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A decisive verse in the "Head Covering" controversy

"But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head: for that is even all one as if she were shaven. For if the woman be not covered, let her also be shorn: but if it be a shame for a woman to be shorn or shaven, let her be covered," 1 Corinthians 11:5-6.

There are many good articles on the issue of "Head Covering", one of which may be read [here](#).

What we wish to do is really just an exercise in simple logic and the understanding of God's Word in a common sense manner. What Paul says here in verse 6 can have only one meaning.

An important question

Here is a question for those who claim that a woman's head covering is her hair: what does Paul mean when he says: ". . . if the woman be not covered"?

Implications

In your understanding of the terminology of this passage you must mean that the woman has her hair cut off or shorn. If her hair is her "head covering" then for her not to be covered is for her to have her hair cut off.

That being so, if she engages in prayer or prophesying "uncovered" it means she has her hair cut off and is at fault. But, if that is the case, just how can she be punished by the implementing of Paul's sentence? He says of the uncovered woman, "let her also be shorn."

How can a shorn woman be shorn as a punishment for being shorn??

There must therefore be a difference between what is meant by being "shorn" and being "uncovered."

The word "shorn" is linked to sheep shearing. "The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth," Acts 8:32.

Now you can only shear a sheep ONCE otherwise sheep farmers would be a lot richer than they presently are!!

Surely the difference is that the words "shaven or shorn" mean her hair is cut off and the word "uncovered" means that her head is not covered with a head covering such as a veil!

That being so, the case for a woman's hair being a sufficient covering in God's eyes during worship falls to the ground.

Innovation

The practice of not wearing a head covering is a post-World War II innovation. I recall many years ago speaking with a Christian lady in the USA who voiced her amazement at the development. She would have been born about 1908. She said that summer or winter, cold or heat, a Christian woman would always have gone to worship with a hat on.

I have no doubt that the "casting away of the hats" was born out of the emerging spirit of rebellion some 50 years ago. It arose in conjunction with other innovations in the religious world: new versions of God's Word, worldly styles of hymn music, immodest apparel, the breakdown of the separation between evangelicalism and modernism, the increasing acceptance of ecumenism and, of course, immorality.

Rebellion

The woman without a head covering at a church service in New Testament times was a rebel. It is still so



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Of course, many godly woman worship with heads uncovered, unaware of the significance of their action, having been deceived by the arguments that her hair is the only covering she requires. It is likely she has heard this argument from a preacher who in all other matters is faithful but has been deceived into believing and preaching this modern tenet of the latter-day rebellion.

Women in worship with uncovered heads are but part of that movement predicted in Psalm 2:1-3. "Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us."

Biblical warning

Dear Christian, beware of being contaminated with the rising spirit of Antichristianity. Its advances may deceive the most devout and earnest souls.

Remember the words of warning in Holy Scripture.

"And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares," Luke 21:34.

"And that because of false brethren unawares brought in, who came in privily to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage," Galatians 2:4.

"But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction," 2 Peter 2:1.

"For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ," Jude 1:4.

These, and many other like passages, indicate the threat facing God's people from the poison of error dressed up as wholesome doctrine.

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