

Dancing Re-invented.

- **Public behavior has changed drastically.**
 - Elvis Presley 09/1956: Ed Sullivan.
 - Concern for appropriate Television.
 - Elvis was shown dancing from waist up.
- **So much has changed today!**
 - Today people gyrate their bodies in the most lustful fashion.
 - Men and women using their bodies for temptation.
 - People dancing through the wee hours of the morning.
 - Arms & legs flailing; Outrageous bodily movements.
 - Described as “sex by remote control.”



Examples of Immoral Dancing.

■ Clubs

- Men & Women sweating profusely as they make contact.
- Heaving hips & bosoms screaming for cover.
- Testosterone driven men overly excited & lacking control.
- Thumping, rhythmic, psychedelic music; flashing lights.

■ Proms

- Young men and women exposed to serious sexual temptations with little supervision.
- Inappropriate contact; powerful emotions; Hotel rooms.

■ Parties

- Creating lust; providing great temptations.
- Touching the opposite sex in a sexual manner.
- Drug use; Abuse of alcohol, provocative immodest dress.
- Prelude to sex. Flirtatious behavior; Negative influence.

Questions & Objectives.

- **Is this kind of behavior appropriate?**
 - For the Christian?
 - What does the Bible Say about this kind of behavior?
 - What arguments can parents / Grand use?
- **Objectives:**
 - Find out what the Bible says about this subject.
 - Offer some guidelines on how to approach this subject when asked by children, co-workers etc.
 - Address common objections by those who seek to approve dancing.
 - Help us see the danger of modern dancing.

Dancing in the Bible.

- **Dancing is mentioned in the Bible:**

- Exodus 15:20

- And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances.

- Judges 11:34

- And Jephthah came to Mizpeh unto his house, and, behold, his daughter came out to meet him with timbrels and with dances: and she was his only child; beside her he had neither son nor daughter.

- I Samuel 18:6

- And it came to pass as they came, when David was returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, that the women came out of all cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet king Saul, with tabrets, with joy, and with instruments of musick.

Women Only

Dancing in the Bible.

- Dancing is mentioned in the Bible:

- II Samuel 6:14,16

And David danced before the LORD with all [his] might; and David [was] girded with a linen ephod.

And as the ark of the LORD came into the city of David, Michal Saul's daughter looked through a window, and saw king David leaping and dancing before the LORD; and she despised him in her heart.

- See also I Chron 15:29 (Man alone)

- Psalm 30:11

Thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing: thou hast put off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness;

- Expressing God's goodness

Dancing in the Bible.

- **Dancing is mentioned in the Bible:**

- Psalm 149:3

- Let them praise his name in the dance: let them sing praises unto him with the timbrel and harp.

- Ecclesiastes 3:4

- A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

- **Other Old Testament listings:**

- Isaiah 13:21- Babylon's death "Satyrs shall dance"

- Jeremiah 31:4 – Israel "Go forth in the dances . . ."

- Jeremiah 31:13 – Young & old men dance.

- Lam 5:15 – dance turned into mourning.

Dancing in the Bible

■ New Testament Examples.

□ Matthew 11:16-17

But whereunto shall I liken this generation? It is like unto children sitting in the markets, and calling unto their fellows,

And saying, We have piped unto you, and ye have not danced; we have mourned unto you, and ye have not lamented.

□ See also Lk 7:32.

□ Luke 15:25 – Prodigal Son.

Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing.

□ Does not state who was involved in the dancing.

□ He did not “see” the dancing; he heard it.

Dancing in Bible.

- Dancing in Bible was not the modern dance.
 - With few exceptions, dancing in the Bible fits this profile:
 - Done in open daylight.
 - Men & women danced alone; no mixing of the sexes.
 - Dancing was not for amusement, pleasure or jokes.
 - Not for health or exercise, relaxation or diversion.
 - Not for entertainment, art or gracefulness.
 - Not to show accuracy of feet or steps.
- OT Dancing was religious-not secular.
 - Dancing was done to show:
 - Expressions of joy; gratitude & thanksgiving.
 - Honor, worship & praise to God.
 - Done during extra-ordinary occasions (Red Sea Crossing).

Exceptions to Religious Dance.

- **Examples of Modern Dance.**

- Exodus 32:19-21,31

19 And it came to pass, as soon as he came nigh unto the camp, that he saw the calf, and the dancing: and Moses' anger waxed hot, and he cast the tables out of his hands, and brake them beneath the mount.

20 And he took the calf which they had made, and burnt it in the fire, and ground it to powder, and strawed it upon the water, and made the children of Israel drink of it.

21 And Moses said unto Aaron, What did this people unto thee, that thou hast brought so great a sin upon them?

31 And Moses returned unto the LORD, and said, Oh, this people have sinned a great sin, and have made them gods of gold.

Exceptions to Religious Dance.

■ Examples of Modern Dance.

□ 1 Samuel 30:16,17 – (Amalekite army)

And when he had brought him down, behold, they were spread abroad upon all the earth, eating and drinking, and dancing, because of all the great spoil that they had taken out of the land of the Philistines, and out of the land of Judah.

And David smote them from the twilight even unto the evening of the next day: and there escaped not a man of them, save four hundred young men, which rode upon camels, and fled.

□ Job 21:11

They send forth their little ones like a flock, and their children dance.

□ Description of Wicked being described. See V7

Exceptions to Religious Dance.

■ Examples of Modern Dance.

□ Matthew 14:6-10.

6 But when Herod's birthday was kept, the daughter of Herodias danced before them, and pleased Herod.

7 Whereupon he promised with an oath to give her whatsoever she would ask.

8 And she, being before instructed of her mother, said, Give me here John Baptist's head in a charger.

9 And the king was sorry: nevertheless for the oath's sake, and them which sat with him at meat, he commanded it to be given her.

10 And he sent, and beheaded John in the prison.

- Dancing done here was the worldly, secular kind.
- The results were disastrous. See also Mk 6:18ff

Dancing in the Bible

- The Bible uses Direct words for Dancing.
 - Galatians 5:19-21

19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, 20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, 21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.
 - Licentiousness, lasciviousness, salacious.
 - “Wanton, Lewd, lustful, tending to produce lewd emotions. B. Indecent bodily movements, indecent handling of males & females.” Unbridled lusts, wanton acts including filthy words.
 - Reveling or Revelries.
 - All night festivals in which men and women were drinking, dancing and carrying on.
 - Entertainment provided as dances, usually a party or ball, the dance, a social assembly of both sexes with purpose to dance.

Conclusions.

- **Common Sense Fights against Dancing.**
 - Can anyone truly say that today's modern dance does not arouse sexual emotions or promote lust?
- **Bible cannot be used to promote Dancing.**
 - Bodily movements that promote sexual desire is sinful.
 - Actions which causes or encourages lust is wrong.
- **Romans 13:12-14**

12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

13 Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.

14 But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

**Would your dancing please
Jesus Christ?**

If NO, Why do it or defend it?

Review of Dancing Part I.

- **Dancing is a major part of our culture today.**
 - Its popularity does not make it right in all settings.
 - Certain kinds of dancing are wrong.
 - Encourages lust.
 - Inappropriate contact with same or opposite sex.
 - Gives rise to inappropriate sexual desires.
 - Clubs, Dances, Parties, Some proms etc.
 - Parents must be warned; Christians must avoid.
 - God will hold the world to account for encouraging behavior that destroys the family; promotes immorality, illicit sex or sexual contact/conduct.
 - The Bible is not silent on the subject of dancing.

Dancing in Old Testament.

- **Approved Dancing in Bible was not modern dance.**
 - Dancing usually fits these profiles:
 - Done in open daylight.
 - Men & women danced alone; no mixing of the sexes.
 - Dancing was not for amusement, pleasure or jokes.
 - Not for health or exercise, relaxation or diversion.
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Dancing in the New Testament.

- **Only three instances of Dance.**
 - Analogy by Jesus – Mt 11:17; Lk 7:32.
 - Prodigal son (brother heard dancing) – Lk 15:25
 - Herodias' daughter & Herod – Mt 14:6; Mk 6:22
 - **Only Salome's dancing would be similar to the modern dance.**
 - Both OT & NT show dangers of modern dance.
 - Herod killed John after Salome danced (requested John's head).
 - When Israelites danced (men & women) and performed idolatry, they sinned. (Ex 32:19-21,31)
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 - All night festivals in which men and women were drinking, dancing and carrying on.
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Biblical Conclusion.

- The kind of lewd, wanton dancing that occurs today is wrong.
 - Christians have no business practicing such.
 - Common sense shows the danger of dancing.
 - Dancing is very tempting and once emotions are aroused, become difficult to control.
- Romans 13:12-14

12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

13 Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.

14 But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.