

FOR THE SAKE OF APPEARANCE

My husband and I will occasionally “I.M.” each other. I always enjoy making my avatar (the picture that goes along with my message) to represent how I’m feeling at that particular time. Sometimes, I’ll be in my jammies or wrapped in a blanket—other times, I’ll be dressed in a party dress ready to go out. The picture above is one I used for several days not long ago, as it was characteristic of my mood while caring for sick children and stuck in the house. While the pant size is off a bit, the sarcastic look on my face reveals more about how I’m feeling than anything, though. It says, “What am I, the help?”

So the thought crossed my mind: “What if my spiritual appearance had an avatar? What would it look like? The Lord jumped a Scripture off the page after pondering that question which showed me I need to spend a little bit of time contemplating just that.

I Samuel 16:6-7

“When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, ‘Surely the Lord’s anointed stands here before the Lord.’ But the Lord said to Samuel, ‘Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.’ ”

When the Lord looks at my heart today, will He find it in its pajamas, barely awake? Or perhaps He will find it with its apron on, smirking while serving Him half-heartedly. I certainly hope not!

My prayer for me and for you would be that when He looks through the eyes of our hearts that He would see a reflection of Himself. That will only happen if we are fully surrendered to Him...if we are allowing Him to clothe us. We can try to “put on appearances” for Him, but it will never fly. He has a perfect view and sees right through. Let’s ask that we may be robed in His splendor today, for the sake of having His appearance!

**“I delight greatly in the Lord; My soul rejoices in my
God.**

For He has clothed me with garments of salvation

And arrayed me in a robe of righteousness..."
Isaiah 61:10a