

What Did Jesus Wear? And Why We Should Care?

The short answer is we don't really know but we should care. Why?

This essay may surprise you because it is not going to delve into speculation on the exact pieces of clothing or their color that Jesus wore. Nor are we going to speculate whether they were adorned with tassels and fringes as dictated by Jewish Law and custom. You can often tell a lot about a person by what they wear, or do not wear, and we are going to look toward the more important question ... *what does what Jesus wore tell us about Him?*

We don't know exactly what Jesus wore because there are few mentions of Jesus' clothing in the Gospels. It is mentioned that He wore sandals and that His garments were divided up after He died on the Cross. It even mentions that His undergarment was woven in one piece, which for the time indicates high quality, and that is why they cast lots for it and didn't cut it up.

But other than that, there are a few clues in the Bible. This gets back to my starting point for this series ... *considering what is not mentioned* is often more important than what is. Based on the fact that nothing remarkable was mentioned about Jesus attire we are left to assume that it would most likely have been the *normal simple attire* for a Jewish male of that time.

Which brings us to the second part of the question *why should we care?* It's not so much the exact pieces of clothing that Jesus wore, but in lacking any specific mention in the Gospels, He most likely wore normal clothes. Considering Jesus' teachings on riches and his affinity for helping the sick and poor, simple garb is very fitting. In fact, it would have been totally out of place if Jesus had strolled about adorned in garb befitting Pharisees, royalty or the wealthy.

Wearing the clothes of the wealthy would've been totally counter to Jesus message. And in that we can infer precisely because His wearing of wealthy attire is not mentioned in the Gospels that he likely dressed as a simple man of the times. That is critical to our understanding of Jesus and to His messages to us. And is totally in keeping with the image of Jesus portrayed in the Gospels. *Could our image of Christ be the same if he had been adorned in rich attire?*

Jesus, both God and man, but a man in simple attire going about doing the work of His Father. Our Savior was distinguishable from the other men of his time not by His attire, but by His Works and His Message. And the message for you is that you must be sure that, like Jesus, you are distinguished from the other people of *our time* not by fancy adornments nor fancy attire, but by your works and your message as you go about helping others and spreading *The Word*.

God Bless!