

Divine Order
1Corinthians 11:1-16

Read

1 Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ.

Mimici – follow after, imitate – footprints – previous 10:33; 4:1,2 –

Christians to live in such a way as to glorify God, not offend or stumble others, but win them to Christ. Paul the example, trailblazer--walk in his foot steps. To Timothy *'be thou an example of the believer'*.

If everyone was a Christians just like you, what kind of church would it be?

If all prayed just like you...have to shut down prayer mtg for lack of turnout--prayer needs of Church body go unmet if all prayed just like you?

If all served just like you...have to close the campus-shut down areas of ministry-SS, etc. because no servants if all served just like you?

If all ministered just like you-would people's needs go unmet-leave church hurting, broken, untouched by Christian love if all ministered just like you?

If all went to Church-Bible study just like you-shut down for lack of attendance?

If all Gave to Lord just like you...missionaries called home, power on KLHT turned off, foreclose on campus property? If everyone gave just like you?

What kind of Church would it be if all loved God & others just like you?

2 Now I praise you because you remember me in everything, and hold firmly to the traditions, just as I delivered them to you.

First praises then reproof/correction. Theme: Don't abuse the liberty you have in Christ & stumble others by your freedom. He now deals w/ public worship...what's appropriate & what's not--local condition w/ universal application. The spirit of Corinthian(**world**) had crept into the congregation.

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A letter w/ questions Paul answering concerning disorder in worship service which hindered & stumbled many. Freedom in Christ brought w/ it excess.

“A new movement suffers more from its disciples than its enemies”

Women’s movement flaunting freedom by uncovering heads in worship.

3 But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, & God is the head of Christ. 4 Every man who has something on his head while praying or prophesying, disgraces his head. 5 But every woman who has her head uncovered while praying or prophesying, disgraces her head; for she is one & the same with her whose head is shaved. 6 For if a woman does not cover her head, let her also have her hair cut off; but if it is disgraceful for a woman to have her hair cut off or her head shaved, let her cover her head.

Head-to govern-authority—Authority of every man is Christ; authority of the woman is man (**marriage**); authority of Christ is God.

Must take all together or loses meaning. First God the head of Christ -the highest & holy ground for interpretation. While Christ being equal w/ God *‘I & Father are one’* yet subject to in earthly ministry-**redemption**. And oneness.

Man is head of wife while being equal. Yet she subject to husband-**oneness** as he is subject to Christ. A woman not subject to all men. A man may be subject to a woman as boss—Paul is talking of order in church and home.

In Corinth a woman can pray or Prophecy (**Philip 4 daughter who were prophetesses**) w/ head covered not uncovered (**shawl**)

Eastern churches very protective of women. Covering a sign of modesty, honor, headship of husband—can go anywhere in security

Muslim **Burqa**-cover head to toe-symbol of domination, man is superior.

Not cover- **habitual**--Uncovered head in Corinth- id her w/ Aphrodite-priestesses—prostitutes. Attitude of deliberate immodesty-hair cut off, shave-women’s lib/protest **Sinead O’Connor** OT **Numbers 5:11-31** Woman in adultery-lost glory-hair cut off.

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Paul pointing to God's order & what's appropriate—no hint of inequality or inferiority. Capt a higher rank than private tho private may be a better man.

God sets order for headship--redemption w/ God & Christ yet equal. Order in home & church w/ hus & wife yet equals. *I've never seen it growing up but aggressive women emasculating good but passive men-marry nephew*

*7 For a **man** ought not to have his head covered, since he is the image and glory of God; but the **woman** is the **glory** of **man**. 8 For man does not **originate** from woman, but woman from man; 9 for indeed man was not **created** for the woman's sake, but woman for the man's sake. 10 Therefore the woman ought to have a **symbol** of authority on her head, because of the **angels**. 11 However, in the Lord, neither is woman **independent** of man, nor is man independent of woman. 12 For as the woman **originates** from the man, so also the man has his **birth** through the woman; and all things originate from God.*

Man covering his head mis-interprets Moses 2 Cor 3: *12 Having therefore such a hope, we use great boldness in our speech, 13 and are not as Moses, who used to put a veil over his face that the sons of Israel might not look intently at the end of what was fading away. 14 But their minds were hardened; for until this very day at the reading of the old covenant the same veil remains unlifted, because it is removed in Christ. 15 But to this day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their heart; 16 but whenever a man turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. 17 Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. 18 But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.*

Veil/covering removed in Christ...now w/ unveiled face we behold glory of God. To cover head is not to acknowledge veil removed--headship is not Christ. Glory not fading(under law)--old removed w/ the new, Jesus Christ.

Woman's glory/reflection is of man w/ head covering-glory or haggard.

Danita so beautiful 'I made her that way'—young--catch up w/ daughter Sir Wm Ramsay 19th C famed British chemist & Nobel Prize winner *"In early power, honor & dignity of woman, was represented by head covering. She could go anywhere in security. A symbol of profound respect' ..when discarded all vanish. Headship in creation does not mean inferiority in society...neither male nor female but we are one in Christ Jesus*

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9-11 Man incomplete w/ the woman 'not good that the man be alone'.

Woman created for the man *ill 'Lord why so soft, so you will love her. Why so beautiful, so you will love her. But why so naïve, so she will love you'.*

10 Angels-created & know order—show respect in worship. We a model to them in public worship *Is 6:1-3 In the year of King Uzziah's death, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple. 2 Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings; with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. 3 And one called out to another and said, "Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD of hosts, The whole earth is full of His glory."*

Eph 3: 9 I was chosen to explain to everyone this mysterious plan that God, the Creator of all things, had kept secret from the beginning. 10 God's purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. 11 This was his eternal plan, which he carried out through Christ Jesus our Lord.

1Peter 1:12 They were told that their messages were not for themselves, but for you. And now this Good News has been announced to you by those who preached in the power of the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. It is all so wonderful that even the angels are eagerly watching these things happen.

11-12 Woman originates from man but man can't feel uppity he has a mother and all originate from God. **Eph 5:22** Self sacrificing **love** of husband & self sacrificing **submission** of wife. Paul says if can't handle '*wish all were as I am*, single, not all have gift 7:7 *my opinion happier if as I am* 7:40

13 Judge for yourselves: is it proper for a woman to pray to God with head uncovered? 14 Does not even nature itself teach you that if a man has long hair, it is a dishonor/shame-kjv to him, 15 but if a woman has long hair, it is a glory to her? For her hair is given to her for a covering. 16 But if one is inclined to be contentious, we have no other practice, nor have the churches of God.

Hippies-'*get a haircut*' but how long is long, shoulders, waist, longer? From back can't tell if man or woman-*a shame*. Shame not sin—I look mirror, what a shame.

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16 Head covering a local issue distinguishing prostitutes from Godly women. Men can be immodest too—NS guys w/o underwear, girls w/o bras

Pr 11:22 A beautiful woman who lack modesty is like a gold ring in a pigs snout.

So Divine order is to be followed but applied appropriately in the Church and home today. Head coverings are not an issue but I'd not want my wife or granddaughters to wear string bikinis so popular--at Sandys—It's what the word does but immodest. *1Tim 2:9 And I want women to be modest in their appearance. They should wear decent and appropriate clothing and not draw attention to themselves...* God has called us to glorify Him...so whatever we do in word and deed to all to the glory of God...Amen