Sometime back, there appeared on the Internet a picture of several ladies (teenagers or in their 20's) who attended a gathering, more undressed than dressed—especially around their waist and thigh area. The chairman of the gathering addressed them in a very serious tone. He took a long hard look at them, asked them to be seated, and said things to them and said something that they would never forget. He said:

"Ladies, everything that God made valuable in this world is well covered and hard to see, find, or get.

1. Where do you find diamonds? Deep down in the ground, covered and protected.

2. Where do you find pearls? Deep down at the bottom of the ocean, covered up and protected in a beautiful shell.

3. Where do you find gold? Way down in the mine, covered over with layers of rock and to get it you have to work hard and dig deep down to get them."

He looked straight at them with serious eyes and said, "Your body is sacred and unique. You are far more precious than gold, diamonds and pearls, and you should be covered too. If you keep your treasured mineral just like gold, diamond and pearls, deeply covered up, a reputable mining organization with the requisite machinery will fly down and conduct years of extensive exploration.

"First, they will contract your government (family), sign professional contracts (wedding) and mine you professionally (legal marriage). But if you leave your precious minerals uncovered on the surface of the earth, you always attract a lot of illegal miners to come and mine you illegally. Everybody will just pick up their crude instruments and just have a dig on you just freely like that. Keep your bodies deeply covered so that it invites professional miners to chase you."

When Adam and Eve sinned in the garden of Eden, they made fig leaves of aprons (to cover their private area evidently). When God called them, they were **still** "naked" (Gen. 3:10), and He made "coats of skins, and clothed them" (Gen. 3:21, ASV, KJV). God wasn't satisfied with their "nakedness" (even though they wore aprons to hide certain parts of their bodies). True, they were husband and wife and no one else could see their nakedness but God, but evidently He is setting forth a principle of morality for all time, just as He did regarding man leaving father and mother and cleaving to his wife, even before there were parents to leave in order to be married. Later, in addressing the Israelites, God said the nakedness of a woman belongs ONLY to her husband, and not to the world. "The nakedness of your father's wife you shall not uncover; **it is your father's nakedness."** (Lev. 18:8). God still considers the exposure of "thighs" (above the knees) as "nakedness," for He said to the Israelites, "And you shall make for them linen trousers to **cover** their **nakedness**: they shall reach the waist to the **thighs**" (Exo. 28:42). The tendency nowadays is to **un**cover the thighs, rather than to **cover** them. God identifies the uncovering of the thighs as "nakedness." The word *thigh* refers to the part of the leg from the knee to the hip (Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, Vol.II, page 1896).

The baring of the thighs appears to be a means of attracting undue attention from the opposite sex. It creates improper thoughts of those in the opposite sex, and often causes improperly seeking after them for immoral purposes (Matt. 5:28). When a man commits adultery from such enticement, is he entirely to blame?

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