

## 7.22.19 - What is the Difference?

“Why is it that when I wear clothing, I am an upstanding church going Christian, but when I am nude, I am considered a lewd sex crazed degenerate? I am the same person!” This is the question we received from Dennis near the beginning of June. We had the same question a year and a half ago when we fully came out of the closet as Christian naturists. We had been naturists for the past 15 years without our friend’s knowledge, but now suddenly some of our “friends” considered us sexually impure and sick perverts. Never mind the fact that neither one of us has ever had sex outside of our marriage. Never mind the fact that we were still winning souls to Christ. Never mind the fact that Biblical naturism has strengthened our marriage and our relationship with Christ. Never mind the fact that God’s blessing was and is still on our lives. We were and are the same people! The facts seemed to not matter...only what they could imagine happened mattered. The question of Why the Difference is one that we may not be able to answer, but we may be able to shed some light on it. In the end...who knows, we may just leave you confused at a higher level.

We will look at a few Bible examples of similar situations:

Let’s start with Jesus. He had large crowds everywhere He went and did many miracles, but in Nazareth He was a nobody. Why the difference? In Nazareth His fame was lost in his childhood stigma of being the "bastard" son of Joseph the carpenter. Among the common people of Israel, He was the Messiah, but the Pharisees only saw Him as a glutton and a wine bibber. Why the difference? Certainly, Jesus was a threat to their comfortable living, but it may also be that they were so far from the Bible teachings that they would not recognize Him. Additionally, they were so arrogant as to think that He had to be trained as a Pharisee not self-taught, led by the Holy Spirit or even worse he might just

be the author Himself. He was just too common to be the Son of God in their minds. They were looking for the Messiah through their perverted teachings and He did not fit their preconceived ideas. Their legalistic beliefs caused them to think they were better able to please God than the common people. The common people were tired of being talked down to by the Pharisees and they benefited from the miracles and plain teaching. What they knew of the scriptures fit what Jesus was doing. Turns out that the common folks had more spiritual insight than the religious folks.

Some of the answer to the question is the mistaken view that textile people have of nakedness in general. Many of them have been conditioned to think that nakedness only occurs for sex. So, it follows that you have to be having sex if you are naked. Hence the terms used in the question apply to sex. If you are naked with anyone not your wife you must be having extra marital sex. We know the flaw in the reasoning, but it is hidden to them. They also have some legalism beliefs about clothing making them “more spiritual and more pleasing to God.”

Another story that is much like the change mentioned in the question is Joseph and his brothers buying grain in Egypt. On the first visit, Joseph was just a difficult bureaucrat, but when they learned that he was second only to Pharaoh and that he was their mistreated brother fear replaced irritation. Now they would need to tell their father what really happened to Joseph and Joseph had the power to get even with them.

We all have justification for what we do. Even the worst criminal can give you a reason why he did his crimes. When a radical idea, like God is for nakedness, comes to the attention of a textile person, it puts their justification for clothing at risk. Since we usually react emotionally first and logically latter, they get angry and label the person causing the risk. They use whatever power is available to destroy the threat. Logic seems to be near the bottom

of the list of ways to deal with the problem because fear over powers reason. Character assassination seems to be at the top. It's like they have a list of bad names ready for such occasions. I do not think they are aware that this is what they are doing. They just react with emotion and this is how that typically plays out.

The story of David and Goliath can be used to give another view of how the difference could be explained. Israel's army was on one ridgeline and the Philistine army was across from them on another ridgeline with a valley between them. The Philistines offered to settle the conflict with a battle between Goliath and someone from Israel's army. Goliath made his offer everyday for 40 days. David was delivering food to his brothers when Goliath made his offer, **1Sa 17:24 - And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid.** They ran because of one man, but after David killed Goliath: **1Sa 17:52 - And the men of Israel and of Judah arose, and shouted, and pursued the Philistines, until thou come to the valley, and to the gates of Ekron. And the wounded of the Philistines fell down by the way to Shaaraim, even unto Gath, and unto Ekron.** Why the difference? David had only killed one Philistine and there was a whole army full of them behind Goliath including at least four more giants, Goliath's brothers. A major factor was their concept of God: either they did not think He could use them to defeat such a large and well-equipped army, or He would not help them because of their sin. The miracle of killing Goliath changed all that. They could clearly see that God was helping them.

Like the Pharisees had a false concept of who Jesus was and like the Israelites had a false concept of their capabilities against the Philistines, textile people have a false concept of God and nakedness. When confronted with a naked person, they need to defend their god (concept of God). Again, they do not go to the Bible for a logical reason why the naked person is a threat to God. They simply assume that they could not be wrong and that you

should clearly see that you are wrong. That justifies almost any treatment of you since you are an infidel and that you could bring the wrath of God down on everybody that is close.

An understanding of what they may be doing is very little help in dealing with the problem. If there is no logical reason to do something besides live with the labels, then let God do what seems good to Him. **Pro 26:4 - Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him.** If you have a reason other than revenge, then you need to respond in some way: **Pro 26:5 - Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceit.** You obviously need Holy Spirit guidance on which verse to use.

In conclusion, right is right even if no one is for it and wrong is wrong even if everyone is for it. Clearly the God of the Bible is for us being in our naked and unashamed condition as shown over and over again in His Word. So, if God be for us...who can be against us. The answer is that it doesn't matter who is against us when God is clearly for us. That said, dealing with a person who believes that you are some kind of pervert if you're a Biblical naturist is often times like dealing with someone who follows a political party opposite your own. You both come from different backgrounds, you've been taught different things. You have differing core belief systems. If the other person is sincerely open minded about naturism then please feel free to share your thoughts, this website, Aaron or Paul's books, etc. but if the person you're talking to does not have an open mind for discussion and only wants to argue or name call then you are casting pearls before swine and will only frustrate yourself. The Bible says in I Peter 3:15 for us to "be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason.", but just because we are prepared to give an answer doesn't mean that we are always obliged to give an answer if they are not really seeking the truth. Jesus Himself answered the Pharisees often with a question in order to make them think rather

than giving them the answer. He knew that they weren't really asking a question, they were actually playing gotcha...Jesus didn't fall for their tricks and neither should you.