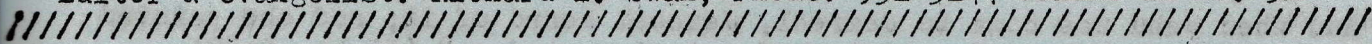


Contending For The Faith Once For All Delivered To The Saints (Jude 3)  
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FEMININE ADORNMENT

While the Scripture plainly teaches that God is concerned with man's heart and the inner man (I Sam. 16:7, Eph. 3:16) this however does not nullify His teaching for our outward appearance. If so, nudity would be acceptable unto Him. Are you obeying the Bible with respect to your outward adornment?

I. Hair (How Long Is Long): When the Word of God so plainly teaches that long hair is a woman's glory (I Cor. 11:15), we sadly see so many "clipped sisters" glorying in their shame (Phil. 3:18,19) and even boldly displaying their short hair without a covering in prayer. (I Cor. 11:1-16) From a study of God's council on the subject do you have long hair? If not determine to let it grow.

"Thine head upon thee is like Carmel, and the hair of thine head like purple; the king is held in the galleries, (captive in the tresses thereof)" (Song 7:5 KJV & ASV)

"...and thine hair is grown," (Ez. 16:7)

"And stood at his feet behind him weeping, and began to wash his feet with tears, and did wipe them with the hairs of her head.." (Lk. 7:38)

"Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair.." (Jn. 12:3)

"...not with broided hair.." (I Tim. 2:9) (Long enough to braid)

"..not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair.." (I Pet. 3:3) (It was long enough to plait)

"And they had hair as the hair of women.." (Rev. 9:8) (Indicates a difference)

II. Men's Clothing: The women of my generation seem to be obsessed with the idea of dressing, speaking, and acting like men. They have climbed into pants, use four lettered words (not love) and have forgotten the meek and quiet spirit that characterized grandma. My sister in Christ, you have no assurance that our Father is pleased with your wearing male clothing and you cannot walk by faith in pants! Note the below:

"The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the Lord thy God." (Deut. 22:5)

"But from the beginning of the creation God made them male and female." (Mk. 10:6)

III. Pearls: How could language be plainer? Yet there are attempts to get around this plain teaching. (Even imitation pearls are out too, I Thess. 5:22)

"In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; But that (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works." (I Tim. 2:9,10)

NEWS & NOTES: We rejoice in that sister Linda Vaughn made confession of error and was restored to the church here!

Lord willing, beginning Sept. 1, bro. Harold Stapleton will be preaching full-time for the Carter City church of Christ and I will be laboring here in that capacity. We thank our Father for the increase that has made this possible and earnestly covet your prayers!

IV. Make Up: Let me say, I am glad to see the "natural look" coming back in style. Note what characterized evil women in the O.T. We're you aware of these verses?

"And when Jehu was come to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it; and she painted her face, and tired her head, and looked out at a window." (II Ki. 9:30)

"Lust not after her beauty in thine heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids." (Prov. 6:25)

"And furthermore, that ye have sent for men to come from far, unto whom a messenger was sent; and lo, they came: for whom thou didst wash thyself, paintedst thy eyes, and deckedst thyself with ornaments..." (Ez. 23:40)

V. Immodest Dress: Have you been guilty of wearing hot pants, short skirts, low-cut blouses, shorts and the like? May God richly bless those sisters in Christ that attempt to attract the opposite sex with that which is spirtual and eternal in nature and not with carnal flesh that so rapidly passes away. (Rom. 8:5,6,12,13) Note the below: Listen up girls!

Modest (I Tim. 2:9)--Shy or reserved, not forward. Especially not displaying one's body.

Chaste (Tit. 2:5)--Modest, not indecent, pure from fleshly lusts

Virtuous (II Pet. 1:5)--Implying moral excellence manifested by forbearance from acts or thoughts that do not accord with virginity or strict marital fidelity. (see also Prov. 31:10-31)

Pure (I Jn. 3:3)--Implying chasity through innocence and an absence of seductive influences.

Lewdness--Indecent, lustful, unchaste, and lascivious

Lasciviousness--Voluptuous or lewd emotions and a tendency to produce such

Wanton--Unchaste, lewd, immoral

Immoral--Unchaste, lewd, licensious, obscene

Entice--To tempt, to allure, to attract by offering a hope of reward

Some years ago the Portuguses ship (Santa Maria) was hi-jacked and taken over by some Portuguese rebels. Some American women were on that ship. The news dispatch said the women were afraid that the swarthy rebels might have designs on them, so they left off wearing "enticing clothing".

These women had been wearing shorts, halters, and bathing suits in the presence of men on board ship. I am struck by the fact that these women KNEW such clothing was ENTICING to men!! They KNEW they were TEMPTING these men and they knew they were offering these men hope of reward or pleasure!

What can I say to sisters to get them to see the danger of immodest apparel? Go back over the definition and see what all take place when a woman stalks out in the presence of men in this kind of attire:

1. She is not shy or reserved and she is displaying her body and therefore not modest!
2. Since she is not modest, but rather indecent, then she is not chaste!
3. She tends to excite lustful desires in men, thus she is lascivious!
4. She entices men, therefore she tempts and allures with the hope of pleasure or reward.
5. She puts an occasion to fall in her brother's way and causes him to sin!
6. She brings reproach upon the church and hinders souls from obeying the gospel.

Take Heed! "For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry." (I Sam. 15:23)

"An evil man seeketh only rebellion: therefore a cruel messenger shall be sent against him." (Prov. 17:11)

"But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ." --(II Cor. 11:3)