command in scripture regarding simple nonsexual nudity, however we have principle from the fact that God wanted us naked since the beginning of creation and we have tons of examples of nakedness throughout scripture from Creation all the way through the New Testament.

The bottom line for us is that if God is for it then we are for it and if God is against it then we are against it. We decided a long time ago that we would promote a

Godly world view no matter what anyone else thought. We have kept to that on the mountain and through the valley.

But here's the real point...what other people have called negative in our life has in the end always turned out positive. The valleys have all led to new mountain tops. We trusted God through the valley, and He has always led us to a new higher mountain. We walked far enough that Satan's attack faded, and the victory came into view.

Remember, that when you run smack into the devil, at least you know you're going the right direction!