



# Dancing – Right or Wrong?

## Three types of activities

1. Promote spiritual development, glorify God. Mt.5:16
2. Promote spiritual weakness, tempt to sin. Ep.5:8-11
3. Neutral in themselves; depend on circumstances. Ro.14

## Three types of activities

1. Promote spiritual development, glorify God. Mt.5:16
2. Promote spiritual growth, tempt to sin. Ep.5:8-  
**Lk.10:29**  
**Jn.8:32**
3. Neutral in themselves, depend on circumstances. Ro.14

**In which category  
does dancing  
belong?**

**Cannot determine  
morals by culture /  
geography**



# **I. Innocent Dances of Bible**

# 1. Religious dancing

- **Ex.15:20-21**

**Praise Him with the timbrel and dance;  
Praise Him with stringed  
instruments and flutes! – Ps.150:4**

- **2 Sm.6:14-16**

1. Religious dancing
2. **Victory dancing**

**When Jephthah came to his house at Mizpah, there was his daughter, coming out to meet him with timbrels and dancing . . . – Jg.11:34**

- **1 Sm.18:6-7**

1. Religious dancing
2. Victory dancing
3. **Joyful dancing**

**<sup>20</sup>Therefore they instructed the children of Benjamin, saying, “Go, lie in wait in the vineyards, <sup>21</sup>and watch; and just when the daughters of Shiloh come out to perform their dances, then come out from the vineyards, and every man catch a wife for himself from the daughters of Shiloh; then go to the land of Benjamin – Jg.21**

1. Religious dancing
2. Victory dancing
3. **Joyful dancing**

**<sup>16</sup>“But to what shall I liken this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their companions,  
<sup>17</sup>and saying:  
‘We played the flute for you,  
And you did not dance;  
We mourned to you,  
And you did not lament.’ – Mt.11**



1. Religious dancing
2. Victory dancing
3. Joyful dancing
4. **Salvation dancing**

- **Lk.15:...24-25 [6, 9, 32]**

**A time to weep,  
And a time to laugh;  
A time to mourn,  
And a time to dance – Ec.3:4**



I. Innocent Dances of Bible

**II. Immoral Dances of Bible**

# Children of Israel

## Ex.32:...19, 25

**Context: idolatry, immorality, nakedness**

- **God: 9-10**
- **Moses: 19**

**If people had known God's  
anger...Moses' reaction...**

**Moses broke tablets  
3000 slain in sin**

# Daughter of Herodias

## Mk.6:...22

- Solo dance
- Pleased Herod
- To kill John

Hated word of God  
Hated prophet of  
God  
Hated God



I. Innocent Dances of Bible

II. Immoral Dances of Bible

**III. Indictments Against  
Modern Dancing**

# 1. It is Lascivious, Ga.5:19

“wanton (acts or) manners, as filthy words, indecent bodily movements, unchaste handling of males and females, etc.” – Th

**Deviating from the rules of chastity;  
lewd; lustful; lascivious**

**How could this not describe modern dance?**

# 1. It is Lascivious, Ga.5:19

“wanton (acts or) manners, as filthy words, indecent bodily movements, unchaste handling of males and females, etc.” – Th

1. Starts with a look to lust, Mt.5:28

2. Advances to unchaste handling, Ru.2:9

3. Ends in fornication, Pr.6:29

**Limited to holy marriage**, Hb.13:4

**How to pray...?**  
Mt.6:13

1. It is Lascivious

2. It is revelry, Ga.5:21

■ **Carousing (partying, riotous behavior)**

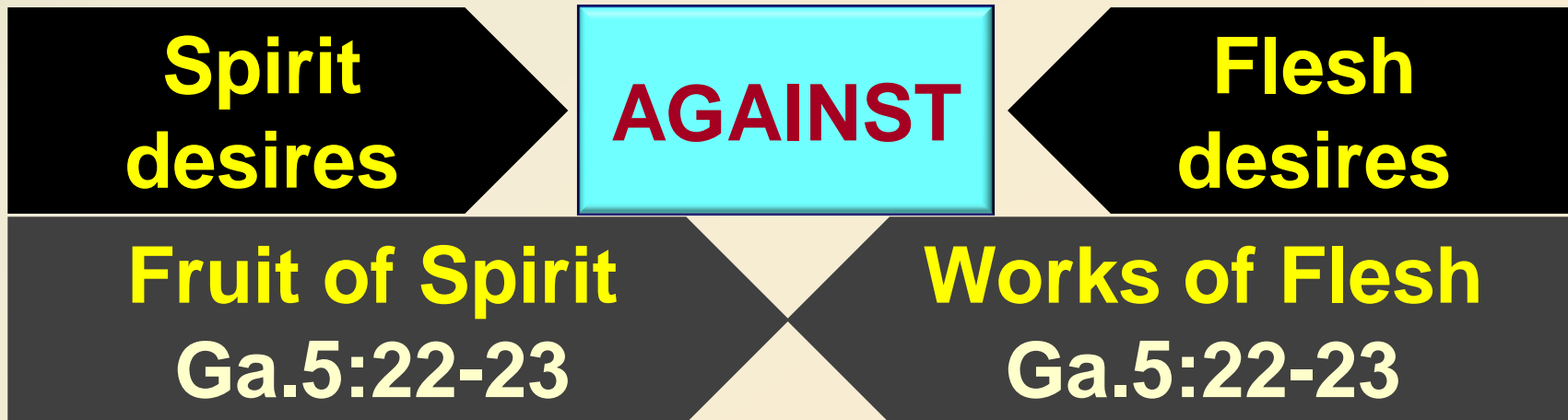
“A revel, carousal, merry-making...: it ended in the party parading the streets crowned, bearing torches, singing, dancing, and playing frolics” – IGEL



1. It is Lascivious
2. It is revelry

### 3. It produces bad fruit

- Mt.7:17-18
  - Healthy tree – healthy fruit
  - Diseased tree – diseased fruit
- Ga.5:17



1. It is Lascivious
2. It is revelry
3. It produces bad fruit

## 4. It corrupts other people

### ■ Mt.18:6

- Cause to sin, “make you stumble”
- “To commit that which leads to the fall and ruin of any one...

**It denotes not misleading, but only  
the giving occasion for ungodly conduct,  
and the mischief incurred thereby ...**

**Mt.17:27” – Cremer**

1. It is Lascivious
2. It is revelry
3. It produces bad fruit

## 4. It corrupts other people

- **Mt.18:6**
  - Cause to sin, “make you stumble”
  - “I can dance without lust”
- **Can your partner? (Mt.18:6)**

Greatest criminals...  
“Sea of the sea”

Size of stone,  
depth of sea...

1. It is Lascivious
2. It is revelry
3. It produces bad fruit
4. It corrupts other people

## 5. It Associates with evils

### ■ 1 Co.15:33

**Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart – 2 Tim.2:22**

**Seductive music**

**Alcohol**

**Sexual immorality**

## **Ion of Chios (V B.C.)**

**[address to Dionysus]**

**‘O Ruler of all fine deeds, grant me a long  
age of drinking, fun, & giving thought to  
what is just’...‘let’s drink, let’s have fun’  
[dancing is a part of the merry-making...]**

– BDAG

**‘The specific reference of [play] in 1 Cor 10:7  
is probably to dancing, but some scholars  
interpret [the word] in this context as a  
euphemism for sex’ – L-N**

**Esp. *dance...play amorously* – LSJ**

1. It is Lascivious
2. It is revelry
3. It produces bad fruit
4. It corrupts other people
5. It Associates with evils

## 6. It destroys good examples

**Let no one despise your youth,  
but **be an example** to the believers  
in word, in conduct, in love, in  
spirit, in faith, **in purity** — 1 Tim.4:12**

- **Unworthy living mocks gospel (Ph.1:27)**

- 1. You see men dancing with men, woman dancing with women. Conclusion?**
- 2. You see men dancing with women. Conclusion?**
- 3. You see any of these dancing without music. Conclusion?**
- 4. You hear any of these talking. How likely will it be about spiritual things?**