

39 - Adorning Yourselves - 1 Timothy 2:9-15; 1 Peter 3:1-6 - 2020-03-22

[This was the first week the church could not meet during the COVID-19 epidemic. So this sermon was not completed or delivered that week. I resumed work on it April 2020 and recorded it for the church to listen to 2020-04-26.]

INTRODUCTION

God our Savior will have all men to be saved.

To save us, who deserve God's wrath for our sins against Him, God has appointed His own Son to become a man like us, to be a Mediator between God and men.

To save us from the wrath of God, the Man Christ Jesus gave Himself a ransom for all, the innocent man dying in the place of guilty men who deserved it.

Now the doctrine of God our Savior, the good news, the gospel, is being preached and taught all over the world. It has come to us, and we long for it to go to all men, that many more poor sinners may be saved as we have been saved.

So, here in Paul's first letter to Timothy, chapter 2, we are exhorted to pray for all men to be saved.

But as we, the disciples of Jesus Christ, His congregation, His church, assemble everywhere, all over the world, we always are tempted to pray to God sinfully, and, more broadly, to worship God improperly, as He would not have us to do.

So our Lord's apostle, Paul, wrote to us about that, addressing first the men, then also the women.

Men, when we assemble to worship God, must take care to pray, to lift up our hands to God, without those hands being soiled with sin. We need to worship without wrath or anger toward God or toward each other. We ought to worship without disputing with one another, doubting, and quarrelling.

Those have been the matters we have been delighted to consider together in weeks past, as we have studied through the second chapter of 1 Timothy. When last I spoke to you from this passage of scripture, about six weeks ago, we had just begun learning from the next section, which addresses the women, in their turn, regarding their conduct in prayer, and more broadly, in worship.

Let your memory be refreshed about what we learned:

To know how our Lord Jesus would have His disciples who are women to conduct themselves in worship, there is the need for women to follow the example of Mary, the sister of Martha and Lazarus, who knew when it was time to leave off working busily in serving, in order to sit at the feet of Jesus and hear His words.

The Lord Jesus has provided us two complementary Bible texts to use in learning His will for the conduct of women: 1 Timothy 2:9-15 and 1 Peter 3:1-6. The two passages teach the same conduct; 1 Timothy 2 in terms of the Christian woman in worship with the church; 1 Peter 3 in terms of the Christian woman in daily life, primarily at home.

In both texts, the salvation of sinners is connected to how Christian women behave themselves, whether in the assembly of the church, or in the relationships of daily life.

In the two texts, we see that the female disciples of Jesus Christ, who will receive this doctrine, are women who profess godliness, who profess the fear of God; they are women who are holy, set apart from the world; they are women who trust in God, who hope in what He has promised; they are women who believe the bible to be the word of God, whether the ancient history of people like Eve and Sarah, or the letters of both Peter and Paul; they are women who look to the bible for examples to follow, considering how the holy women of the past behaved, to know how they should behave today.

That's where we left off before, so that is where we take up today, considering what our Lord Jesus Christ teaches us about how the women are to conduct themselves, whether in worship on the Lord's Day, or in daily life throughout the week.

As we wade into these two passages, we find that they both teach us about women's behavior in terms of women adorning themselves. To know the will of our Lord Jesus Christ for what women are to do, hear what the bible says to you about how to adorn yourselves.

TEXT

1 Timothy 2:9-15

1 Peter 3:1-6

BODY

To know the will of our Lord Jesus Christ for what women are to do, hear what the bible says to you about how to adorn yourselves.

I. The Words Used

A. English

1. 1500s - when the Bible was first translated into English from the original Hebrew and Greek
 - a) verb: array or tire
 - (1) 1 Timothy 2:9 the women, that they array themselves
 - (2) 1 Peter 3:5 after this manner in time past did the holy women, which trusted in God, tire them selves
 - b) noun: apparelling
 - (1) 1 Peter 3:3 Whose apparelling
2. 1600s up to now
 - a) verb adorn
 - (1) 1 Timothy 2:9 that women adorn themselves
 - (2) 1 Peter 3:5 the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves; or: the holy women who hoped in God used to adorn themselves
 - b) noun adorning or adornment
 - (1) 1 Peter 3:3 adorning or adornment
3. modern paraphrases
 - a) enhance their appearance
 - b) make themselves attractive
 - c) make themselves beautiful
 - d) show their beauty
 - e) display their beauty
 - f) beautify themselves
4. other places in the bible where this is expressed: trimmed, garnished, decked

B. Greek

1. verb *kosmeo*
2. noun *kosmos*
3. notice relationship with or English words
 - a) cosmetics
 - b) cosmetology

II. Examples of Other Things That Are Adorned

A. The temple in Jerusalem

1. Luke 21:5 Then, as some spoke of the temple, how it **was adorned** with beautiful stones and donations, He said,

B. Israel pictured as a bride

1. Ezekiel 16:11-13 I **adorned** you with ornaments, put bracelets on your wrists, and a chain on your neck. (12) And I put a jewel in your nose, earrings in your ears, and a beautiful crown on your head. (13) Thus you **were adorned** with gold and silver, and your clothing was of fine linen, silk, and embroidered cloth. You ate pastry of fine flour, honey, and oil. You were exceedingly beautiful, and succeeded to royalty.

C. The New Jerusalem

1. as a bride Revelation 21:2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.
2. particularly the foundations Revelation 21:19 The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with all kinds of precious stones: the first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald,

D. The doctrine of God our Savior Titus 2:9-10

1. Titus 2:9-10 Exhort bondservants to be obedient to their own masters, to be well pleasing in all things, not answering back, (10) not pilfering, but showing all good fidelity, that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things.

III. The Concept

- A. There are things that are good, lovely, valuable, beautiful
 - 1. Israel in the Old Covenant
 - 2. the old temple in Jerusalem
 - 3. a bride
 - 4. the New Jerusalem
 - 5. the doctrine of God our Savior
- B. They can be made to appear more beautiful in some respects
- C. Made to appear more beautiful, each of these things, by its glory, brings glory to someone else
 - 1. Israel, being adorned, brings glory to God
 - 2. the temple, being adorned, brings glory to God
 - 3. a bride, being adorned, brings glory to her groom; when this is used as a figure, the bride, being the people of God, being adorned, bring glory to God
 - 4. the New Jerusalem, being adorned, brings glory to God
 - 5. the doctrine of God our Savior, being adorned, brings glory to God
- D. The Christian woman is like this
 - 1. she already is good, valuable, beautiful, lovely, as made so by God
 - 2. she can be made to show her beauty more; can be made to appear more beautiful; every Christian woman can adorn herself
 - 3. this adorning gives glory to God
 - a) who made the woman beautiful in the first place, in creation
 - b) who has made the Christian woman beautiful spiritually through the mediating work of Jesus Christ done on her behalf in His death, and through the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit inside her
 - 4. this adorning is part of the means God uses to save sinners
 - a) as the woman so adorned prays with the church, she does not distract or detract from the prayers of the church for all men, but enhances or strengthens the prayers of the church for the salvation of all men
 - b) as the woman so adorned walks daily in this world, she convinces sinners who know her of the truth of the message she believes about Jesus Christ, that they may believe it, too, and so be saved as she also has been saved

CONCLUSION

God willing, as we continue studying the bible together, we will understand this doctrine better and better, and will look into more details about how women go about adorning themselves appropriately. For now, let it be that we understand this:

To know the will of our Lord Jesus Christ for what women are to do, hear what the bible says to you about how to adorn yourselves.

Call to Worship: Psalm 67
Scripture Reading: Ezekiel 16:1-14
Sermon: “Adorning Yourselves”
Benediction:

Prelude: Trinity 217 “Look, Ye Saints, the Sight Is Glorious” - Anna
Trinity 286 “We Gather Together” - Roel
Celebration 358 “Because He Lives” - Anna
Trinity 175 “Man of Sorrows” - Allison
Trinity 435 “Jesus Christ, the Crucified” - Anna

G2885 *kosmeo*

Strong: from G2889; to put in proper order, that is, decorate - adorn, garnish, trim
Thayer: 1) to put in order, arrange, make ready, prepare; 2) to ornament, adorn

G2889 *kosmos*

Strong: orderly arrangement; that is, decoration; by implication the world; adorning

There is the sense of decorating, ornamenting, by adding some beautiful things

Luke 21:5 Then, as some spoke of the temple, how it was **adorned** with beautiful stones and donations, He said,

-Anglo-Saxon 995: *geglenged*

-WYC 1389 *ourned*

-Luther: *geschmuckt*

-TYN 1526 *garnessed*

Revelation 21:19 The foundations of the wall of the city were **adorned** with all kinds of precious stones: the first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald,

There is also the connotation of arranging, arrangement.

Matthew 25:7 Then all those virgins arose and **trimmed** their lamps.

- 995: glengdon
- WYC: anourneden
- Luther: *schmuckten*
- TYN: prepared