

So You Think You Can Dance

By
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Let's see if the modern dance is an appropriate activity for Christians to engage in. First things first:

- I am referring to the **modern dance** practiced by so many of America's young people today.
- I am not suggesting it is inappropriate for a dad to dance a waltz with his newly married daughter at a wedding reception amongst only family and close friends. Even then, though, he must be careful (**1 Corinthians 8:1-13**).
- I am not simply toeing the traditional party line; i.e., "**the modern dance is wrong because that is what has always been said**" mentality.

Having said the preceding, I ask you to consider with me for a moment the following thoughts:

- There are many activities that seem harmless to us before we are Christians, but that may not be proper behavior for a kingdom citizen (**Colossians 1:18; 2 Corinthians 5:17**).
- Even if one's conscience is not bothered, something can still be sin (**1 Timothy 4:1-2**).
- The Greek word that is translated as "lasciviousness" is defined in the following way: **unbridled lust, wanton acts including: filthy words, indecent bodily movements, unchaste handling of males and females**" (Thayer).
 - This sin is condemned as a work of the flesh in **Galatians 5:19-21**.
 - Who can argue that the definition given does not describe the modern dance?
 - There can be little doubt that the modern dance falls within the category of lasciviousness - something God condemns!
- What is the basic appeal of the modern dance? Is it not sexual stimulation?
 - For instance, a Latin dance known as the "Lambada" affords couples an opportunity to go out onto the dance floor and seduce each other.
 - It is my understanding that "Lambada" is translated as "hot loins." Nothing sexual about it? I think not.
- What would be your response if you and your husband/wife, or you and your boyfriend/girlfriend (if you are not married) went out for a night of modern dancing. You arrive at the spot and see an entire dance floor filled with "twisting" and "bumping" bodies... **of the same sex**?!
 - If the modern dance is truly morally neutral, then you would have no response at all.
 - However, most would be worried that they had mistakenly stumbled into a "gay dance" hall.
 - Oh, can you not see the point? If we would expect such to be an expression of homosexual sensuality at work, how can we deny that people of opposite sexes dancing together is the expression of heterosexual sensuality?

- Where do people go to engage in a night of modern dancing?
 - Do they go to the library? No! They go to dark places like night clubs or proms.
 - Trust me, these activities promote drinking, drug use, and sex.
 - Moreover, to those of you who have been to a night club, I ask this simple question: is such a place where a real Christian should hang out?
- What happens to one's Christian influence when he or she goes out for a night of the modern dance? Your light is sullied – hidden under a bushel (**Matthew 5:15**).
- Is the activity glorifying God (**1 Corinthians 10:3**)?
- Some will say that dancing is mentioned in the Bible and is, thus, a proper practice to engage in.
 - In no place is the Bible discussing the modern dance.
 - It is also interesting to note that in the Bible (so far as I can discern), save for when it is clearly seen in a negative light (e.g. Herodias' daughter - **cf. Mark 6:17ff**), dancing is never done for social amusement.
- Some will say that they can go to Prom because it is chaperoned.
 - While actions can momentarily be staved off by responsible adults, can the inner thoughts of individuals be corralled?
 - Will there always be a chaperone around? What about after the prom at the hotel? What about in a parked car in a vacant lot?
- Do you want to be found engaging in a condemned activity... one that arouses sexual desires in other people... one that causes Christians to go to worldly places... one that causes you to sully the Father in heaven, when Christ returns?

You may think that you can dance, and dancing you just may do, but remember this: you cannot dance and be pleasing to God!