

MODESTY *as* REVERENCE:

*When the **HEART** is **NOT** Enough*

PROVERBS 4:20-27

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PREVIOUSLY:

- LESSON 1: you are a holy priesthood...
- LESSON 2: modesty and nakedness defined at the creation
- LESSON 3: God expressed clarity regarding the region from the waist down through the thighs – Exo. 28:42; Isa. 47:2
(priests, context, LXX, Hebrew syntax of Piel verb stem and focus emp. → structural placement)
*to violate → BEAR SIN AND DIE

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Hebrew Syntax: Verb-Stems



²⁰ My son, give [↗] attention^o to my words; [↗] Incline your ear^o to my sayings. ²¹ Do not let them [↗] depart[↔] from your sight; Keep them in the midst of your heart.

{ **Hiphil Verb Stem** }

Proverbs 4:20-21

“The Hiphil verb-stem conveys necessary action, revealing the subject acts in-character and intentionally, carefully following through by taking the implied action-step.”

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A HEART CONDITION

PROVERBS 7:10

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“A Crafty Heart”

“Just so you know, there’s a difference between nakedness and modesty. In layman’s terms, modesty is how the body is arranged. Nakedness is how the body is covered.”

“But shun profane *and* idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness.”
(2 Tim. 2:16)

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“A Reverent Heart”

(with reverent dress)

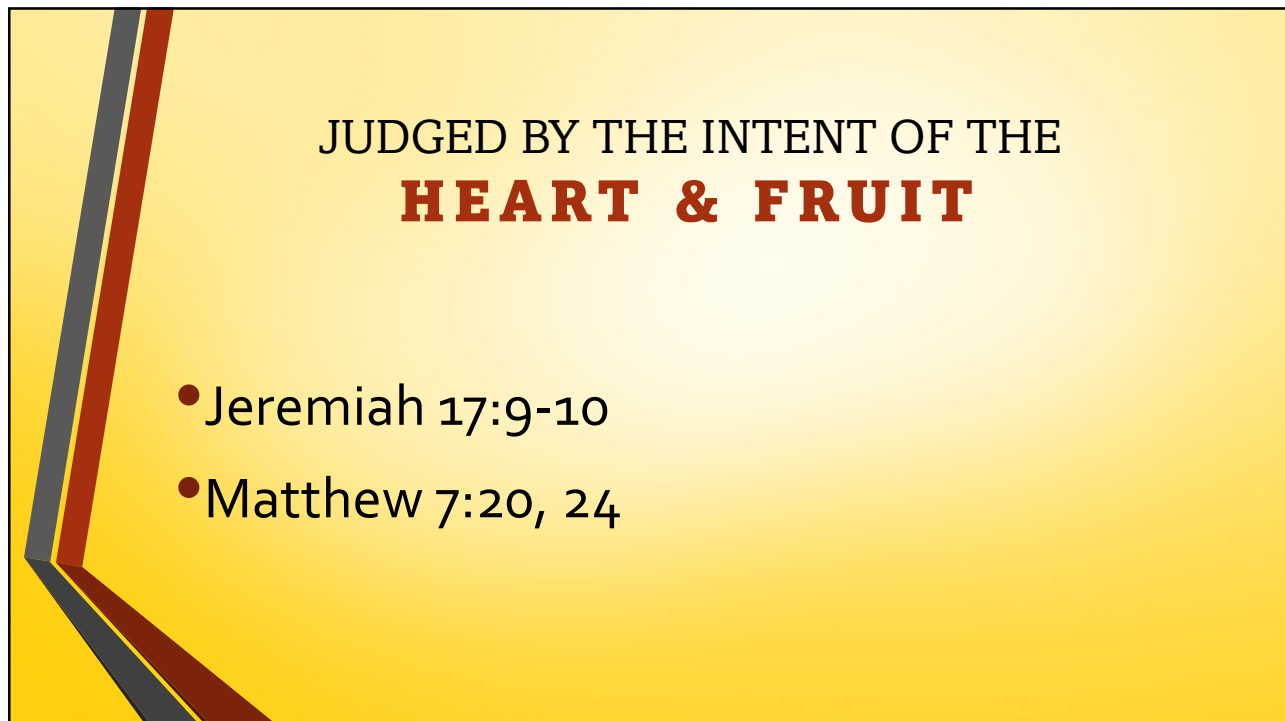
“Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with **reverence** and godly fear.” (Heb. 12:28)

“the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with **propriety** and moderation, ...which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works.” (1 Tim. 2:9, 10)

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SINCERITY

There's still *sin* in *sincerity* if truth is missing.

- **Sincerity and Conversion**
 - ✓ Required heart *and instruction* (Rom. 6:18)
- **Sincerity and Worship**
 - ✓ Required heart *and instruction* (Jn. 4:23, 24)
 - ✓ Vain worship violates both (Matt. 15:8, 9)
- **Sincerity and Adornment**
 - ✓ Requires heart *and instruction* (1 Tim. 2:9, 10)



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Jeremiah 10:23
2 Timothy 2:15

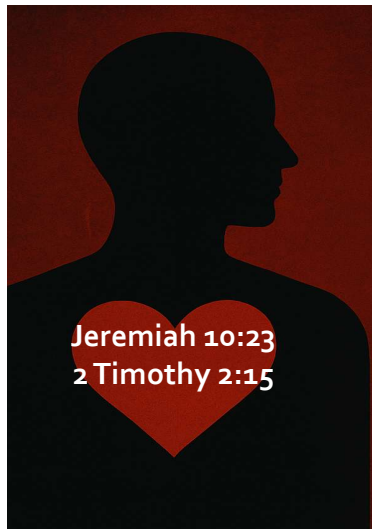
A HEART STRIPPED
OF INSTRUCTION



WILL BE CLOTHED
IN SHAME

Clarity sees authority; authority grants surety.

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APOLLOS **(Acts 18:24-28)**

His manner – 18:24

His sincerity – 18: 25

His action – 18:26

His correction – 18:26

The result – 18:27, 28

Clarity sees authority; authority grants surety.


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INSTRUCTION **1 Timothy 2:9-10 (ESV)**

“likewise also that women should adorn themselves in **respectable apparel**, with **modesty** and **self-control**, **not with** braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, **but with** what is proper for women who profess godliness with good works.”

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MODESTY
as
REVERENCE:
PROVERBS
1:24-33



When
CLARITY
is Rejected

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MODESTY *as* REVERENCE:
When CLARITY Is Rejected

ACTS 18:24-28 (Apollos)
heard teaching → received → changed for the better

PROVERBS 1:24ff (Simple ones, Scorners, Fools)
heard teaching → disregarded/despised → calamity

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TWO VOICES, ONE MESSAGE: DRESS WITH REVERENCE

1 Peter 3	1 Timothy 2	Shared Emphasis
Focus on inner beauty over showy dress	Command to wear modest clothing with self-restraint	Both warn against showy, sensual, or status-driven attire
Inner beauty is "precious in God's sight"	Proper dress is "fitting for those professing godliness"	Modesty is about honoring God, not just personal comfort
Implied contrast: the internal vs. external	Practical instruction on visible appearance that adorns the gospel	Inner and outer life must align in reverence and humility

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The Voice of Scholars— *Clarity, not Ambiguity.*

- **Keil and Delitzsch:** "From the hips to the thighs, to cover the flesh of nakedness."
- **John Gill:** "To the end of the thigh, which is the knee"
 - Gill ties this to ancient Jewish understanding via Maimonides: the 'thigh' ends at the knee.
- **The Pulpit Commentary:** "To the bottom of the thighs where they adjoin on the knee."
- **Charles Ellicott:** "From waist to just above the knee."

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A Biblical Case Study of Rejection Clarity

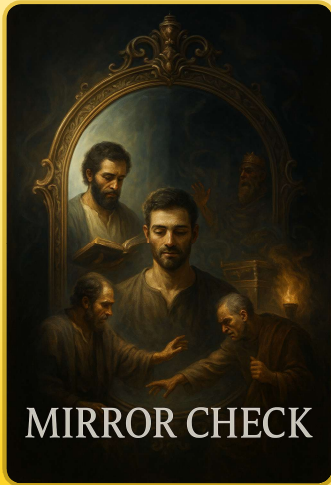
- **Uzzah** – 2 Samuel 6:6-7; Num. 4:4ff
 - *Struck dead*—good intentions don't sanctify disobedient actions
- **Saul** – 1 Samuel 10:8; 13:8-14
 - *Lost kingship* – Clarity rejected out of fear, convenience, or pride is still rebellion

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A Biblical Case Study of Rejection Clarity

- **Moses** – Numbers 20:7-12
 - *Didn't enter the Promised Land* – Leaders are required to mind God's clarity, or they risk punishment
- **Ananias and Sapphira** – Acts 5:1-10
 - *Struck dead for testing God* – Truth and clarity are not to be manipulated for dishonesty
 - God judged this couple by what they did, not only by what was in their hearts

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**When I look in the mirror of
God's Word, do I approach
His instructions with the
teachable heart of
Apollon—or with the
impulse of Uzzah, the fear-
driven haste of Saul, the
rashness of Moses, or the
deceit of Ananias?**