



NEW HEIGHTS
BENTONVILLE
NH

THE BENTONVILLE

BEATTITUDES

BENTONVILLE BEATITUDES

1. Freedom
2. Success
3. Security
4. Image
5. Belonging
6. Family

Expose Cultural Idols

Redeem Cultural Values

Image

“outward portrayal or personal we present to others”















**Our true image can only be
found in Jesus Christ**

¹ Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, ² “The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat, ³ so do and observe whatever they tell you, but not the works they do. For they preach, but do not practice. ⁴ They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to move them with their finger.

⁵ They do all their deeds to be seen by others. For they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long, ⁶ and they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues ⁷ and greetings in the marketplaces and being called rabbi by others...

²⁷ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within are full of dead people's bones and all uncleanness. ²⁸ So you also outwardly appear righteous to others, but within you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.



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IMAGE

I. The Dangers of Image Management

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a. Hypocrisy



¹...Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. ² Nothing is covered up that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known.

Sincerity is to speak as we think, believe as we pretend, act as we profess, perform as we promise, and really be what we would seem and appear to be.

John Tillotson

I. The Dangers of Image Management

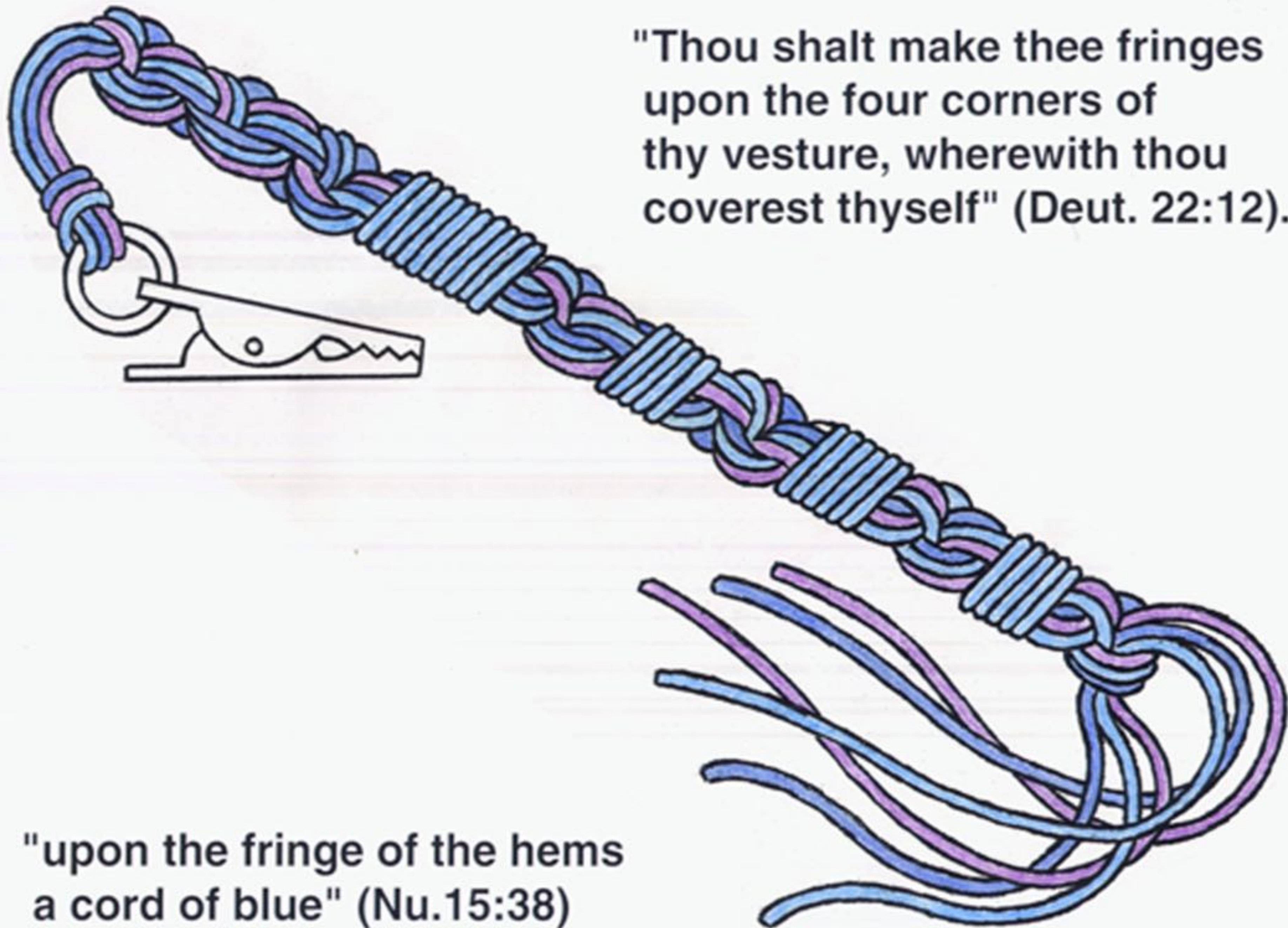
a. Hypocrisy

b. Posing

⁵ They do all their deeds to be seen by others. For they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long, ⁶ and they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues



"Thou shalt make thee fringes upon the four corners of thy vesture, wherewith thou coverest thyself" (Deut. 22:12).



"upon the fringe of the hems a cord of blue" (Nu.15:38)

¹“Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. ² “So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others...⁵ “...And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. ⁶ But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

Matthew 26:1-2, 5-6 ESV

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BEATITUDES

WAYS WE POSE

1. Social Media

WAYS WE POSE

1. Social Media
2. Career

WAYS WE POSE

1. Social Media
2. Career
3. Financial

WAYS WE POSE

1. Social Media
2. Career
3. Financial
4. Family

WAYS WE POSE

1. Social Media
2. Career
3. Financial
4. Family
5. Intellectual

WAYS WE POSE

1. Social Media
2. Career
3. Financial
4. Family
5. Intellectual
6. Spiritual

IMAGE

- I. The Dangers of Image Management**
- II. The Advantage of Authenticity**

Authenticity

“Being who you truly are”

Transparency + Vulnerability

II. The Advantage of Authenticity

a. Freedom

³² and you will know the **truth**, and **the truth will set you free.**”

John 8:32 ESV

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¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, **there is freedom.**

2 Corinthians 3:17 ESV

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II. The Advantage of Authenticity

a. Freedom

b. Real Relationships

²⁵ Therefore, having **put away falsehood**, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.

Ephesians 4:25 ESV

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Authentic Relationships

1. Be Vulnerable

“Staying vulnerable is a risk we have to take if we want to experience connection.”
Brené Brown,

Authentic Relationships

1. Be Vulnerable
2. Give people permission

Faithful are the
wounds of a friend,
profuse are the kisses
of an enemy.
Proverbs 27:6

Authentic Relationships

1. Be Vulnerable
2. Give people Permission
3. Practice Confession

¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed...
James 5:16 (ESV)

¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed...

James 5:16 ESV

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II. The Advantage of Authenticity

a. Freedom

b. Real Relationships

c. God's Presence

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Psalm 51:17 ESV

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The Lord is near to the brokenhearted
and saves the crushed in spirit.

Psalm 34:18 esv

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Authenticity

*“Being who you truly are...
even when you don’t feel like it”*

Transparency + Vulnerability + Identity

Faith, in the sense in which I am here using the word, is the art of holding on to things your reason has once accepted, in spite of your changing moods.”

C.S. Lewis

IMAGE

- I. The Dangers of Image Management**
- II. The Advantage of Authenticity**
- III. The Way to True Image**

III. The Way to True Image

The Gospel

- Identity Bestowed
- Acceptance as a gift
- By grace through faith in Christ

¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

2 Corinthians 5:17 ESV

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²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Galatians 2:20 ESV

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**Our true image can only be
found in Jesus Christ**

“You are more wicked than ever dared believe and yet, you are more loved and accepted in Jesus Christ than you ever dared hope.”

Timothy Keller

I am Statements – Image

Social Media

"I am a child of God, not defined by 'likes,' but by His love." (Gal. 3:26)

Success

"I am a servant of Christ; my worth is measured by Christ's work, not my work." (Eph. 2:8-9)

Finances

I am a steward of God's resources, laying up treasures in heaven (Matt. 6:19-21)

I am Statements – Image

Family

I am a member of God's family, where imperfection is met with love. (Eph. 2:19)

Intellectual

I am a disciple of Jesus, embracing humility and seeking his wisdom, not my own. (Js. 1:5)

Spiritual

I am a worshiper in Spirit and Truth, seeking to please God, not show off to others (Jn. 4:23-24)

Application

1. How can reducing your time on social media help you focus more on your real-life relationships and personal growth?
2. How can you serve someone this week, where your actions are only known to God?
3. When was the last time you noticed yourself “managing image?” What fear or insecurity drove that impulse?