

BIBLE STUDY “FLOW CHART” ON HEAD COVERINGS

Judge for yourselves: is it proper for a woman to pray to God with her head uncovered? 1 Corinthians 11:13

	IF YOU DISAGREE ↘
<p>God observes hierarchy of authority in the Trinity persons of ONE God: (1) God the Father, 2) Jesus the Son, 3) Holy Spirit (none is more valuable or important than the others, but there is order.)</p> <p>"All things have been handed over to Me by My Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father; nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and anyone to whom the Son wills to reveal Him." Matthew 11:27</p> <p>And He went a little beyond them, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will." Matthew 26:39</p> <p>"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you." John 14:26 But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ. 1 Cor. 11:3</p> <p>So Jesus said, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and I do nothing on My own initiative, but I speak these things as the Father taught Me." John 8:28</p> <p>"No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This commandment I received from My Father." John 10:18</p> <p>"For I did not speak on My own initiative, but the Father Himself who sent Me has given Me a commandment as to what to say and what to speak." John 12:49</p> <p>"But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. "He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you. John 16:13-15</p> <p>"Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works." John 14:10</p> <p>"When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify about Me," John 15:26</p>	<p>Your inability to accept this biblical concept leaves you at risk of being deceived by so-called “denominations” who do not understand or accept the concept of the Trinity. i.e., Jehovah Witnesses believe that Jesus is “a” son of God and that He was previously and now is again, Michael the archangel. Mormons believe that Jesus earned the right to be “a god” and that we also can do the same.</p> <p>Jesus is the Word, who was with God and was God in the beginning. All things that were created were by, through and for Him. (Col 1:16, John 1:1-3 Heb. 1:2)</p> <p>...then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power. 27 For He has put all things in subjection under his feet. But when He says, "All things are put in subjection," it is evident that He is excepted who put all things in subjection to Him. 1 Cor. 15:24, 27</p> <p>...and just as My Father has granted Me a kingdom, I grant you... Luke 22:29</p>
<p>AGREE ↘</p>	<p>DISAGREE ↘</p>
<p>Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church.</p> <p>For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. Ephesians 5:23</p>	<p>If you reject this basic, truth, then you are in agreement with the Roman Catholic Church, which teaches that the Pope is the “head” of the</p>

<p>He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything. Colossians 1:18</p> <p>"If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him." John 12:26</p>	<p>Church. They also unbiblically pray to him, angels and dead people, including Mary. (Matt. 28:28, 1 Tim. 2:5-6, Mark 3:31-35, Luke 11:27-28, Heb. 1, 2:5, Is. 42:8)</p>
<p>AGREE ↘</p>	<p>DISAGREE ↘</p>
<p>There are two genders: male and female.</p> <p>God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Genesis 1:27</p> <p>And He answered and said, "Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'?" Matthew 19:4-5</p>	<p>Any other view is an attack against God, led by Satan and followed by the foolish. The social justice mega-churches preach anything goes in the name of "love." Jesus reiterated these facts deliberately. Those who are "liberated" from God's restrictions are being lied to in order for wolves in sheep's clothing to make a profit from them while telling them what they want to hear. (Luke 6:43-49, Matt. 7:13-29, Act 20:26-35, 2Tim. 3:1-7, 4:1-5) We (including our bodies - Rom. 6, 12:1-2, 1Cor. 6:9-20, 2Thess. 4:1-8) are slaves to righteousness, not to sin. (2Pet. 2:17-22, 2Pet. 3, 1Cor. 9:24-10:13, Gal. 5:13-25) Anyone who cannot accept God's own account of creation should question whether they know Him at all. If they feel comfortable disputing His word, they clearly do not understand that He does NOT lie, but is perfect, pure and holy.</p>
<p>AGREE ↘</p>	<p>DISAGREE ↘</p>
<p>Man is the image and glory of God.</p> <p>For a man ought not to have his head covered, since he is the image and glory of God; 1 Cor. 11:7a</p> <p>God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Genesis 1:27</p>	<p>Humanist groups worship nature instead of God. Christians know that people ARE better than animals as they are made in God's image. Man was given dominion over living things on earth. (Genesis 1:28)</p>
<p>AGREE ↘</p>	<p>DISAGREE ↘</p>
<p>Woman is the glory of man.</p> <p>For man does not originate from woman, but woman from man; for indeed man was not created for the woman's sake, but woman for the man's sake. 1 Cor. 11:8-9</p> <p>..but the woman is the glory of man. 1 Cor. 11:7b</p> <p><i>Husbands</i>, in the same way be considerate as you live with your <i>wives</i>, and treat them with respect as the <i>weaker partner</i> and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, <i>so that nothing will hinder your prayers</i>. 1 Peter 3:1-7</p> <p>Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has</p>	<p>The feminist movement is not OF God, but AGAINST Him—according to human "wisdom" instead of His ways. We are told to die to <u>self</u>, but society exalts it. Our worth is given to us by Christ, who died for us, not by insisting on our "rights." Many in the movement endorse every ungodly "value" there is, led by deceived and deceiving people. (2 Timothy 3:12-13, 1 Cor. 3:18-20)</p> <p>Love has at no time <u>ever</u></p>

no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore *do not become partners with them*; for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. Ephesians 5:1-12

Note that whoever does not have His Spirit is not His and is NOT born again, not IN Him, so they will NOT enter the kingdom. (1 Cor. 15:23, Rom. 7:4, Rom. 8:9, John 3:3-8, 15:1-21)

“I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be **one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us**, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. John 17:20-21

Finally, then, brothers, we ask and urge you **in the Lord Jesus**, that as you received from us how you ought to walk and **to please God**, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. For **this is the will of God, your sanctification**: that you *abstain from sexual immorality; that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God*; that **no one transgress and wrong his brother in this matter**, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. For **God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God**, who gives his Holy Spirit to you. 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

Strive for peace with everyone, and for the **holiness without which no one will see the Lord**. See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; that *no one is sexually immoral* or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears. Hebrews 12:14-17

Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, so as to **live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God**. For the **time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry**. With respect to this they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you; but they will give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. 1 Peter 4:1-5

been defined by God as telling people what they want to hear, supporting their favorite sins, etc. To love God is to OBEY Him. To love others is to care for their souls as well as their bodies. Not “judging” others and loving my neighbor as myself does not mean “you look the other way when I sin and I’ll do the same for you.” (John 14:15-24, Luke 12:28-34, Rom. 13:8-14)

“**If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love**, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love.” John 15:10

For this is the **love of God**, that we **keep his commandments**. And his commandments are **not burdensome**. 1 John 5:3

For the **love of Christ controls us**, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might **no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised**. 2 Corinthians 5:14-15

AGREE ↘

God designed people and families to reflect His order of authority: 1) man, 2) woman, 3) children. This order is *especially to be observed by believers, who are children of God*.

For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. But **as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands** in everything. Eph. 5:23-24

DISAGREE ↘

If Adam had firmly and lovingly held fast to God’s instructions rather than letting Eve lead him astray, we wouldn’t be in the mess we’re in today.

But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and **the man is the head of a woman**, and God is the head of Christ. 1 Cor. 11:3

For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and shall be joined to his wife, and the **two shall become one flesh. This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.** Ephesians 5:31-32

But for Adam there was not found a **helper** fit for him. So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man **he made into a woman and brought her to the man.** Genesis 2:20b-22

Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged. Bondservants, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. **You are serving the Lord Christ.** For the wrongdoer will be paid back for the wrong he has done, and there is no partiality. Colossians 3:18-25

The woman is called the helper of the man and the man comes inside her to bear physical fruit (children); the Holy Spirit is called our Helper—He indwells us and enables us to bear spiritual fruit for God. The Holy Spirit is even referred to as the seed of Christ, whereas Jesus was called the seed of Eve. Eve was taken from Adam's body, and the Church is the Body of Christ.

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her **Seed**; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise Him on the heel." Genesis 3:15

No one who is born of God practices sin, because **His seed abides in him**; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. 1 John 3:9

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be **fruitful** and multiply... Genesis 1:27-28

As for the seed that was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed **bears fruit** and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty." Matthew 13:23

"I will ask the Father, and He will give you another **Helper**, that He may be with you **forever**; that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because **He abides with you and will be in you.**" John 14:16-17

For you have been **born again**, not of perishable **seed**, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. 1 Peter 1:23

God wants offspring. That is why He created us, for His good pleasure. He said be fruitful

My people—**infants are their oppressors, and women rule over them.** O my people, your guides mislead you and they have swallowed up the course of your paths. Isaiah 3:12

Beloved, **we are God's children now**, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. 1 John 3:2

But as many as received Him, to them He gave **the right to become children of God**, even to those who believe in His name, who were **born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.** John 1:12-13

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. **Honor your father and mother** (which is the first commandment with a promise), so that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth. Ephesians 6:1-3

As **obedient children**, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy." And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, knowing that you were ransomed from the

<p>and multiply. People of the same gender do not multiply by bearing fruit. We also bear spiritual fruit (of the Spirit) when we are filled with His Seed (Spirit), making disciples when we share the Gospel, which results in more children to belong to God when they believe and are born again. These truths are utterly corrupted when people think that gender is an option, that there is such a thing as same-sex “marriage,” etc. He also gave us marriage as an example of His everlasting faithfulness to us. (Psalm 100:5, Matt. 5:31-32, Mark 10:4-9)</p> <p>And this second thing you do. You cover the LORD’s altar with tears, with weeping and groaning because <i>he no longer regards the offering or accepts it with favor from your hand</i>. But you say, “<i>Why does He not?</i>” Because the LORD was witness between you and the wife of your youth, to whom you have been faithless, though she is your companion and your wife <i>by covenant</i>. Did He not make them one remaining spirit? Why did He join them as one? He was seeking Godly offspring. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and let none of you be faithless to the wife of your youth. Malachi 2:13-15</p> <p>Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take away the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? May it never be! Or do you not know that the one who joins himself to a prostitute is one body with her? For He says, “The two shall become one flesh.” But the one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit with Him. Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? 1 Corinthians 6:15-19</p>	<p>futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. 1 Peter 1:14-19</p> <p>We are all held accountable for ourselves. The Bible is freely available to consult for God’s ways and will. <u>Blaming</u> someone else for their rebellion against God’s word did not get Adam and Eve very far and neither will it serve us well. (Genesis 3:12-19, 2 Cor. 5:10) We are revealing who we really are when we choose to love either God or the world and our fleshly desires the most. (1John 2:15-17)</p>
<p>AGREE ↘</p>	<p>DISAGREE ↘</p>
<p>God made men and women different from one another. The man is to have short hair and the woman longer. Neither is to wear their hair or dress in a manner to be mistaken for the other gender. (This does vary by culture and/or time, since men in the early Church wore robes—but the idea is not to impersonate the opposite gender, and to be modest in apparel. Modesty means not drawing attention to oneself, whether to show off one’s body, or to flaunt wealth. 1Pet. 3:3-4, Jam. 2)</p> <p>“A woman shall not wear a man’s garment, nor shall a man put on a woman’s cloak, for whoever does these things is an abomination to the LORD your God. Deuteronomy 22:5</p> <p>Does not even nature itself teach you that if a man has long hair, it is a dishonor to him, but if a woman has long hair, it is a glory to her? For <i>her hair is given to her for a covering</i>. 1 Corinthians 11:14-15</p> <p>Note, the Greek word for “long hair” literally means “let hair grow, have long hair.”</p> <p>The Greek word for “cover” is related to the one used in Matt. 6:29, referring to how the lilies of the field are adorned or arrayed. So in other words, their GLORY. <i>If her glory were her <u>head</u>, then hair would cover it, but her glory is her <u>hair</u>, and so that is what she needs to cover with a symbol of authority (submission). On the flip side, if a man’s covering is his hair, then he would have to shave his head when he prays rather than remove his hat?</i></p>	<p>The latest “cause” (transgenderism) is nothing but an attack against God’s design. The goal is to eradicate gender. Since God designed it, then we can clearly see that the movement is indeed AGAINST Him and His sovereign power and plan. Satan knows that there is spiritual significance to God’s physical design. What is amazing is how many people call themselves God’s children and yet join the forces against Him?</p>

<p>AGREE ↘</p>	<p>DISAGREE ↙</p>
<p>When praying or prophesying, a man is NOT to cover his head, because his head is Jesus and he is the glory of Jesus, so he glorifies Him by leaving his head <u>uncovered</u>.</p> <p>Every man who has something on his head while praying or prophesying disgraces his head. 1 Corinthians 11:4</p> <p>I think we all know that men take off their hats to pray, out of respect for God.</p>	<p>That is the view of Judaism and Roman Catholicism, both of whom do not recognize Jesus as head of the Church. The Pope, Rabbis and many men cover their heads when praying.</p>
<p>AGREE ↘</p>	<p>DISAGREE ↙</p>
<p><i>When praying or prophesying*</i>, a woman IS to cover her head because her hair is <i>her</i> glory and she is the glory of <i>man</i>, so she shows submission to men (who represent <i>God's</i> glory) by covering her <i>own</i> glory.</p> <p>But every woman who has her head uncovered while praying or prophesying disgraces her head, for she is one and the same as the woman whose head is shaved. 1 Cor. 11:5</p> <p>*If this were about covering all of the time, he could certainly say so instead of qualifying it with “when.” To me, it seems that he was probably not concerned with silent or private prayer lacking submission to God’s order of authority, but when it may appear that a woman is <i>exercising authority over men</i> if she were not to cover her head.*</p> <p>Prophecy is uttered aloud before someone, so it seems that the prayer referred to is, too. Since the entire discussion compares men and women, it seems that this command takes effect when both are gathered.</p> <p>Further, if a woman were meant to cover her head all the time due “praying unceasingly,” then a man could never wear a hat since he is not to cover his head while praying. (Remember, this is only in the New Testament, where Jesus is Head of the Church.)</p> <p>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. 1 Cor. 11:6</p> <p>Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. For Adam was formed first, then Eve; and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. 1 Timothy 2:11-14 (also see p. 8 below)</p> <p>*If a man who is praying <i>along</i> with someone else who is leading prayer is not challenging that person’s authority, then I don’t think a woman who does the same needs to cover to show submission in that instance? I can’t honestly say what Paul would say, though.</p> <p>I understand the need to avoid being legalistic, and unintentional disobedience due to ignorance is not the same as intentional disobedience due to personal preferences. However, we need to make a sincere effort to discern God’s will.</p>	<p>If you feel that that was “for then” and “now” we are enlightened, then you are opening yourself up to many other “new and improved” views on the Scriptures that are not biblical as well. There is no longer male or female for the purpose of salvation, but there clearly IS still male and female and God’s order of things has not passed away.</p> <p>Women should not lead prayer <i>aloud</i> or prophecy <i>in assemblies</i> of the Church with grown male believers present <i>without</i> covering their heads. Refusal to do so is dishonoring her head (man), who are the glory of God, by leaving her own glory uncovered, which represents insubordination to God, which causes concern for angels who minister to us who are receiving salvation. This is the same as all of the other commands, obeyed out of love and respect, not ritual, legalism or trying to earn (or fear of losing) salvation. (John 14:15, Luke 6:46)</p>

AGREE ↘

Paul said that this was connected with angels. We know that the ministry of angels has not ended. When he said we have no [such] or [other] (depending on the translation) custom, he was addressing the Corinthians' misapplying their freedom as equal brothers and sisters *in Christ* in such a way as to undermine God's orderly design of authority. It seems that the women were uncovering their heads to pray or prophesy, and Paul said there is *no other custom than covering* for women to pray, or *no such custom as uncovering* (or remaining uncovered) while women prayed. He basically said, "this is the way it is, like it or not."

Therefore the woman ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, **because of the angels**. 1 Cor. 11:10

Paul went on to discuss their handling of the Lord's Supper, which is obviously a corporate activity. He even links the two together by introducing each section as a discussion of traditions. Later, in chapter 14, he scolds them for disorder in their gatherings due to too many prophesying, even at one time, people speaking in tongues without an interpreter, women asking questions, etc. God demands respect and order, not insubordination and confusion. Miriam learned this the hard way. (Numbers 12)

If Paul meant custom of the *culture*, he might have said this wasn't from the Lord, but from himself, as he sometimes clarified. This is a *timeless* truth—a *biblical* tradition, not of men (the sort criticized in the Bible. The tradition of men in today would be to *ignore God's instructions to please people*—"changing with the times.")

To the rest I say (**I, not the Lord**) that if any brother has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, he should not divorce her. 1 Cor. 7:12

Now **as a concession, not a command**, I say this... 1 Cor. 7:6

If the symbol were her hair, these verses would read:

But every woman who has ~~her head uncovered~~ [short hair] while praying or prophesying disgraces her head, for she is one and the same as the woman whose head is shaved. 1 Cor. 11:5

For if a woman **does not** ~~cover her head~~ [**have long hair**], 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** [**have long hair**]. 1 Cor. 11:6**

What is being **covered by the symbol** is her hair, or she can be ashamed by shaving off her hair so that there is **no glory to cover** if she is doing the shameful thing of dishonoring her head (man, who is *God's* glory) by refusing to cover *her* glory. This is serious!

The symbol of authority is not the same as her glory (her hair). How would a thing meant to demonstrate her *submission* to authority *glorify* her rather than her head (husband)?

As already noted, the Greek word for "long hair" literally means "let hair grow, have long hair." The Greek word for "cover" is related to the one used in Matt. 6:29, referring to how the lilies of the field are **adorned or arrayed**. So in other words, their GLORY.

DISAGREE ↘

But if one is **inclined to be contentious**, we have no other practice, nor have the churches of God. 1 Cor. 11:16

Some say that Paul was prescribing head coverings for women all of the time, but the "*churches* of God" indicate *gatherings* of set apart, called out believers, not to individuals.

Since God hates it when traditions of men are taught as doctrine, why would Paul, as led by the Holy Spirit, be trying to establish a mere custom of the times as a doctrine? **We are all God's bond-servants** and meant to be **submissive to Christ as our Master**, each in our own order. (Ephesians 6:5-9)

As with EVERYTHING else, this is NOT about us. It's about God and His glory, which should be the highest priority for ALL believers. His ways are perfect and good. He never changes. Each thing that has changed in the past has been revealed to have been a foreshadow of what was to come. God's glory and sovereign rule will NEVER change.

Verse 11:6 translated that in the way suggested above (as many people do) is absurd. If she has short hair then let her cut her hair?? So Paul is saying if she is ashamed of *long hair* (if that is her symbol of authority to cover her head with), then she should be shaved?? (Paul refers to BOTH cutting and shaving so we can't say it's only shaving.) Then why do the same women who say the head covering is long hair (which is her glory, and as we have seen that the Greek word literally means grow long) have no problems whatsoever with women having short hair and none of them have shaved their heads out of shame? **The idea is that long hair is a woman's glory, but it should be covered to show submission to man due to God's order of authority, and deference because he is God's glory, when praying or prophesying. It's about order of authority, because of glory, for the angels. This doesn't mean a woman needs to cover her head ALL of the time. As I have suggested above, it doesn't sound *to me* like the concern is even about *every* time a woman does those two activities, but about *those times* when she does them and it may represent insubordination in the eyes of the angels if she doesn't cover her hair. I feel that if a close male relative (such as a husband, father, adult son or brother) who is a believer *asks* a woman to say the prayer, that doesn't require her covering her head as it is clear she is not usurping his authority when she does so in his presence (in the private setting of a small group, not in a large public gathering or in the corporate gathering of the church). However, this is just my personal study. Paul didn't give any further details. My conclusion could be in error, but if so, the answer as to "when," must be clarified from the Scriptures. We are meant to show honor and respect to God before all people AND before the angels. We confuse both groups if we do not obey Him.

Paul also wrote in chapter 14 about women remaining silent despite speaking in chapter 11 of women praying and prophesying, obviously in the assembly, with concern for the manner in which it could appear to the angels to usurp authority and dishonor Jesus as head of the Church. When you put all of the information together, letting Scripture interpret Scripture, it is clear that women are not to exercise authority over men in the Church (I'm not sure how this view might affect women voting in church), nor to teach them (thus no instructions to cover their heads in that instance, since it is never meant to occur; whereas head covering does not apply to teaching that is permitted—of women or children), or disrupt services with questions that can wait until they get home and ask their husbands (1 Cor. 14:35). Chapters 11 and 14 are both focused heavily on **orderliness and honoring God, especially when gathered as a church.** (Individuals are temples of the Lord but not "the church.") Yet many local churches today, rather than have women cover their hair (their glory, in submission to authority) *when praying and prophesying* (Exodus 15:20, Judges 4:4, 2 Kings 22:14, 2 Chron. 34:22, Luke 2:36), handle those situations by forbidding both altogether, citing Paul's "silence" rule (even though they do understand that women are to participate in the assembly vocally and they allow it). And other churches allow women authority over men despite Paul reminding us of how Eve was deceived and ate the fruit in the garden first, then led Adam astray to eat it (1 Tim. 2) is meant as a reminder of what happens when God's prescribed order is not followed.

In 1 Tim. 2, the Greek word translated "keep silent" (for women to wait to ask questions of their husbands at home) can also be translated "hold the peace" is related to the word used by Paul when he says someone who wants to share a revelation must wait until the person who is currently prophesying is finished and also when the person who speaks in tongues should not do so if there is no interpreter. So all three convey the concept of waiting for the proper time. Also, the word translated [not permitted to] "speak" can also be translated "chatter" or "prattle" (even the chitter chatter of birds), which fits our situation perfectly. (The proper translation depends upon the specific context.) Paul was correcting the Corinthians on the disorderly way that their gatherings were conducted, which not only failed to honor God properly, but reflected poorly on Him to the very visitors who should have been drawn to God rather than potentially be put off.

Pursue love, yet desire earnestly spiritual gifts, but especially that you may **prophesy**. For one who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God; for no one understands, but in his spirit he speaks mysteries. **But one who prophesies speaks to men for edification and exhortation and consolation.** One who speaks in a tongue edifies himself; but **one who prophesies edifies the church.** Now I wish that you all spoke in tongues, but even more that you would prophesy; and greater is one who prophesies than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the church may receive edifying. 1 Cor. 14:1-5

But if all **prophesy**, and an unbeliever or outsider enters, he is **convicted** by all, he is **called to account** by all, the secrets of his heart are disclosed, and so, falling on his face, he will worship God and declare that God is really among you. 29

Let two or three prophets speak, and **let the others pass judgment**. But if a **revelation** is made to another who is seated, the first one must keep silent. For **you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all may be exhorted**; and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets; for God is not a God of confusion but of peace, *as in all the churches of the saints*. 37 If anyone thinks that he is a prophet, or spiritual, he should acknowledge that the things I am writing to you are a *command of the Lord*. If anyone does not recognize this, he is not recognized. So, my brothers, **earnestly desire to prophesy**, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. But all things should be done decently and **in order**. 1 Cor. 14:14-25, 29-33 14:37-40

Paul's chapter 14 discussion included the judging of prophecies. (1 Cor. 14:29) We were told not to despise prophecy, which in 1 Cor. 14:26-30 is called "a revelation" (a normal activity among the gathered believers, including women, different from "a lesson") but to test the spirits. (1 Thess. 5:20-21, Matt. 7:15) The prophecy is for exhortation/encouragement, edification/upbuilding/strengthening and comfort/consolation of the whole body of believers (1 Cor. 14:3, 14:31) Yet people are afraid of even using the word prophesy today (also speaking in tongues) because of those who misuse it. I do not believe prophesying is merely reciting the Bible or identical to teaching or preaching, since they are listed as separate gifts. (Rom. 12:6-8, Eph. 4:11-13) However, there appears to be much overlapping of gifts in the examples given in the New Testament, so I am at a loss as to how to define each one. Some say there is an "office" of prophet and a separate gift of prophecy, but as far as I can see, they are both in the same chapter? (1 Cor. 12:4-11, 12:27-31) When Jesus prophesied things that He knew about her (though He had never met her) to the woman at the well. John the Baptist prophesied repentance to the Jews. Jesus and John were also referred to as preaching and teaching. Paul said that he was appointed a preacher, apostle and teacher and that he received his revelation directly from Jesus, as did John when he recorded Revelation. (1 Tim. 2:7, 2 Tim. 1:11, 1 Cor. 11:23, Rom. 16:25-27, Gal. 1:15-17, Eph. 3:1-10)

In fact, we are told in Hebrews 1:1-2 that our primary source of revelation in these last days is Jesus (the Word). (Luke 24:27, John 5:39-40) By this, I take it to mean that His Spirit within us will help us to understand, recall, properly interpret and explain the Bible (providing we have read it and *continue* in it regularly). (John 14:26, 15:26, 1 Cor. 2:10, Col. 1:9, 1 John 2:27) I do not feel it is wise to go looking for "special" revelation of a direct nature outside of the Scriptures. That is a good way to be misled and go astray. (Jer. 14:14-15, 23:16-32, Ezek. 13:22-23, Matt. 7:15, 24:11, 24:24, Mark 13:22, Luke 6:26, 2 Peter 2, 1 John 4:1) However, I do not personally believe that "the perfect" has come (thus *ending* prophecies) until Jesus returns to reign in the millennium or perhaps not even until the new heaven and earth (as there is still death during the millennium, but after that, God will dwell with us forever and the Father and the Lamb will BE the temple). Daniel 9:24 told us as much when he described what God was accomplishing in the seventy weeks. Jesus gave Himself as the perfect sacrifice, but until He has put death under His feet, not all things are yet perfect. (1 Cor. 15:26-28) The "passing away" sounds just like how the world will pass away. (Matt. 24:35, 1 Cor. 13:8-9, 1 John 2:17)

If anyone needs additional reasons not to join in the prideful displays of rebellion against God by marching (whereas God despises pride of any kind, let alone for sin—if we boast, it should ONLY be in Him), wearing costumes meant to represent genitalia for all the world to see, including minors and unbelievers who see the behavior of professed believers reflecting on our heavenly Father, etc., here is a good passage. The bond-servants in that day were to respect and obey their masters in the same way that *we are to obey ours*, that His good name is not profaned. We have even more reason to do so, since Jesus purchased us with His precious blood and we belong to Him. We should have infinitely more love and gratitude for our Master than any human bond-servant ever had for theirs. He set us free FROM sin, not TO sin.

But as for you, teach what accords with **sound doctrine**. Older men are to be *sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness*. Older women likewise are to be **reverent** in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, to be *self-controlled, pure*, working at home, kind, and **submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled**. Likewise, urge the younger men to be *self-controlled*. Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show *integrity, dignity, and sound speech that cannot be condemned*, so that an *opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us*. *Bondservants are to be submissive to their own masters in everything; they are to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, not pilfering, but showing all good faith, so that in everything they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior*. Titus 2:1-10

Wives, in the same way **submit yourselves to your own husbands** so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, when they see the purity and reverence of your lives. **Your beauty should not come from outward adornment**, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes. Rather, it should be that of your **inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight**. For this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to adorn themselves. They submitted themselves to their own husbands, like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her lord. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear. **Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.** 1 Peter 3:1-7

For am I now seeking the favor of men, or of God? Or am I striving to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a **bond-servant of Christ**. Galatians 1:10

Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ. Now I **praise you** because you remember me in everything and **hold firmly to the traditions, just as I delivered them to you**. 1 Corinthians 11:1-2

So then, brothers, **stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us**, either by our spoken word or by our letter. 2 Thessalonians 2:15

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

I believe the issue of head coverings for women is one that each person must study and listen to the Holy Spirit's prompting for themselves. God does not like legalism. No one should be forced to go beyond the text (like the Pharisees forced the Jews to do, adding to their burden of keeping the law), but that does not mean it's completely irrelevant, either. This is a New Testament practice, not an Old Testament foreshadow of something that has been fulfilled by Christ. This deals with our submission to Him as Head of the Church. If we are not concerned with trying to understand this and honoring Him according to His own word, as He inspired Paul to write, then for me, that is a serious problem (but not a salvation issue.)

Chiastic structure of 1 Corinthians 11:2-16

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

But I want you to understand that the head of every man is Christ, the **head of woman is man**, and the head of Christ is God.

Every **man** offering prayers or prophesying with **his head covered dishonors his head**, but every **woman** offering prayers or prophesying with **her head uncovered dishonors her head**, since it is the same as if her head were **shaven**.

For if a woman will not **cover**, then let her be shorn, but if it is **disgraceful** for a woman to be shorn or to be shaven, let her **cover**.

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

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

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

Because of this a woman is obliged to have **authority** on her head, because of the **angels**.

	Nevertheless, in the Lord woman is not independent <u>of man</u> nor man of woman.
	For as woman was made from man , so man is now born <i>of woman</i> .
	And all things are from God .
	Judge for yourselves: is it proper for a woman to <u>offer prayers to God uncovered</u> ? (Greek closer to “offer prayers” than “pray”)
	Does not nature itself teach you that if a man wears long hair it is a disgrace for him , but if a woman has long hair , it is <i>her glory</i> ?
	For her long hair is given to her for a covering . (as in clothing, adornment or arrayment like lilies of the field—see above line)
	If anyone is inclined to be contentious, we have no such practice , nor do the <u>churches</u> of God. (of uncovering or other than covering)

Notes: Remember, we are not told that Eve knew she was naked until ADAM ate of the fruit. I think the point (if it is intentionally told in that order so as to be significant) is that until Adam sinned, she was still covered with Adam’s righteousness and Adam was still covered with God’s righteousness. Jesus said the angels of children always see the face of God. Presumably this is because they are under grace, not fully understanding right and wrong yet.

Notes: If hair is the covering and a man is to be uncovered when he prays or prophesies, then he would have to shave his head? The idea seems to be that the concept of a woman needing a covering is so obvious that everyone should be able to grasp it naturally. I have tried to remove words that were not in the original (such as “her head” by covered and uncovered) –obviously the hair is not the covering, since she cannot shear or shave it off as a penalty for not covering it if the problem is that she has already done that.

Notes: “Symbol of” is not in the original, and “ought” might be better translated “is obliged,” as it is related to “owe.”

Clearly the covering, hair and authority are very closely related to one another. Worship of and communicating with/approaching God include more than praying and prophesying—there is singing/praising and reading/hearing the Word; teaching is neither praying nor prophesying. So there is something special about prayer and prophecy setting them apart and I think it regards the ordained chain of authority. I feel that both refer to activities that are both aloud, in the presence of grown male believers, but I could be wrong.

“Because of the angels”: Timothy is exhorted to serve God well for the same reason.

As for those who persist in sin, rebuke them in the presence of all, so that the rest may stand in fear. **In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of the elect angels I charge you to keep these rules without prejudging, doing nothing from partiality.** Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, nor take part in the sins of others; keep yourself pure. (No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments.) The sins of some people are conspicuous, going before them to judgment, but the sins of others appear later. So also good works are conspicuous, and even those that are not cannot remain hidden. 1 Timothy 5:20-25

This sounds quite similar to James—do not show partiality. So head coverings and showing partiality seem to be related. They both involve taking authority or importance upon yourself that is not your due—not because you are less worthy, but because it hasn’t been given to you by God, who is the decider of everything. Better to err on the side of humility than pride. Needless to say, refusing to submit to authority is not humble. (Also see Jam. 2:1-13)

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