

## 7.8.19 - Religion and Nudism...Are They Compatible?

This is a question we received recently that needs a rather lengthy explanation. We will spend some time initially defining words so that we can give an answer that will not be misunderstood.

**Nudism:** the practice of going nude, often as a group lifestyle and typically in a private setting, as in a person's home or a designated area of a beach or park. Webster's New World College Dictionary, Fifth Edition Copyright © 2014 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company - This word carries a negative connotation, but I was unable with a short search to find one with that connotation. An author I read recently chose not to use that word because the word nudism implied exhibitionism so he used the word nakedness in its place. We prefer the word naturism, but the important part is what we are discussing. For the sake of this article we will be using all three words to mean family friendly non sexual nakedness where allowed.

**Religion:** the belief in and worship of a superhuman controlling power, especially a personal God or gods. More a particular system of faith and worship. The first part of this definition is what the person probably had in mind, but the last part could include Evolution and Humanism. We even need to be careful that we do not turn naturism into a religion. None of this definition would rule out naturism, so yes...you can be religious and a nudist.

I am guessing that the person with the question would consider Christianity and religion synonyms. Can you be a Christian and a naturist? Christians come in all different belief systems also which could lead to religion and Christianity being synonyms. We are going to talk only about a person who knows he is a sinner, that all sinners go to hell, that Jesus paid the penalty for his sin and he accepted the gift of eternal life that only comes through Jesus. For more details on this, see our sister site [www.PreciousSeed.com](http://www.PreciousSeed.com). Again, you can see that there are no conditions about clothing in

any of the steps to become a Christian. Yes, you can be a Christian and a naturist...in fact, you can be an obedient Christian and be a naturist. We contend that naked and unashamed is God's preferred method for you to live.

I am going to make another guess about this question. Will I be accepted by Christian fellowships? There are two sad answers to that question: If they do not know that you are a naturist, you will have no trouble. And whether or not you're a naturist is typically not on a questionnaire for church membership. They will allow you to hold any office or work in any ministry. You will need to pretend to not hear when they teach against nakedness and not tell any church member that you are going to a naturist resort. When they find out about your naturist belief, in most cases, they will ask you to find another church to attend. No amount of Bible explanation seems to make a difference. Satan has a strong hold on this area in most churches. Our article: An Open Letter to a Pastor will give you a flavor of the reaction you could receive. Obviously, if you expose your beliefs from the start, you can expect to try a number of churches before you are accepted, but you will have a little more freedom if you find one that will allow you to join knowing your beliefs. You may be asked to not spread your beliefs, which says they know that the textile position is wrong, but they do not want the battle that goes with correcting the error.

The purpose of this site is to say, "You can be a Christian and a naturist." The answer to the question is yes, they are compatible, but you will probably meet some legalists along the way who do not see it that way.

Now, if you are asking are all religions accepting of naturism that answer would be a resounding NO. The Muslim religion has some extreme clothing standards especially for their women who, depending on the sect of Islam, most of the time will be required to

wear clothing from the tip of their toes to the tip of their head with only a slit for the eyes to see out of. We do find it an interesting point that the God of the Bible created Eve naked and unashamed like her husband and on totally equal footing whereas the god of Islam has their women covered and subservient to the point of literally being the property of their husband.

As to other religions worldwide, the Hindu religion is confused on the subject it would seem. Their deities are often referred to as nude and that nudity is even taught by those deities as a way to salvation, but when it comes to the practical teachings of Hindi nudity is prohibited. We found many references against nudity in their teaching, but the words of their gods and goddesses were very positive toward nakedness. I'm not sure if there is a clear answer to the question of whether or not Hinduism and naturism are compatible.

We would like to make very clear here that we at the Naked and Unashamed website believe the Bible is the Word of God, that Jesus is the Son of God, that He was born of a virgin, that He lived a sinless life, that He died on the cross as a substitution for our sins and rose again three days later and that all who ask for the forgiveness of their sin and accept Jesus as their Savior and His death on the cross for themselves that they will receive the gift of eternal life with Christ in Heaven. We further believe and can demonstrate in Scripture that the Word of God is clear in It's support and preference of naturism as God's intended way to live our lives. Our goal with this website is to help Christians understand the Bible on the subject of nakedness and to promote God's way of living from the beginning. As a secondary goal, but of greater importance is to see anyone who has not accepted God's free gift of salvation to choose to accept Jesus as their Savior. After all, He loved you enough to die for you...the very least you could do is consider accepting the gift that He paid for with that death. If you have any questions regarding the free gift of eternal

life please visit [www.PreciousSeed.com](http://www.PreciousSeed.com) or email us at the address on the Contact page of this website.

Finally, as to the issue of Christians and fellowship as a naturist...we have some suggestions. Since most mainstream Christian churches in America are not naturist friendly yet, we feel that the best way to change that is one person at a time just like being a witness. Please look for opportunities to share this website as well as books like Aaron Frost's or Paul Bowman's found on the Resources page of this site. Since you will probably not find much in the way of naked fellowship at your local church, we also recommend apps like MeWe who have some very awesome Christian naturist groups where you can meet other likeminded naturists. We have met some very good fellow Christian naturists through the website [www.TrueNudist.com](http://www.TrueNudist.com), but please keep in mind that this is NOT a Christian site and there are a lot of folks who are not good Christians who will reach out to you. You will need discernment for who to friend and who not to friend. Please be very careful who you friend...Charles Tremendous Jones once said that you will be the same person five years from now that you are today based on two things...the books that you read and the people with whom you fellowship. Our recommendation is to chose wisely on both accounts. Lastly, but maybe the best method is to visit some family-oriented naturist resorts and introduce yourselves as Christians to the people you meet. You will most likely meet some fellow Christians there. Our very first visit to a naturist resort was at Whitetail resort in Ivor, Virginia where we met a fellow Christian pastor and his family and have become very close friends with them over the years.

Enjoy life as God intended confidently with the knowledge that not only is religion and naturism compatible, but that naked and unashamed is God's preferred way for His children to be. Clothed only in His righteousness and for all to see His image in you, both physically and spiritually!