

Clothing in the Adam and Eve story, LeGrand Baker

Dear Brandon and Corey

I went to sleep last night thinking about Brandon's question. This is the answer I found:

There is a very ancient story that when the devil came to the Garden to tempt Adam and Eve, he was dressed so strikingly that his clothing immediately caught Adam's attention. He asked about it and the devil said it represented his power and priestcrafts. He then mocked them because they did not have one like his, and consequently, they were not dressed appropriately to enter his world. When they succumbed to his mocking, they also followed his instructions about how to make clothing like his.

After they left the garden, their descendants began to dress in ways that more fully represented those powers and priestcrafts.

Military and police uniforms and weapons represented the powers to destroy and control.

Religious garb represented the priestcraft powers to subdue and take away agency.

Educational regalia represented the power to persuade with sophistication.

Expensive clothing (good suits and silk ties) often represented the power of wealth.

Gaudy clothing represented the power to rebel.

Professional clothing defined one's place in society (during the dark ages it was the standard dress of the clergy and the guilds that bound people into class system).

Immodest clothing invites immodesty with uncontrolled personal behavior.

And the list goes on and on.

However, as a defence against the reality behind these artificial symbols of power and priestcraft, before Adam and Eve left the Garden, God gave to his new empowered earthly king and queen a symbolic shechinah to wear next to themselves --- a veil to protect them from taking too seriously the influences of their own outer displays of worldly pride and power, and to also protect them from the worldliness in which they were about to be engulfed.

So, last night, while thinking about our conversation, I went to sleep.

As I slowly awoke this morning, I just lay there quietly while the echo of your singing "I Need Thee Every Hour" filled my soul with peace, love, and wonderment.

I love each (and both) of you with all my heart

LeGrand