

the Ark of God, II Samuel 6:14, 16; I Chronicles 15:29.

**C. Dance of rejoicing**, Psalms 30:11; Jeremiah 31:4, 31:13; Lamentations 5:15; Ecclesiastes 3:4; Luke 15:25.

**D. Dance of children**, Job 21:11. Activities of children in play used as an illustration in teaching, Matthew 11:16-17; Luke 7:31-32.

**E. Dance of animals**, Isaiah 13:21.

**F. Dance accompanying evil activities**, I Samuel 30:16; Exodus 32:19; Matthew 14:6; Mark 6:22.

Lets carefully consider the above six categories and determine if these Bible examples of dancing justifies a Christian participating in the dance today.

The first group of scriptures (**group A**) indicate that women danced with women, or by themselves. This would hardly prove what the advocates of modern dancing are attempting to prove. Scriptures in **group B** speak of the dance as an act of worship which was rendered under the Old Covenant (the law of Moses). Today we do not worship God under the directions of the Moses' law. This law was given to the Jews (Exodus 20:2; Deuteronomy 5:6). God promised a new covenant (Jeremiah 31:31) and this new covenant came through Jesus Christ (Colossians 2:14; Hebrews 8:13; 9:15-17; Galatians 5:4). **Group C** contains scripture references which refer to the dance in connection with joyous occasions. Often references of this nature are used in contrast with mourning (Ecclesiastes 3:4). The custom of the Jews, as borne out by historians, was to segregate the sexes on such occasions. (*McClin-tock and Strong, Vol. II, pp. 659-660*). The evidence is very clear, their dancing was segregated except at times of idolatrous worship such as that found in Exodus 32:19.

The example of dancing in the parable our Lord spoke concerning the prodigal son was in this

Jewish setting (Luke 15:25). All who attempt to use this parable for justification of the dance must first establish the fact that it is equal to the dance of today with its dim lights, sensuous music, immodest clothing, alcohol and bodily contact between male and female.

The remaining three categories (**D, E, and F**) in no way contributes to the defense of dancing.

#### SOME DEFENSES FOR THE DANCE

*The high school prom is a major event in the lives of young people, so we are going to allow our children to attend this one time.* This is parental assent to sin.

*There are no alcoholic drinks allowed at school dances.* What about the glove compartments and trunks of the automobiles? Dancing and alcohol are "bosom buddies" and where one goes the other is usually present.

*There are a lot worse things they could be doing.* This doesn't remove the fact that it is a sin. There are a lot of things worse than stealing, but that isn't a license to steal.

*I don't see any thing wrong with it.* It doesn't matter what we see; the important thing is what does God say? A suggestion: re-read the scriptures listed in this tract.

*School dances are chaperoned and teachers keep every thing under control.* How do you control the thoughts of another (Matthew 5:27-28) and the activities of the couples following the dance? (Eph. 4:27).

May God give all Christians the strength to avoid dancing and the evils which are associated with it.

# The Christian and the Dance

