

From the Family Room

Creekwood Church of Christ
Mobile, AL

27 March, 2016

TRUE HAUTE COUTURE!

For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

Galatians 3:27

Clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ and forget about satisfying your sinful self.

Romans 13:14



Several years ago, Freda and I took several students from Mobile Christian School on a tour of England, France, and Italy. We learned much and saw many beautiful sights. One of the facts we learned dealt with *haute couture*. *Haute Couture* (high fashion) is defined as the design and manufacture of fashionable clothes to a client's specific requirements and measurements. There were several characteristics that define *haute couture*. One is price. There are no price tags and if you have to ask how much it costs, you cannot afford it. It is very, very expensive starting at four digits (not counting cents!) and ranging upward to several hundred thousand dollars. We saw some of these stores from the outside as Freda and I spent a nice afternoon on the Avenue des Champs d'Elysees. We did not go inside. That is truly a foreign world and one we were not interested in.

However, there is a form of high fashion I am very interested in. All Christians should be. We should appreciate the planning and design that went into this fashion. We should eagerly and humbly wear this high fashion everywhere we go. The fashion house that produces this high fashion is the highest. No others can compare. Christians do not get their high fashion from Christian Dior but from the house of the ultimate creator - **Jesus Christ**.

Christians are people of high fashion in the spiritual sense. While we were dressed in our filthy rags soiled by sin, Christ took us off the streets and took us into a high fashion store. He paid the ultimate price – His life – for the most beautiful high fashion outfit we could ever want. This outfit is very, very expensive. We cannot afford it. We can never work hard enough or long enough to earn this outfit. It is a gift. When we share in the death of Christ by being baptized and share in His resurrection by being born again when we are brought up out of the watery grave, we have put on Christ. It is not His designer outfit that we wear – it is Him that we wear each day. We should wear Christ's humility, purity, love for God, love for other Christians, and love for the lost everywhere we go.

Christians should be fashion conscious! We should shift the focus of our fashion desires from the world to Christ. We need to wear Jesus Christ to work, to school, on vacation trips, at social events, to the hunting camp – wherever we go. This high fashion outfit for which Jesus paid a high price is versatile! It works on Sunday morning at church as well as Monday morning with the guys at work. We should wear it to glorify the creator. We should wear it so others will also want to be clothed in it. We must not hang our spiritual high fashion outfit in the closet and save it just for Sunday. Please do not give Jesus the smell of moth balls.

According to a recent study, less than 2,000 women around the world buy *haute couture* clothes. In contrast God has made the most valuable spiritual high fashion clothing available to all of us for free. He has done this because of His unconditional love for us. It has been made available to us through the life, death, burial, and resurrection of His only Son Jesus Christ. Many of us shop hard for just the right outfit to wear on this day. I do not expect to see any of the dresses seen in the pictures above at church this morning. I know I will see many loving Christians clothed in the fashion of Jesus serving others. Let's put much more effort into acquiring the most elegant spiritual clothing. It is found only in Jesus Christ.

RICKY