

GOODY TWO SHOES



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The History of The Phrase “Goody Two Shoes”

It comes from the title of a nursery tale called *The History of Little Goody Two-Shoes*, which was published in 1765 by John Newbery, one of the earliest London publishers of children’s stories.

It recounts the affecting and morally impeccable story of Little Margery Meanwell, whose father was ruined by a couple of villains out of pantomime named Graspall and Gripe. Her parents died, leaving her and her brother alone in the world. Little Margery had only one shoe, but through the help of a rich relative of Mr. Smith, the local clergyman, she obtained a new pair of shoes.

“She ran out to Mrs. Smith as soon as they were put on, and, stroking down her ragged apron, cried out, ‘Two shoes, mamma, see, two shoes!’ And she so behaved to all the people she met, and by that means obtained the name of “Goody Two-Shoes.” Eventually she became rich and educated through her virtue and hard work.

Goody Two Shoes From The 1768 Edition of The Book

The story became famous and has been reprinted more times than anybody can count. But it was only in the 1930s that the expression *goody two shoes* came to mean, not the heroine of the story, but a person who was smugly or obtrusively virtuous, a goody-goody. This unfair branding remains even unto today.

This branding came about through a misunderstanding of Little Margery's name. She was indeed good, but she was called *goody* because it was a polite term of address at

the time at which the story was written. It was an abbreviation of *Goodwife*, the female head of a household, the distaff equivalent of *Goodman*. The title *goody* was usually applied to a poor married woman. The shift of *goody* to our modern sense was helped by the creation of *goody-goody* in the 1870s. This was based on another sense of *goody*, from the early nineteenth century, for somebody whom the *Oxford English Dictionary* describes as “characterized by inept manifestations of good or pious sentiment.”

Original Book Theme



Little Goody Two Shoes.

The story itself is a re-telling of the Cinderella story, which itself is an example of the Christian teaching that diligence reaps its reward in Heaven - what later came to be called 'jam tomorrow'.

'Goody Two-Shoes' is the name given to a poor orphan - Margery Meanwell. She is so poor as to possess only one shoe and is so delighted when given a pair of shoes by a rich gentleman that she keeps repeating that she has 'two shoes.'

Modern Day Definition

The modern day definition of a “Goody Two Shoes” is a person who always follows the rules, so much so that it becomes annoying...Sometimes even smugly or obtrusively virtuous, a goody-goody.

The picture is of one who thinks he or she is better than other folks because they follows the rules and colors within the lines of life; whereas those around her or him do not measure up. This is a far cry from the original concept but nevertheless true.

Introduction

The heroine of that 1766 British children's story has somehow survived through the hate, wars, famine, and disease that ravaged four centuries. It's now 2019 and Goody Two Shoes is still typecast as "cute," as her character was in 1766. She is still winning the hearts of people around her with her smile and sunny personality. She still annoys those that do not enjoy life and chooses against having a positive perspective. Times have changed but she has not. She has rather become a symbol of all that is good and all that is Godly for both male and female.

Today's Goody Two Shoes are in their own bubble traveling through time and space. Yes, bad things are happening all around them but Goody is riding upon the wings of love, God's love, for all who call upon His name.

Today's Goody generation looks for the best in everyone. They believe in obeying the moral laws of God, not because they must but because they want to. They are at peace with God and comfortable in their own skin. They know that Almighty God is their Creator and Benefactor. Their conscience is clear and their souls are at rest because they walk by faith and not by what others say or do.

Bubble Busting

Today's Goody Two Shoes, like all other Goody Two Shoes that came before, must face life's challenges in order to grow. Their faith in God must be put to the test. It's easy to be a "Goody" when everything is going great. However, can the inward Goody be sustained in difficult times? The only way to know for sure is to burst their bubble with adversity. They must see life as it really is and learn how to overcome its many trials.

This, my friends, is what happened to all Goody Two Shoes. It is a fight to the death and it all takes place in the mind. Today's Goody Two Shoes stand or fall on the way they think. It's all about perspective.

The Accusers

Being a "Goody Two Shoes" is a choice. It takes guts, and perseverance. There are those who just don't like other people that choose to be moral. However, that's what being a "Goody" is all about. It's being good. Hear what Jesus said,

“A good man, out of the good treasure of his heart, brings forth that which is good; and an evil man, out of the evil treasure of his heart, brings forth that which is evil; for of the abundance of his heart his mouth speaks” Luke 6:45.

The “Goody” folks do not like participating in immoral activities. It is a shame to them and makes them feel dirty inside. They purposefully separate themselves from those that follow after evil. They strive to reject the passions of lust, jealousy, pride, and other fleshly appetites that rise up in their thought life.

This puritan attitude has always creates a lot of tension between the Goodys and the rest of society. They often are the focus of abusive language such as, “Holier Than Thou,” “Stuck Up,” “Religious Fanatic,” “Snooty” and so on.

Those that disapprove of the Goody lifestyle will often mock, scoff, criticize and openly attack the Goody population. Today’s Goody must know who she or he is and be able to stand against their accusations. They are meant to snare the Goody and strip him or her from their two shoes of righteousness.

The Goody Lifestyle

The lifestyle of a Goody Two Shoes is born out of a reverence for God and a love for His will. The Goody lives by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God. Walking by faith and not by sight is a normal thing. Trusting in the Lord is accepted in all Goody circles and experiencing God through praise and worship is their ultimate pleasure. Peace marks their way and governs their actions.

The Goody Counterfeit

As in every genuine there is also a counterfeit. So it is with the Goody. The genuine just is. It comes naturally to them as they are filled with the Holy Spirit of the living God. There is no effort or struggle. They glow with the *Love of God*. They demonstrate *Patience* and exhibit *Joy* that reflects the image of God. They are *Kind* and full of *Goodness, Faith* and *Tolerance*. These characteristics identify the Goody Two Shoes as the real thing.

On the other hand, the counterfeit looks very much like the genuine but differs in one major way. The counterfeit follows a set of rules and regulations that dictate behavior. The counterfeit struggles to obtain while the genuine moves effortlessly in the Spirit. One is trying to be while the other just is. The genuine does not criticize whereas the counterfeit pre-judges, condemns and calls attention to his or her self-effort.

Society's View of The Goody

What started out to be an honorable recognition of piety, goodness and a genuine care for others is now, in these last days, nothing more than disdain. If you are a, "Goody Two Shoes," you are looked upon by society as an outdated, useless personality that is self absorbed and judgmental.

Godly Council For The Two Shoes

Here are a few suggestions for the genuine Goody, those who love God and seek to reflect His image on this earth.

1. Embrace your, "Goody Two Shoes" branding. Show the world the true meaning of Goody Two Shoes.
2. Fluff off the jokes, criticism and putdowns' knowing their origin is from the pit of hell.
3. Continue to be happy, even in the midst of adversity and don't take the opinions of others to heart. God did not hire them to judge you.
4. Let your actions always be Godly. Don't fall for evil's dirty tricks or unholy suggestions.
5. Stand your ground knowing that God is on your side. He will take care of all those that oppress you because you seek to be good at heart.
6. Follow after peace and walk by faith with your head up high. You are anointed of God for these last days. You shall overcome.
7. Do His will with joy and gladness and always keep your eyes on Him.

*Jesus saith unto him,
I am the way, the truth, and the life:
no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

John 14:6

Conclusion

Your “Two Shoes” i.e. righteousness, could be the only thing that points the way to God’s love. Your wholesome and bright personality is a gift from God to be used as a beacon of light in a lost and dying world.

It is not by chance that you are here in this place at this time. God wants to use you to reflect His love and blessings to the world around you. Don’t shrink back and don’t hide your beauty. It is for this time that you were born into this generation.

Let the love and joy that is in your heart flow out to others. Reject expectations that pull you into darkness. Be who you are as God created you and above all, do not allow the ridicule and gossip of others stop you from living as God intended you to.

Remember: *“For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: he puts down one, and sets up another.*

For in the hand of the LORD there is a cup, and the wine is red; it is full of mixture; and he pours out of the same: but the dregs thereof, all the wicked of the earth shall wring them out, and drink them” Psalm 75:6-8

***It’s time to be God’s little
“Goody Two Shoes.”***