

Vessels of Honor – Part 5 & 6

1 Thessalonians 4:4 *That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour;*

In the last letter he ever wrote, the Apostle Paul once again stressed to Timothy how important it was to live a holy (sanctified) life. He wanted his young protégé to be a **Vessel of Honor**.

2 Timothy 2:19-21 *Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity. But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.*

As you progress beyond the book of Acts into the epistles written to New Testament churches, the further you go in time, the louder the warning becomes: **You can't maintain salvation without sanctification!**

The great Hebrew writer Ahad Ha'Am said it this way: *"More than Israel kept the Sabbath, the Sabbath kept Israel."* **MORE THAN YOU KEEP HOLINESS STANDARDS, HOLINESS STANDARDS KEEP YOU!**

For this part of our study, we are examining another passage of Scripture that Paul wrote to Timothy, who was the young pastor of the great Apostolic church in the sinful mega-city of Ephesus. Perhaps nowhere else in the New Testament do we see the distinction between men's and women's standards of holiness any more clearly.

1 Timothy 2:8-10 *I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting. 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 (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works.*

Notice that **MEN'S** holiness issues are standards of **ACTION**:

- **APPETITE** ("lift up holy hands")
- **ANGER** ("without wrath")
- **APATHY** ("without doubting")

Notice that **WOMEN'S** holiness issues are standards of **APPEARANCE**:

- **ADORNMENT** ("adorn themselves")
- **APPAREL** ("in modest apparel")
- **ATTITUDE** ("with shamefacedness and sobriety")

Both Paul and Peter (**1 Peter 3:1-5**) express very similar admonitions, allowing us to see very clearly the "standards" taught by the first century Apostolics. HOLINESS was important to the early church, because Christianity was born during the time of the Roman Empire. It was in this context of evil, sin, violence, sensuality, and outright debauchery that the early Apostolics lived out their **salvation** and their **sanctification**. It's hard to even comprehend how SEPARATED they were from their culture!

In our last session, we talked about the issue of **ADORNMENT**. In this session we want to discuss the Bible's perspective on **APPAREL**.

Isaiah 4:1 *And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel: only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach.*

The last days church is represented by seven candlesticks in the book of Revelation, and the seven would-be brides of Isaiah 4:1 are a parallel prophetic picture of the church in the last days. These "women" want to be the Bride of Christ, but **only on their own terms!** They have no desire to submit to the authority of a husband; they are not interested in his needs or his concerns. They want him to be their Savior, but not their Lord!

Many Christians today want to eat their own bread, their own interpretation of God's Word. And as a result, many of them want to wear their own apparel, rejecting separation from the world, holiness preaching, spiritual authority, and anything they think is "negative." They want nothing more than forgiveness, to have the reproach of sin removed. This is NOT the spirit of the Apostolic church! We want to please our Bridegroom!

Does it matter how we appear on the outside if God looks on the heart? **ABSOLUTELY!** Because man DOES look on the outward appearance!

1 Samuel 16:7 *But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.*

Some people dress to be admired, **pleasing themselves**.
Other people dress to be accepted, **pleasing others**.
Christians, however, dress to **glorify God**.

There are TWO important Biblical principles concerning our clothing. The first principle of **MODESTY** was instituted by God immediately AFTER sin entered the world. Modesty not only prevents sin, it preserves intimacy. To "**dress modestly**" means that clothing must provide **sufficient covering** for the body so others are not tempted. But it is important to understand that **modesty must conform to GOD'S opinion, not YOUR opinion!**

MANKIND'S FIRST CLOTHING

At first Adam and Eve were “clothed in innocence,” but after sin came their nakedness became a shame and danger to them. They were now separated from God’s glory, which had been their covering.

Genesis 2:25 *And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.*

They tried to cover their nakedness by sewing together fig leaves to make an **APRON**. The Hebrew word **HAGORA** means “girdle, belt, loincloth, apron, loin-covering.” This is a garment covering the pubic region and hips, and is **MAN’S IDEA OF MODEST APPAREL**.

Genesis 3:7 *And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.*

However, Adam and Eve had been in fellowship with God less than 24 hours ago – so they sensed they were still “naked” in God’s sight! Unfortunately, over 6000 years our culture has lost that sensitivity.

Genesis 3:10 *And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.*

Since their covering was not acceptable to God, He used animal skins to make them a **COAT**. The Hebrew word **KUTTONET** means “a tunic with sleeves, coming down to the knees, sometimes to the ankles.” This is a garment with sleeves, covering from the shoulders at least to the knees, and is **GOD’S IDEA OF MODEST APPAREL**. The principle of **MODESTY** was instituted by God immediately after the fall of Adam and Eve!

Genesis 3:21 *Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.*

Nakedness was covered from the beginning by God to defeat the temptation it created. It is associated with sexual impulses and desires, so much so that to “see” or “uncover” nakedness is a Biblical euphemism for “sexual intercourse” (Leviticus 20:17). Nakedness as a moral shame is found from Genesis (3:7) through Revelation (16:15). Since God doesn’t change, the principles of modest apparel have not changed either!

Modesty must conform to GOD’S opinion, not YOUR opinion!

There are TWO important Biblical principles concerning our clothing. The first principle of **MODESTY** was instituted by God immediately AFTER sin entered the world. The second principle of **DISTINCTION** was instituted by God even BEFORE sin entered the world.

Genesis 1:27 *So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.*

GENDER DISTINCTION IN THE BIBLE

Historically, men and women have worn **robes** for the major part of human history. **However, the most important gender distinction was not simply in WHAT they wore, but in HOW they wore it.** In the Bible, there were MALE and FEMALE ways of wearing clothing.

Firstly, the priests wore “breeches” under their robes in Bible times. This word does not occur very often in Scripture, but in every case it is **men’s appare!** (Exodus 28:42, Exodus 39:28, Leviticus 6:10, Leviticus 16:4, Ezekiel 44:18) – women were not permitted to wear “breeches.”

Exodus 28:42 *And thou shalt make them linen breeches to cover their nakedness; from the loins even unto the thighs (**FROM THE WAIST TO THE KNEES**) they shall reach:*

According to Hebrew lexicons, “breeches” means “trousers that extend below the knee.” The later English word “britches” developed from this term, as did our modern concept of “pants.” Women in Bible times did not wear “pants” because of God’s disapproval. Pants were worn exclusively by men for the first 5900 years of human history. Only in the last century has women’s apparel suddenly become “impractical” for women to wear!

Secondly, men in Bible times were permitted to “gird up their loins” while women were not (Job 38:3, Job 40:7, Jeremiah 1:17). A man could transform his robe into a closer-fitting, less cumbersome garment by bringing the hem of his robe between his legs and tucking it into his waistband (girdle). This created a trouser-like effect, and was a **distinctively masculine appearance**. For women to “gird up their loins” like a man was considered **immodest** by God and by Biblical society.

Job 38:3 *Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me.*

God associated Job’s acceptance of his masculine responsibility with the state of his appare! And today we still associate responsibility with the question of “who wears the pants” in a family! On the website “The Art of Manliness,” we find this statement: “To tell someone to ‘gird up their loins’ was to tell them to get ready for hard work or battle. It was the ancient way of saying ‘Man up!’” (**Bifurcated Garment Illustration: Ted Slampyak**)

So, any garment that shows a separation of the legs above the knee is immodest apparel for a godly woman. This is a sacred area of the body (sexuality, childbirth), and God wants it to be **DISTINCT** in appearance.

The idea of DISTINCTION in apparel is an ancient concept that can still be seen today on restroom doors! **God hates the blending of gender, or “UNISEX.”** It began by affecting our culture’s idea of clothing, but it has now impacted the very concept of gender. In 2014, Facebook introduced 58 gender options for its users. And then, after protests that 58 genders were not enough, in 2015 the company offered a “fill-in-the-blank” option!

AN ABOMINATION UNTO THE LORD

Deuteronomy 22:5 *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.*

Notice that the commands are different for men and women. A man must not “put on a woman’s garment,” and that is enough of a command for him, because APPAREL is not his particular problem area. However, the instructions are stricter for a woman (because she is tempted more in this area). She is not even to wear “that which pertaineth unto a man.” Pertain means “relate, have reference to, be appropriate for.” It’s Latin root word means “to reach toward.” In other words, she must not allow her feminine apparel to “reach toward” or even “resemble” a man’s clothing.

The word “abomination” occurs over 40 times in the Pentateuch. Its root meaning is “disgusting, filthy, loathsome or abhorrent.” While there were certain things that were merely an abomination “to Israel” (Leviticus 11:10) under the ceremonial law, other things were an abomination “unto the Lord” under the moral law. **Wearing apparel like that of the opposite sex is an abomination unto the Lord!**

APOSTOLIC ADMONITIONS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

The word “**apparel**,” as used by Paul in 1 Timothy 2:8-10, comes from the Greek word “*katastole*” which means “a long flowing garment.” This word reflects a style of garment the Greeks called “*katastola*” which was loose-fitting (“flowing”) and covered from the neck to the knees (“long”). **Notice that Paul requires the same type of garment God required in Genesis!**

The garment of a woman should cover her thigh and knee. It does not have to be longer; if Paul wanted to specify an ankle-length garment he would have used the Greek word “*poderes*” (as in Revelation 1:13).

PANTS are not a modest garment for a woman, because even though they are past the knee (“long”) they are not a “flowing” garment. They also “gird up the loins” (separate the legs above the knee), so they are only appropriate for a man to wear. TIGHT garments of any type are also not modest because they are not “flowing” garments.

Paul also teaches us that a woman’s clothing should follow the principles of “shamefacedness” and “sobriety,” that is, she is responsible to dress so that she does not “turn the eyes” of others to the form of her body.

After watching an MTV awards show and being shocked by the “complete absence of modesty” and the “ridicule of virginity,” leadership expert Michael Hyatt asked himself, “Where are these girls’ fathers? Has anyone ever taught them the concept of modesty? Or have all the men in their lives simply exploited them as sex objects?” He then wrote a blog post called “Whatever Happened to Modesty?” and shared four guidelines that he taught his daughters as they were growing up:

- *If you have trouble getting into it or out of it, it is probably not modest.*
- *If you have to be careful when you sit down or bend over, it is probably not modest.*
- *If people look at any part of your body before looking at your face, it is probably not modest.*
- *If you can see your most private body parts or an outline of those parts under the fabric, it is probably not modest.*

Blogger Phylcia Delta wrote these words in “5 Myths About Modesty” ...

*LUST is a rampant problem in the church and in our culture. Most often the issue of lust is addressed with men, but it is also a major issue in the lives of women. It simply looks different for women than it does for men. **Manipulating a man’s attention for the purpose of affirmation is how WOMEN are tempted to lust.** When I give in to my desire for a man’s attention, at the expense of his endeavor to honor God, I am giving in to the lust of MY flesh and encouraging the lust of HIS eyes. In many cases, the very women offended by the negative attention of men are dressing in such a way as to earn it. It’s true, lust is a sin, and men shouldn’t entertain it. But the level of their lust is directly related to how much of our bodies is available to lust after. The less we advertise, the less opportunity we give them to covet our bodies. While men are responsible to honor us with their eyes and minds, when we dishonor ourselves by what we wear, the real unfairness is to the men. Do we really expect to wear whatever we want and then tell them not to look at us? Do we really expect to fit in with the latest sexually promiscuous trends and NOT be viewed as an object of sexual desire? It is not just his job not to look: it is our responsibility to provide nothing provocative to look at. We cannot blame men for what we instigate, and it is time for women of God to start acknowledging our responsibility in this matter, and honoring God with our dress.*

The modest apparel of an Apostolic woman tells everyone around her that she is living to glorify God, not just to gratify herself. We need more than “rules of modesty” – in our day, we desperately need a “spirit of modesty.”

Notice that **WOMEN'S** holiness issues are standards of **APPEARANCE**:

- **ADORNMENT** (“adorn themselves”)
- **APPAREL** (“in modest apparel”)
- **ATTITUDE** (“with shamefacedness and sobriety”)

An attitude is an inward feeling expressed by outward behavior. (That is why an attitude can be “seen” without a word being said!) Sadly, the attitude of many Christians today is, “How much do I HAVE to do to be saved?” But the attitude of an Apostolic is, “How much CAN I do to please my Savior?” With that attitude, you will have no problem with holiness!

Notice the emphasis that the Bible places on a woman's **ATTITUDE**, which has to do with her acceptance of her God-given

1 Peter 3:4-5 *But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands:*

Ephesians 5:22 *Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.*

The Bible teaches the woman to have an attitude of SUBMISSION, not because she is inferior to man, but simply because of God's ORDER of creation. By the way, women are not required to be “submitted to men” – they are to be submitted to their HUSBANDS (or to their FATHERS, if they are unmarried). Yes, men were created before women – but animals were created before men! **So God's “order of creation” has nothing to do with “placement” – but it has everything to do with “pattern.”**

An Apostolic woman willingly chooses to be marked in her own body by her covenant of submission, through what she does with her **HAIR**. Her external appearance demonstrates her internal attitude of submission, specifically her acceptance of her God-given role as a female. This is a “headship issue” that goes all the way back to creation.

In 1 Corinthians 11, Paul is teaching about a CULTURAL issue that no longer applies in MOST modern settings. However, he bases his teaching on the PRINCIPLE of submission that still applies to ALL Christian women.

1 Corinthians 11:1-2 *Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ. Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you.*

Contrary to the current fad of saying, “Don't look at me – look at Jesus!”, Paul expects every Christian to be an EXAMPLE for others to follow!

These verses are the perfect transition verse between chapter 10, which teaches us not to damage our witness among fellow CHRISTIANS by our actions (eating meat sacrificed to idols), and chapter 11, which teaches us not to damage our witness in our CULTURE by our actions (women not wearing a veil). The examples given in both cases are specific to Corinth, but the principles taught are undeniably cross-cultural and for all time.

Before he gives an admonition to the Corinthian women about their **APPEARANCE**, Paul shows them how they should be under **AUTHORITY** (“kephale” – “head”). **A submissive heart on the inside will always demonstrate a submissive demeanor on the outside!**

1 Corinthians 11:3-5 *But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God. Every man praying or prophesying, having his head covered, dishonoureth his head. But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head: for that is even all one as if she were shaven.*

The problem in the Corinthian church was NOT with Christian women cutting their hair – **moral women in Paul's day did not cut their hair!** The problem was that Christian women, enamoured with their newfound freedom in Christ, were no longer wearing veils as their culture demanded. This unintentionally identified them with heathen priestesses in the local temples who offered worship bareheaded with disheveled hair, and even with temple prostitutes who cut off their hair to offer it on pagan altars.

Galatians 3:28 *There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.*

1 Corinthians 10:23 *All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not.*

Paul teaches the Corinthians that a man should not worship with his head covered, while a woman should wear a veil. A man does not wear a covering which can be seen because his head (Christ) is also invisible. On the other hand, a woman is not to worship “uncovered” (“without a veil”) – not necessarily because it invalidates her prayer, but because it dishonors her head (her husband or father) in that culture. The woman is to wear a covering which can be seen because her head (the man) is also visible. If she refuses to wear a veil, Paul says that she might as well just shave her head, because she is already bringing shame to herself and her husband.

These women would never even think of cutting their hair, and that is precisely why Paul is comparing the **CULTURAL PRACTICE** of submission (veil) with the **ETERNAL PRINCIPLE** of submission (hair).

1 Corinthians 11:6 *For if the woman be not covered, let her also be shorn: but if it be a shame for a woman to be shorn or shaven, let her be covered.*

Is it a **sin** or just a “**shame**” for a woman to cut her hair? The word “shame” comes from the Greek word “aischron” which refers to something that is a disgrace. It is the neuter form of “aischros” which is translated “filthy,” or “that which is opposed to modesty or purity.” So it’s serious!

The word SHAVEN (Greek “xyrao”) is self-explanatory (“to use a razor, make bare or smooth”), but what does SHORN (Greek “keiro”) mean? Most scholars and translators see it as meaning “to shear or cut” **WITHOUT SPECIFYING HOW MUCH**. It seems that hair is “shorn” if it is cut at all. However, Paul will get more specific as he goes along.

Again Paul is saying, “Ladies, if you’re not going to submit in wearing the veil, you might as well cut your hair or shave your head – because rebellion in a minor area is still rebellion!”

1 Corinthians 11:7-9 *For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of the man. For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man.*

The word GLORY (Greek “doxa”) expresses the fact that man in his redeemed state REFLECTS the image of God. The woman, on the other hand, reflects the image of the man. She is his “help meet” (Genesis 2:18), a term that praises her strength, not a term that makes her man’s servant! Here Paul reaches all the way back to creation to show the order of creation and the distinction of the sexes. Man was created first, then woman was created for him. Their roles are complementary, but distinct. **Paul is saying that a woman praying without a covering breaks God’s order of creation, and removes herself from His authority.**

In creation, God gave man and woman certain UNCHANGEABLE physical characteristics to distinguish them, but He allowed them both to possess **one CHANGEABLE physical characteristic**. Both men and women can manipulate their **HAIR!** Men can grow their hair long and women can cut their hair short, but by conforming to God’s standard, they demonstrate their willingness to accept God’s authority.

Our men cut their hair short because it was the standard for God’s priests in the Old Testament – and we are His New Testament priesthood! The Talmud says that the hairstyle in Jesus’ day was “Julian” (cut close like Julius Caesar), and that Jewish priests cut their hair once every 30 days.

Ezekiel 44:20 *Neither shall they shave their heads, nor suffer their locks to grow long; they shall only POLL (CUT ALONG HAIRLINE) their heads.*

In the Old Testament, sometimes men would take a **NAZARITE VOW** which had three specific restrictions: they could not eat things made with grapes, they could not touch a corpse, and they could not cut (or care for) their hair for a specified time. However, other than **three rare exceptions** (Samson, Samuel, and John the Baptist who were “lifetime” Nazarites), men taking this vow would always cut their hair after a specified time – usually 30 days according to the Mishna, although double and triple vows for 60 and 100 days were sometimes made. It was a vow of “humiliation.” **By the way, Jesus was NOT a Nazarite – He was a Nazarene!** He drank the fruit of the vine, touched dead bodies (and raised them from the dead!), and had short hair like every other Jewish man of his day.

While we are talking about men, let me mention a principle that applies to both men and women. There is such pressure in our culture today to stay “Forever 21” – but once again, that is letting the WORLD dictate our standard of beauty instead of the WORD. Look at what the Bible says:

Matthew 5:36 *Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black.*

Proverbs 20:29 *The glory of young men is their strength: and the beauty of old men is the gray head.*

Proverbs 16:31 *The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness.*

When Jesus said, “Thou canst not make one hair white or black,” it wasn’t because they technically “couldn’t” do it in that day, it was because they couldn’t do it NATURALLY. The Romans used plant and animal extracts to color their hair; the Jews and the early Christians did not. Why? Because the Bible specifically says that GRAY HAIR is beautiful, and that it is a “crown of glory.” People say, “Gray hair makes me look old.” The Bible says, “Gray hair makes you look beautiful.” Who are you trying to please?

Paul can never rest until he has based his rules of conduct on large eternal principles which may be applied under all conditions. Nowhere else does Paul use so many comparisons to creation as he does here. There is good reason that Apostolic women CHOOSE to be under authority! We will read this next verse in context and then come back to it in a moment, because it is one of the most powerful verses in the New Testament.

1 Corinthians 11:10 *For this cause ought the woman to have power on her head because of the angels.*

1 Corinthians 11:11-13 *Nevertheless neither is the man without the woman, neither the woman without the man, in the Lord. For as the woman is of the man, even so is the man also by the woman; but all things of God. Judge in yourselves: is it comely that a woman pray unto God uncovered?*

Paul inserts this to prevent anyone from falsely concluding that one sex is superior to the other in the sight of God. Men and women (especially couples) are interdependent in their relationship to God. They are equal in rights but not equivalent in roles. While woman originally came from man, every man since Adam has come from a woman. So ultimately, BOTH sexes derive their value, beauty and strength from submitting to God.

And now Paul moves to the crux of the matter. **JUDGE IN YOURSELVES!** After everything Paul has taught, the only logical conclusion is that it is not “comely” (“becoming”) for a woman to worship if she is unwilling to submit to authority by wearing a veil. Rebellion in a “minor” area is still rebellion!

1 Corinthians 11:14-15 *Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him? But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering.*

This is the clincher of Paul’s argument. It is not unreasonable for him to insist that men pray unveiled, because nature teaches a similar lesson. Take a look at men who have reached mature years, and the answer will stand out prominently! Most of them will experience some baldness, by some complex genetic mechanism. God clears off the head of man as time goes on! Only sickness is associated with the balding of women, but many men begin to bald as early as their mid-twenties. Nature’s teaching is so plain that it sometimes escapes our sophisticated minds!

By the same token, it is not unreasonable for him to insist that the women veil themselves, because nature has already provided them with a natural covering – their long hair! **Paul can insist on the temporary because nature has provided the permanent.** The word “glory” (Greek “doxa”) expresses how the woman’s submission in having long hair “reflects” God’s glory (as in verse 7) – because she accepts God’s “order.” Here are some final questions and considerations before we return to verse 10 ...

SO HOW LONG IS LONG? The Greek word “KOMAO” which is translated “long” in verses 14-15 literally means “UNCUT” or “LET THE HAIR GROW.” The verb tenses imply “a condition which remains to be seen.” So, if a man **CONTINUES** to have short hair (he regularly cuts it), he maintains his authority in the presence of God and is not shamed. Similarly, if a woman **CONTINUES** to have uncut (and therefore long) hair, it is a glory to her and she maintains her authority in the presence of God.

DO CHRISTIAN WOMEN HAVE TO WEAR A VEIL TODAY? Not according to Paul! As he concludes his teaching on authority and the cultural necessity of wearing a veil, he reminds women that their hair is the **REAL** covering. The phrase “**for a covering**” (Greek “anti peribolahun”) in verse 15 is translated “**INSTEAD OF a covering**” by Young’s Literal Translation of the Bible, “**TO SERVE AS a covering**” by Today’s English Version, and “**INSTEAD OF a veil**” by the Interlinear Greek-English New Testament. This is supported by several other Bible translations. So the only time a veil is needed today is when culture demands it of modest women (i.e. Muslim world). We then observe the practice NOT because it is necessary before God, but because we want to win that culture to God!

THERE IS NO COMMAND FOR WOMEN NOT TO CUT THEIR HAIR. In verse 16, Paul says if any man is a “fight lover” that all the churches have “no other practice.” Every reputable translation of Scripture supports this interpretation! It is the only natural summary to Paul’s teaching. And in the very same epistle, Paul DOES make a statement about “commandments.”

1 Corinthians 11:16 *But if any man seem to be contentious, we have no such custom, neither the churches of God.*

1 Corinthians 14:37 *If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the **COMMANDMENTS OF THE LORD.***

In verse 10, Paul says that there is **POWER** on a woman’s head because of her submission (“for this cause”); also, it is “because of the angels.”

1 Corinthians 11:10 *For this cause ought the woman to have power on her head because of the angels.*

There are TWO major words for **POWER** in the New Testament:

- **DUNAMIS** – “doing power” (i.e. GIFTS of the Spirit)
- **EXOUSIA** – “restraining power” (i.e. FRUIT of the Spirit)

When MEN live out their holiness standards, it brings much (if not most) of the **DUNAMIS** power to the church. And when WOMEN live out their holiness standards, it brings much (if not most) of the **EXOUSIA** power to the church. When an Apostolic woman goes to prayer, one who is willingly marked in her own body by her covenant of submission, the holy angels and the fallen angels take note! They were there at Creation, they recognize spiritual authority, and then know when it is not present!

EXOUSIA is a word picture of a submitted women with “restraining power” on her head ... she is saying “**NO!**” and is in a spiritual posture of “**NO!**” “*Devil, you can’t have my husband, my children, my grandchildren! NO!*”

Thank you, godly ladies, for the **POWER** you bring to the Apostolic church!