

THE INSTRUCTOR



"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." 2 Timothy 3:16

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ARE YOU SAVED?

Are YOU saved? Of course, you are **not** saved eternally in heaven at the present time, but **are you now from your past sins?**

You are NOT saved just because you may **desire** salvation. The rich young ruler desired to be saved but he was **not** willing to pay the cost involved. So he went away from Jesus sorrowful. (See Matthew 19:16-22).

You are NOT saved just because you may **think** you are saved. Saul of Tarsus **thought** he was right while persecuting Christ but he was wrong. (See Acts 26:9-11).

You are NOT saved just because you may **think** you have had "**an experience**" with the Lord. Our "**experiences**" is **not** God's power to save.

You are NOT saved just because you may "**feel like**" you are saved! Feelings are **not** evidence of salvation! Feelings are produced by "**belief**" whether that "**belief**" is right or wrong. Saul felt like he was right with God while persecuting Christians unto death. He had a "**good conscience before God**" and "**verily thought**" he was pleasing God, **but he was lost!** (See Acts 26:9-11; 22:4 and 23:1).

You are NOT saved just because you may be "**happy**." If you **think** you are saved, you will be "**happy**" although you are lost!

You are NOT saved just because some preacher may have **told** you that you are! Jesus warned of "**many false prophets**" who have gone out into the world. We are told to "**believe not every spirit**" but to "**try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.**" (1 John 4:1).

You are NOT saved just because you are **religious**. Your religion may be in vain. (Please read and study James 1:26-27 and Proverbs 16:25).

If you are dead in trespasses and sins, **you are not saved!** You need to be "**quickened**" by the gospel which is God's Word! (Please read Psalms 119:50; Heb. 4:12; Romans 1:16; James 1:18-22 and 1 Cor. 4:15).

If you are living in sin, **you are not saved!** You need to die to sin! This is accomplished by repentance! (Read Romans 6:1-23; Acts 17:30-31 and 2 Cor. 7:10).

If you haven't **believed in Jesus Christ, repented of your sins, confessed your faith and been baptized INTO Christ, YOU ARE NOT SAVED!** (See John 20:30-31; Acts 17:30-31; Rom. 10:9-10; Gal. 3:26-27; Acts 2:38 and Mark 16:15-16).

"Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men."

(CRS)

THE INSTRUCTOR

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Editorial . . .

A STUDY OF

1 CORINTHIANS 11:1-16 (No. 2)

[Editor's note: The following is a continuation of a brief study of 1 Cor. 11:1-16 which I printed in tract form more than 30 years ago.]

There are at least five things on which Paul bases his argument to prove that women ought to cover their heads while praying or prophesying. These things are now listed.

1. HEADSHIP. (Verse 3.) God is over Christ; Christ is over man; and man is over woman. Woman is subject unto man. Is this not still true today? If so, in showing that woman ought to cover her head while praying or prophesying, I can make the same argument today that Paul made then.

2. CREATION. (Verses 7-9.) Paul shows that woman is the glory of man, that woman is of man, and that woman was created for man. Is this not still true today? Can I not appeal to creation to show like Paul did that a woman ought to cover her head while praying or prophesying?

3. ANGELS. (Verse 10.) Paul shows that a woman ought to have power (a sign of the husband's authority over his wife -- THAYER) on her head because of the angels. Are not angels ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be the heirs of salvation? (cf. Heb. 1:14.) Let us not disregard the angels. Note the following translations of verse 10: (a)

GOODSPEED -- "That is why she ought to wear upon her head something to symbolize her subjection, on account of the angels, if of nobody else." (b) MOFFATT -- "Therefore, in view of the angels, woman has to wear a symbol of subjection on her head." (c) WILLIAMS -- "This is why woman ought to wear upon her head a symbol of man's authority, especially out of respect to the angels." REVISED STANDARD VERSION -- "That is why a woman ought to have a veil on her head, because of the angels."

4. HUMAN JUDGMENT. (Verse 13.) Paul wants us to judge in ourselves. Now, what is your honest judgment concerning a woman praying unto God uncovered? When you consider that man is over woman, that woman is the glory of man, is of man, and created for man, and when you consider the angels, what do you think? Is it proper for a woman to pray unto God uncovered?

5. NATURE. (Verses 14, 15.) THAYER'S LEXICON defines the word translated "nature" as follows: ". . . nature, i.e.a. the nature of things, the force, laws, order, of nature; as opp. to what is monstrous, abnormal, perverse: . . . nature, i.e. natural sense, native conviction or knowledge, as opp. to what is learned by instruction and accomplished by training or prescribed by law: . . . (i.e. the native sense of propriety). . . 1 Cor. 11:14; guided by their natural sense of what is right and proper, Rom. 2:14."

Even nature (the native sense of propriety -- Thayer) teaches that if a woman have long hair it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering. Paul doesn't say that her hair is given her for the **only** covering, but for a covering. The fact that nature teaches that long hair is a covering given to woman ought to convince the

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A STUDY OF 1 COR. 11:1-16

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woman that she **ought to cover her head** while praying or prophesying. Can we make the same argument today? If not, why not?

Whatever the man ought not to do (Verse 7) ought to be done by the woman. (Verses 5-10.) If the man **ought not to cover** his head while praying or prophesying, the woman **ought to cover** hers. If it is a shame for a man to have long hair (and the Bible shows it is), it is a shame for a woman to have short hair! What do you think about a man that has long hair? A woman that has short hair? A man that prays unto God with his head covered? Or a woman that prays unto God with her head uncovered? Paul shows that it is a shame!

Now let us consider verse 16. **“But if any man seem to be contentious, we have no such custom, neither the churches of God.”** If a person is going to be contentious about what Paul taught and set himself up as defender of such points as a man praying or prophesying with his head covered and a woman praying or prophesying with her head uncovered, or a man having long hair, and a woman having short hair, Paul wanted them to know that **Christians nowhere had any such custom as that**, but to the contrary **men were to have short hair and women have long hair** and men were to pray and prophesy with their heads **uncovered**, but women were to **cover** their heads while praying or prophesying.

Note the following translations of verse 16: (a) GOODSPEED -- **“But if anyone is disposed to be contentious about it, I for my part recognize no other practice in worship than this, and neither do the churches of God.”** (b) MOFFATT -- **“If anyone presumes to raise objections on this point -- well, I acknowledge no other mode of**

worship, and neither do the churches of God.” (c) WILLIAMS -- **“But if anyone is inclined to be contentious about it, I for my part prescribe no other practice than this, and neither do the churches of God.”** (d) REVISED STANDARD VERSION -- **“If anyone is disposed to be contentious, we recognize no other practice, nor do the churches of God.”**

Should a person contend for something else rather than what Paul taught? Paul based his arguments on **headship, creation, the angels, human judgment, and nature.** Today, can we not make the same arguments? Let us **not** contend against what Paul said **nature, human judgment, and the ordinance of God teaches!**

The following is a consideration of some common objections offered to the teaching of 1 Cor. 11:1-16:

(1) It was a local matter for the Corinthians only. ANSWER — See 1 Cor. 1:2.

(2) It was only a “custom.” ANSWER — Verse 2 says **ordinance.** Paul shows in Verse 16 that Christians **have no custom** that violates the ordinance of God. If anyone would contend that a woman ought to pray unto God uncovered, etc., Paul wanted them to know that Christians nowhere recognized **any such custom.** So Paul wanted them to keep the ordinances of God!

(3) The word **ordinance** means **tradition.** ANSWER — Paul said, **“Keep the ordinances, . . .”** (See also 2 Thess. 2:15.)

(4) If a woman must cover her head while praying or prophesying, she must also cover her face. ANSWER — Paul said **head**, not face. (See Matt. 6:17.) The man is not to **cover his head** while praying or prophesying. Does this mean that a man **can cover his head** as long as he doesn't cover his face? If it doesn't, then the woman doesn't have to cover **her face** in order to cover her head.

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(5) What size covering? ANSWER — Paul doesn't say what size, shape or color.

(6) Is it a positive, divine law? ANSWER — Paul said, "**Keep the ordinances, . . .**" See also 1 Cor. 14:37 where Paul says, "**. . . the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.**"

My plea is that all of us will conscientiously study and meditate on the things taught in 1 Cor. 11:1-16. If you know of anything that can help me understand God's way more perfectly, please call my attention to it. If I am wrong, please point out to me wherein I err. We will give account to God for our attitude toward 1 Cor. 11:1-16. I desire the prayers of Christians in behalf of me and my family.

[Editor's note: The preceding study has been brief. If you would like to receive a 31 page booklet entitled "A VERSE BY VERSE STUDY OF I CORINTHIANS 11:1-16" in which a more detailed study is made, you can receive one by sending \$1.00 to cover postage, etc. Send your request to the editor.]

GOSPEL MEETINGS

Our beloved brother Alvin Holt is scheduled to preach in a series of meetings at the building of the church of Christ at 1107 Hwy 431 S. here in Albertville May 7-9 at 7:30 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday. We will meet at our regular times on the Lord's Day. **We urge you to attend!**

CHEERFULNESS

A cheerful temper joined with innocence, will make beauty attractive, knowledge delightful, and wit good-natured. It will lighten sickness, poverty and affliction, convert ignorance to an amiable simplicity — and render deformity itself agreeable.

— Addison

TOMBSTONE INSCRIPTION

What I spent — I had;
What I saved — I lost;
What I gave — I have

— SENTENCE SERMONS —

Someone said: "The only thing wrong with inferiority complexes is that the wrong people have them."

* * * * *

You can't pray for others if you have clenched fists and gritting teeth.

* * * * *

It is impossible to bury the truth forever.

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