

Following the Pattern

Allen Stump – September 30, 2023

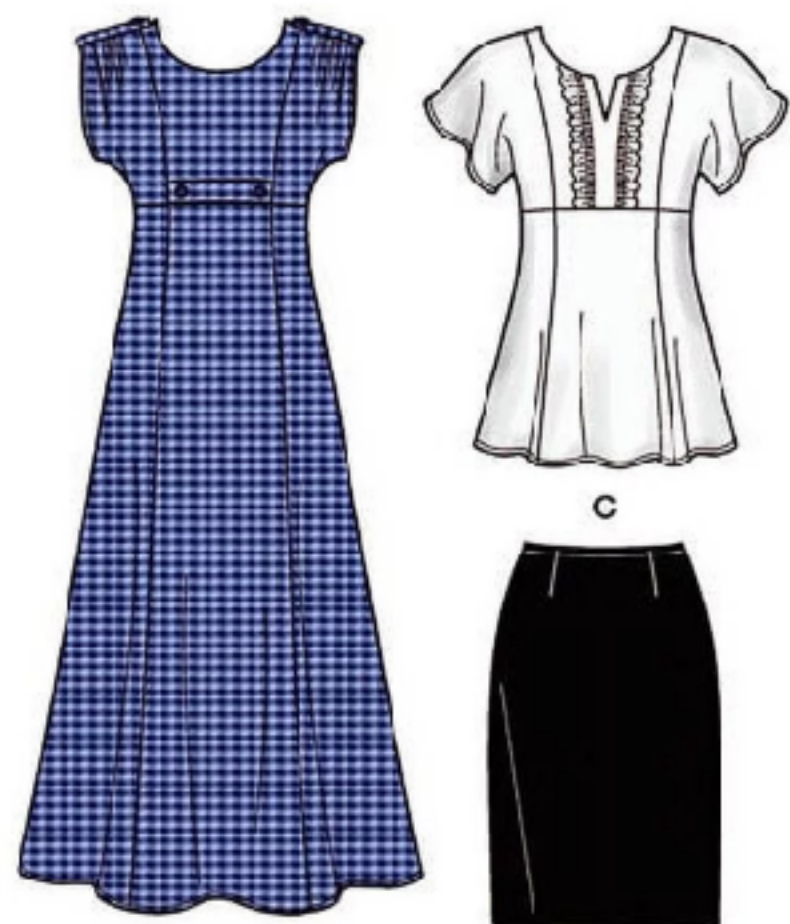
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Simplicity[®]



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Designs By
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C hrist is the ladder that is let down in our path today, and that reaches to the battlements of heaven, to the very threshold of glory. Now the question is, Will you climb the ladder? Jesus Christ is our pattern, the great standard of moral character. Will you follow His example, or will you choose to follow the example and practice and customs of the world?
(Ellen White, *Bible Echo*, November 19, 1894, par. 4)

. . . I am among you as he that serveth”
(Luke 22:27)

Genesis 18:1–3 (KJV) — 1 And the LORD appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day; 2 And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground, 3 And said, My Lord, if now I have found favour in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee, from thy servant:

Genesis 18:4–5 (KJV) — 4 Let a little water, I pray you, be fetched, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree: 5 And I will fetch a morsel of bread, and comfort ye your hearts; after that ye shall pass on: for therefore are ye come to your servant. And they said, So do, as thou hast said.

Genesis 18:6–8 (KJV) — 6 And Abraham hastened into the tent unto Sarah, and said, Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes upon the hearth. 7 And Abraham ran unto the herd, and fetcht a calf tender and good, and gave it unto a young man; and he hasted to dress it. 8 And he took butter, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they did eat.

Psalm 105:42 (KJV) — 42 For he remembered his
holy promise, And Abraham his servant.

Genesis 15:2 (KJV) — 2 And Abram said, Lord GOD, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house is this Eliezer of Damascus?

A steward identifies himself with his master. His master's interests become his. He has accepted the responsibilities of a steward and he must act in the master's stead, doing as the master would do if he were presiding over his own goods. The position is one of dignity, in that his master trusts him. If a steward in any wise acts selfishly and turns the advantages gained in trading with his lord's goods to his own advantage, he has perverted the trust reposed in him. The master can no longer look upon him as a servant to be trusted, one on whom he can depend.

(That I May Know Him, p. 220.2)

Deuteronomy 34:5 (KJV) — 5 So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD.

Deuteronomy 18:18 (KJV) — 18 I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him.

Judges 2:8 (KJV) — 8 And Joshua the son of Nun,
the servant of the LORD, died, being an hundred
and ten years old.

Psalm 89:3 (KJV) — 3 I have made a covenant with
my chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant,

Luke 1:69 (KJV) — 69 And hath raised up an
horn of salvation for us In the house of his
servant David;

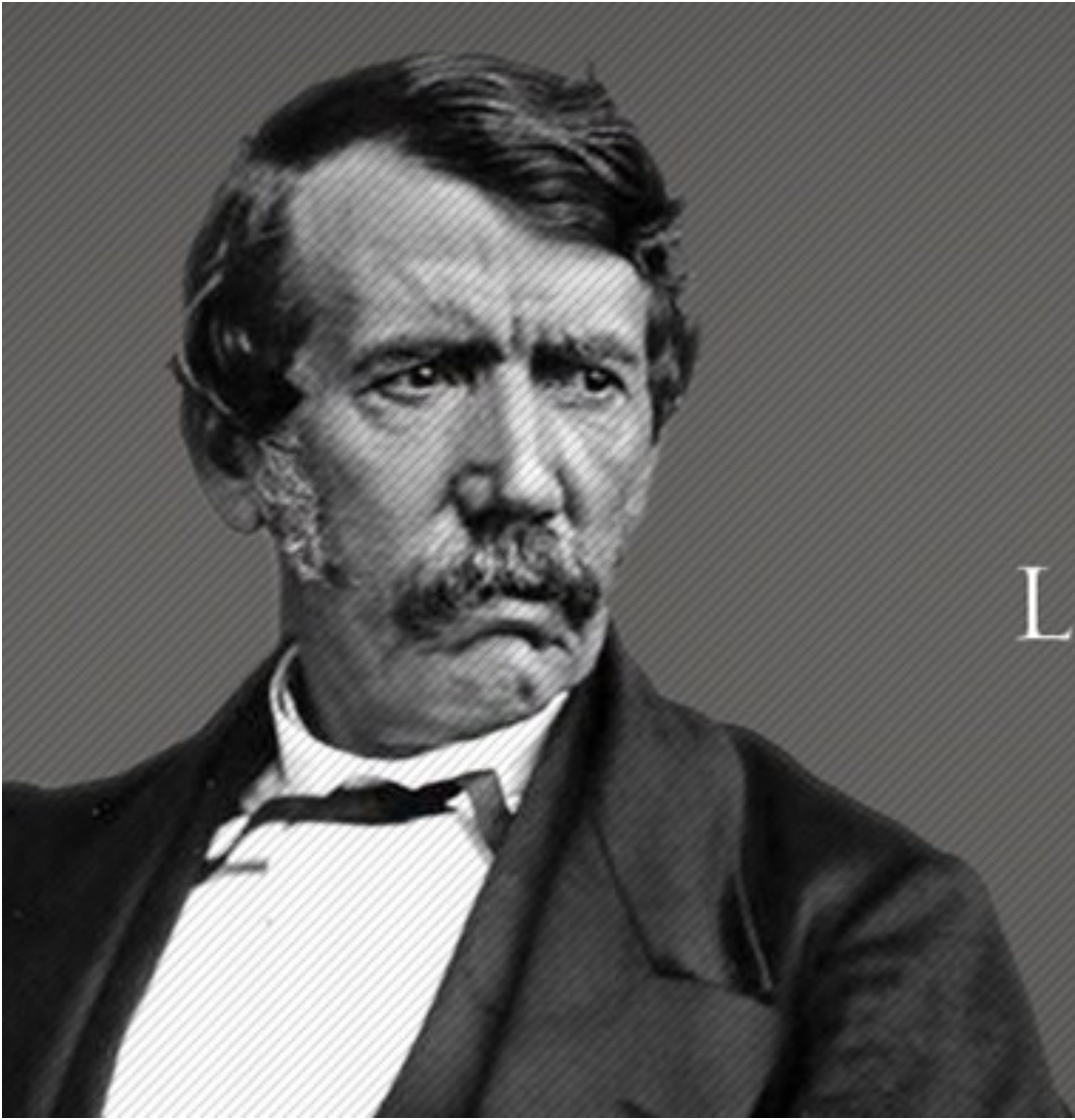
Matthew 6:24 (KJV) — 24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Luke 22:24–27 (KJV) — 24 And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest. 25 And he said unto them, The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors. 26 But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve. 27 For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth.



John 13:13–17 (KJV) — 13 Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. 14 If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. 16 Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him. 17 If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.

Luke 17:7–10 (KJV) — 7 But which of you, having a servant plowing or feeding cattle, will say unto him by and by, when he is come from the field, Go and sit down to meat? 8 And will not rather say unto him, Make ready wherewith I may sup, and gird thyself, and serve me, till I have eaten and drunken; and afterward thou shalt eat and drink? 9 Doth he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him? I trow not. 10 So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.



DAVID
LIVINGSTONE

1813–1873

People talk of the sacrifice I have made in spending so much of my life in Africa. Can that be called a sacrifice which is simply paid back as a small part of the great debt owing to our God, which we can never repay? Is that a sacrifice which brings its own reward of healthful activity, the consciousness of doing good, peace of mind, and a bright hope of a glorious destiny hereafter?

Away with such a word, such a view, and such a thought!
It is emphatically no sacrifice. Say rather it is a privilege.
Anxiety, sickness, suffering or danger now and then, with
a foregoing of the common conveniences and charities
of this life, may make us pause and cause the spirit to
waver and sink; but let this only be for a moment. All
these are nothing when compared with the glory which
shall hereafter be revealed in and for us. I never made a
sacrifice. Of this we ought not to talk when we
remember the great sacrifice which He made who left
His Father's throne on high to give Himself for us.

Acts 2:18 (KJV) — 18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

Acts 4:29 (KJV) — 29 And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word,

Jude 1 (KJV) — 1 Jude, the servant of Jesus
Christ, . . .

Romans 1:1 (KJV) — 1 Paul, a servant of Jesus
Christ, called to be an apostle, . . .

Philippians 1:1 (KJV) — 1 Paul and Timotheus,
the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in
Christ Jesus . . .

2 Corinthians 4:5 (KJV) — 5 For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

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1 Peter 4:10 (KJV) — 10 *As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.*

Romans 12:1–3 (KJV) — 1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. 3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

Romans 12:4–7 (KJV) — 4 For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:
5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. 6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; 7 Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;

Romans 12:8–10 (KJV) — 8 Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness. 9 Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. 10 Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;

1 Peter 5:2 (KJV) — 2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;

Acts 6:2–4 (KJV) — 2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables. 3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. 4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

Philippians 2:2–4 (KJV) — 2 Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. 3 Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. 4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

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I never made a sacrifice. We ought not to talk of sacrifice when we remember the great sacrifice that he made who left his Father's throne on high to give himself for us. —David Livingstone

