

God's Choice Pt3

The Potter And The Clay

ISAIAH 45:9-10

9. Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth. Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? or thy work, He hath no hands?

10. Woe unto him that saith unto his father, What begettest thou? or to the woman, What hast thou brought forth?

ROMANS 9:20

20. Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus?

ISAIAH 64:8

8. But now, O LORD, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand.

II CORINTHIANS 12:9

9. And he said unto me, My grace is [sufficient] for thee; for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

GREEK LEXICON - STRONG'S NUMBER 714

arkeo {ar-keh'-o}

1) to be possessed of unfailing strength; to be strong, to suffice, to be enough, to be satisfied, to be contented.

I TIMOTHY 6:6-8

6. But godliness with contentment is great gain.

7. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

8. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.

PHILIPPIANS 4:11

11. Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

PSALM 139:14a

14a. *I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made:*

II KINGS 9:30

30. *And when Jehu was come to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it; and she painted her face, and tired her head, and looked out at a window.*

WHY I'M AGAINST ORGANIZED RELIGION [62-1111E]

When you see a woman with a lot of makeup on, it goes to show **she's empty inside. She's false inside**. That's exactly right. If the woman... I seen one the other day, with a green hair, that's right, of all that green stuff there in their eyes.

Now, if you--if--if you didn't have any hair, and--and you wanted to wear some hair, it'd be all right, but, wear one that looked like human. And if you didn't have any fingernails, and--and you wanted to get some fingernails, don't get them like hulls off of navy beans, get--get real fingernails. If you haven't got any of these things, it's all right. If you haven't got any teeth, get you some if they make you some, get them. But don't pull your God-given teeth out just because they're a little crooked, and they're good teeth, to get some. Don't dye your hair, or something, and look like something that come out of some mire somewhere. Don't! If you're colorless, and you want to make yourself look like you got some color, it's all right, I imagine. But don't make yourself look like Jezebel, like a barn somewhere being painted.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS PT1 [64-0823M]

But when you come to go on the outside and maybe wear ever so much of a blouse or so forth, and then boost yourself out there with straps and things, that looks ungodly and cause men... **Do you realize that's a spirit of the devil on you?** Oh, yeah. So you don't want to do that, sister. Don't you do that; that's Hollywood's makeup and a trap of the devil. When you do that, **you make men think the wrong thing about you;** and when you do that, then you're guilty of committing adultery with that man, because you presented yourself that way to him. **You can't help the way you're built, but just go and stay the way God made you.** See? **Don't try to make yourself something that you're not.** Just stay human being. That awful? Well, maybe that answers some questions of somebody too.

I TIMOTHY 2:9a

9a. *In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel...*

modest:

(of a woman) dressing or behaving so as to avoid impropriety or indecency, esp. to avoid attracting sexual attention.

(of clothing) not revealing or emphasizing the figure: modest dress means that hemlines must be below the knee. ~ encyclopedia.com

WHO IS THIS? [59-1122]

A person come to me recently and said, "Brother Branham, do you really think it's wrong for a man to smoke cigarettes as a Christian?"

I said, "Why did you ask me? That proves that you're condemned or you wouldn't have asked the question." **If there is a question in your mind, get away from it. You cannot walk by faith with a question mark in your mind.**

INFLUENCES [64-0215]

It isn't how close you can come, and how well you think you are fortified, stay just as far away from sin as you can stay. Just get just as far away as you can. Say, "Well, I can do this. There is no harm in doing this." Well, if there is a question in your mind, don't you do it at all. **Anywhere there's a question, stay away from it.** Then, you see, then you're absolutely living by faith, if there's no question. If there's a question, then leave it, don't go around it at all.

COLOSSIANS 3:17a

17a. **And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus,**

THE EPHESIAN CHURCH AGE [60-1205]

If you have to do something that you can't do in Jesus' Name, let it alone! Somebody said, "Take a little drink." You can't do that in Jesus' Name, so let it alone! Somebody said, "Play a little cards." You can't do that in Jesus' Name, so let it alone! A little, dirty, smutty joke at your bridge party, you can't tell that in Jesus' Name, so let it alone! See? You can't wear shorts in Jesus' Name, so let it alone! I could go on, but we... you know what I'm talking about. All right. You can't do that. **What you can't do in His Name, leave it alone!**

GOD BEING MISUNDERSTOOD [61-0723E]

Here sometime ago a man met me out here aside. I had a pianist here that had a little, short, little skirt, and wasn't just exactly, I guess, just right. And the lady had short hair, and **she was just a babe in this Way,** and she was playing the piano. And a man met me out there and just tearing me to pieces; he said, "And you're a Pentecostal preacher, and let that woman set up there, that short hair," and just going on like everything.

“Well,” I said, “I think the woman has a good spirit in her. I certainly do not agree with that, you know, the skirt part up here, the two pieces; one of them is down here and one kind of up here; it’s a shirt like they wear.” And so it’s real thin and shows that underneath garment that they have around there. I don’t think that--that should be done. I--I don’t like that; I really don’t.” Now, I can’t say; they might be just as Spirit-filled as anybody else; I don’t know; God knows that. But **I wouldn’t condemn that woman and say that she was going to hell by the sight.**

This same person had in his church a lady who had long hair and wore long dresses, and had a temper enough to fight a buzz saw, and just as mean as she could be. **Now, long hair and long skirts don’t take you to heaven.** No, sir. **It’s the Spirit that’s in you takes you to heaven.** But if you as a Christian...

Then you should remember that many times pastors don’t mention those things, and the people just automatically go on, think it’s all right. **But a pastor should really tear into that.** And--and--and then the sisters of the church, those sisters who are in character standing, wearing their clothes neatly, they should be **examples of sweetness,** and--and motherly and sisterly-like.

And I think that any woman that’s motherly and godly and sisterly ought to go to such a person, and with sweetness of the Spirit, just set down and talk to that lady. **And if she is of God, the Holy Spirit will understand those things, and she’ll correct herself. But when you real quickly condemn her and drive her away, you might harm that young born baby.** See? So I--I wouldn’t condemn the person.

PERFECTION [56-0610]

And the legalist got a hold of this idea, “Hallelujah, I’ll wear my dresses down this a way and my dresses down this a way. I’ll let my hair grow long, and I’ll be all right.” **That’s a lie.**

And they point back to the woman with short hair and with short dresses and say, “She’s going to hell.” I can’t say that, yet I think those things are all right. I’m not condemning them, **but when you rest your eternal hopes and salvation upon that doctrine, you are damned with it.**

A man or woman, it doesn’t matter whether you’re this, that, or the other, you come to the fountain filled with Blood drawn from Emmanuel’s veins, and let the purgative of the Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ purge your sins.

Brother, it won’t matter if you can still have dresses so long. You could still not wear short sleeves shirts, you men, and those things, or whatever you want to; but if you still got malice, and envy, and strife, you might’ve run, danced, spoke in tongues, shouted, preached the Gospel, or anything. But **you’re lost until that Blood has cleansed you** and set in a Divine love of the Lord Jesus Christ in your heart, in your life speaks of Christ behind you. Amen.