

Sound Doctrine: 1st Timothy, 2nd Timothy & Titus

Women Professing Godliness, Part 1

1st Timothy 2:8-10, Genesis

Few topics need as much intro and explanation as these two today and next week Only recently the church seems to be more sensitive than the world about them. <i>When the church and the world agree...</i> Why does the topic today ruffle so many feathers? Cause so many arguments?	Remember, John 1:1-5 It's His Word, He Is the Word So Send angry mail to: King Jesus 1 Heaven's Throne 3rd Heaven, 77777 [Pray]
We'll slow down and look at the big picture because • Misapplied • Misunderstood • Many hurt with or by • Much rebellion against • Written off, ignored • Wrong exegesis elsewhere	The what and why is often easily overlooked Emotions, quick offense get in the way What does it <u>actually</u> say? And <u>not</u> say?
The <u>freedom & value</u> given to women in the <u>Word of God</u> is unmatched. Galatians 3:28 - There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. <i>I have 3 daughters, a wife, a mother, a sister, nieces, SIL, MIL, aunts, etc.</i> <i>They each mean a great deal to me</i> <i>And I want them all lifted up, how much more does God</i>	Many world systems have put down women, objectified women, made women lesser beings in <u>value</u> • Western Culture vs. Middle East • Woman in burka not allowed to learn • Woman in bikini (or worse) with college degrees at expense of real womanhood Both are bad, both devalue and subjugate women <u>The west just frames it as "liberation"</u>

The title sums up the goal of the scripture: Women professing Godliness

**In what they want to do,
what they claim to do,
And how they actually do**

- It's what Godly women want to do,
- serve God, talk about Him,
- minister to others the good things of God he's shown you
- Reveal God in their lives, attitudes and appearance
- how God wants you to do it well

There's something to women and their appearance, focus on beauty vs. a man (in general) and how God designed that to reveal His glory

It's not about

- hiding women,
- putting them down,
- repressing them,
- Covering their light up

**But how a godly woman
in the most godly way
Can reveal God in God's way**

Two parts, so much to study and say!

1 Peter 3:7 - Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.

What do you do with expensive, valuable, heirloom items?

- Paintings
- Pottery
- Jewelry
- Expensive items

If you value them, you don't abuse them!

- You put a case on your expensive phone
- A screen protector on the glass
- A frame on the picasso
- A glass case for the fine china

Why? Because it is fragile, in a good way. It is beautiful and rare and you want to keep it that way - valuable

:8

**Instructions for church are
instructions for believers
We are the church, the church prays!**

Men, lifting up holy hands

**Hands up! Don't shoot
Surrender!**

- Even the world does it at a concert
- A winning play, cheering

**Folding hands, bowing heads?
Sunday school? Reverant**

Good for kids to "make it dark" and keep hands to themselves

Jesus prays looking up to heaven, hands raised! But remains reverant

Hands raised, but remain reverent Not distracting Prayer focuses on God Our behavior should keep it on Him, too	• Looking up (is heaven really up?) • Good to be reminded of Who and Where God is - who we're talking to - maker of all • Hard to stay angry and doubting there
Men, we get angry, we doubt The remedy? Surrender to God Our emotions, our reasoning He'll answer both - as we give up and point up	<u>Everywhere</u> - not just for the Ephesian church, but the church (everywhere, anytime)
:9 In like manner, the women also surrender and point to God What do women (in general) like to do? Adorn! Kosmeo, order, arrange, ornament, "embellish with honor" Cosmetics • Turn a house into a home • Turn clothes into an outfit <i><u>Hair done nails done everything dun dun</u></i> More clothing stores for women than men <i>Used clothing mostly womens</i>	Dress in church But general rules for everywhere <i>We've lost all sense of decency in society</i> <i>Old photos, dressed up</i> <i>Now wearing ripped sweatpants</i> There are no <u>specific</u> rules in the Bible, for the church, on specific clothing, fashion style, colors, materials But to be <u>modest</u> • Modest - well arranged, seemly, modest • Propriety - sense of shame or honor, reverence, respect • Moderation - soberness, self control I'm not here to give <u>specific</u> fashion advice, the Holy Spirit is though • Our Home • Our Father's home

What we might call modest today they would have called offensive <i>Our world constantly removing modesty</i> <i>Tight clothes, cover more, but reveal more!</i> Our standards cannot be relative to the world's <i>What Christians were wearing in FL vs NY</i>	religions made out of specific hair, clothing and music styles • 1950s hairstyles, suits, dresses • 1800's, Amish • Both of those would look strange in Paul's day - and our day • Please, be modest and fashionable, not cringey and weird, <u>we still have to look at you!</u>
It's not the style the counts, but how it's worn: modestly	What is shown and revealed, where the attention goes: physically, spiritually, mentally,
A woman likes to look beautiful! <i>There can be vain men, too, but in general</i> God made women that way, <u>before</u> sin! Adam said, "WOAH, MAN" Who does your beauty glorify? Get the attention of? First at least. As a Christian, it should be for God's glory & your husband's attention. <i>I see couples and IDK how the man is comfortable with his gf/wife/daughter dressing for the attention of other men...</i>	How hard it is to find clothing beautiful, modest clothes! Sheer, deep necklines, short shorts Reveal more skin Most women's fashion equates beauty with revealing <i>Missing parts, shorter, sheer, let something show</i> "If you got it, flaunt it" Proverbs 11:22 - As a ring of gold in a swine's snout, So is a lovely woman who lacks discretion. <i>She might get a man's attention and affection but not his genuine love and faithfulness</i> Ladies, your beauty is powerful and valuable, modesty reveals that more
Not that you can't have braids, etc Gold = deity <u>Are you covered more in God or Gold?</u>	The line is thin <i>Worship bands buying expensive clothes, always dressing in the newest, latest even obscenely expensive fashion</i>

Women know how powerful their looks over men are • Dress to get attention • Flirt or act to get what they want • Natural responses used in sinful ways <i>Seinfeld girlfriend getting out of a ticket</i> The way each of us dress and act gets attention, the key is what kind and to and for whom A man may oogle <u>any</u> woman in <u>any</u> outfit	Self control works both ways The world has enough immorality to it, don't feed the fire If you're making it visible, drawing attention to it in dress, people will look <i>Like a car wreck</i> <i>I teach my kids not to leave valuables out where people can see them</i> <i>Less likely to be stolen!</i> If you don't want people stealing a look, don't put it out there to see
A real woman knows her value and protects it <u>Saves</u> it for those she loves, starting with Jesus When she gives it away, she shows she doesn't value herself Thinks attention, things, money, fame is more valuable than her beauty	A beautiful, godly, modest, valuable woman in Proverbs... Proverbs 31:11 - The heart of her husband safely trusts her; So he will have no lack of gain. <i>If my wife were to dress immodestly, it makes my heart feel exposed, unsafe, I feel unloved, vulnerable, betrayed, i feel like she doesn't value me or herself</i> <i>If my daughters do, my heart breaks because i know how valuable they are, too</i>
Nothing more beautiful than a <u>godly</u> woman who's modest <i>Doesn't mean you dress dumpy, can't do hair or makeup</i> <i>If that barn needs painting...</i>	Godly ladies, are you dressing to impress your husband, Jesus? <i>When she claims godliness but isn't modest, her claims come into question, the sincerity, depth and maturity of her faith are eroded</i> The way we <u>all</u> dress reveals what we worship (brands, sports teams, hobbies, business, etc)

And a step further...maybe there is nothing wrong technically with your outfit of choice, but what does it look like to others?

1 Thess 5:22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.

Maybe you're free to wear that, but does it cause someone to stumble?

Romans 14:13 - Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather resolve this, not to put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in our brother's way.

Competition dressing the best

Pray, ask your heavenly father thinks of your wardrobe

(I just want my daughters to dress however they like, as long as they reveal their immense heavenly value. Then does it match? Do the colors compliment them? Does the style match their personality?)

Dress your best! Don't flaunt or focus on yourself or your wealth

Certain respect to God to dress nice, but nice can be casual.

Keep the focus on Jesus

:10

Godly ladies, what do you want to profess most? I'm sure it's God!

Profess - to announce what you're about to do! To promise! To profess one's skill

Dress for the job you want...

If you dress like a cop, people will think you're a cop

Nana, People buying expensive cars

**The way a woman professes godliness
The way her witness is the loudest**

**How she dresses
and what she does
Even more than what she says**

Going to look at more of this next week, part 2 of Women Professing Godliness, a woman's ministry

A woman's ministry to the Lord, her husband, the church, and the world - starts with these things

How a woman dresses reveals

- Her heart
- Her perception of herself
- Who she's in love with

Might be a stretch, but it might be implied the women are already praying!

- Men, pray like this
- Women, you're praying, move on to how you're dressing and acting

**How does a godly woman
show her real beauty?
Spiritual beauty?**

Adorn her life with good works

- In how she **dresses**
- In how she **acts**
- In what she **does for others**

**Some examples for who the godly widows
are that the church should support**

1 Timothy 5:10 - well reported for good works: if she has brought up children, if she has lodged strangers, if she has washed the saints' feet, if she has relieved the afflicted, if she has diligently followed every good work.

**Modern relationships
Looking in the wrong places
Looking at the wrong things**

Christian women can't find godly men

Are they looking for the ones surrendered to God or the ones at the gym?

Christian men can't find godly women

Are they looking at the ones revealing their bodies or their savior? Doing the godly work?

You vs the guy she told you not to worry about

If you catch her with your muscles, your humor, she'll find someone funnier

If you catch him with your immodest dress and behavior, he'll eventually lose interest

The most attractive thing you should look for in a spouse is their surrender and submission to Jesus. Their spiritual works will come alongside yours.

**Godly men and Godly women:
What does your posture profess?**

So Godly men

- Are you wrathful?
- Doubting over anything?
- Are you praying?
- How are you caring for the women in your life, encouraging them to be more godly?
- Covering them in prayer
- With hands raised

So Godly women

- Is your **hair done** this morning?
- What about your spiritual head?
- Is your **makeup** done today?
- What is the makeup of your spiritual service?
- Have you put on a nice piece of **jewelry**?
- Is there an even nicer piece of heavenly jewelry adorning you?
- **What do the godly works in your life reveal about your spiritual state?**
- **Do your spiritual outfit glorify God? Reveal the cost of his blood covering you?**

