

Believers Together – Discovering the Word of God – Thursday, November 7th, 2024.

Propriety in Worship—1 Corinthians 11:2–16

Topics: Angels, Appearance, Authority, Fellowship, Image, Worship

Open It

1. How have women's roles changed since you were a kid?

1 Corinthians 11:2–16 (ESV)

²Now I commend you because you remember me in everything and maintain the traditions even as I delivered them to you.

³But I want you to understand that the head of every man is Christ, the head of a wife is her husband, and the head of Christ is God.

⁴Every man who prays or prophesies with his head covered dishonors his head,

⁵but every wife who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head, since it is the same as if her head were shaven.

⁶For if a wife will not cover her head, then she should cut her hair short. But since it is disgraceful for a wife to cut off her hair or shave her head, let her cover her head.

⁷For a man ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God, but woman is the glory of man.

⁸For man was not made from woman, but woman from man.

⁹Neither was man created for woman, but woman for man.

¹⁰That is why a wife ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels.

¹¹Nevertheless, in the Lord woman is not independent of man nor man of woman;

¹²for as woman was made from man, so man is now born of woman. And all things are from God.

¹³Judge for yourselves: is it proper for a wife to pray to God with her head uncovered?

¹⁴Does not nature itself teach you that if a man wears long hair it is a disgrace for him,

¹⁵but if a woman has long hair, it is her glory? For her hair is given to her for a covering.

¹⁶If anyone is inclined to be contentious, we have no such practice, nor do the churches of God.

Explore It

2. For what did Paul praise the Corinthian church? (11:2)
3. Who is the head of women, men, and Christ? (11:3)
4. Why does it dishonor a man's head to pray or prophesy with his head covered? (11:3–4, 7)
5. Why does it dishonor a woman's head to pray or prophesy with her head uncovered? (11:3, 5–10)
6. How seriously did Paul regard the woman who did not cover her head? (11:6)
7. How are women and men different? (11:7–8)
8. What relationship do men and women have to each other? (11:11–12)
9. How did Paul try to head off criticism about these instructions? (11:16)

Get It

10. What matters most to God about worship in the church?
11. In what ways could this passage be misinterpreted or misapplied?

Apply It

12. What can you do next Sunday to insure a proper attitude in your worship?