

## On Dress

*By Rev. Donald Maclean*

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How should a woman professing godliness dress? How adorn herself? "In modest apparel" (I Tim. ii, 9). With "shame-facedness," i.e. with no intent to draw the eye (I Tim ii, 9). With "sobriety," i.e. with nothing conspicuous. Not with "braided hair" or with "plaiting of the hair" (I Tim. ii, 9; I Pet. ii, 3). Not with "gold" (I Pet. iii, 3). Not with "pearls" (I Tim. ii, 9). Not with clothing as an adornment (I Pet. iii, 3).

Observe, there are three points as to the adorning of the body. Let it be modest; let it be inexpensive; let it be unobtrusive. There are two points as to the kind of decoration to be avoided – no jewellery; no fanciful dressing of the hair. And there are two points to be observed as to adorning- "a meek and quiet spirit "; "good works."

Surely a woman professing godliness should be careful in this matter which the Holy Ghost has not considered unimportant. Surely she should clothe herself in all "modesty," "shame-facedness," and "sobriety," and with while she adorns herself with "a meek and quiet spirit" and with "good works". Now if she be thus adorned she will not be anxious to attract the gaze of admiration by heaping jewellery upon her person, or decorating it with costly clothing, nor will she be much busied in the way she arranges her hair. If given to good works she will have neither time nor money for the decoration of her body. The above is merely a summing up of Paul's and Peter's thoughts on the matter, as found in I Tim. ii, 9 and I Peter iii, 3; and as it has made these thoughts very clear to my own mind, I can now write it for others who may be exercised on the subject, and are honestly anxious to walk in simple obedience to the Word of God. - (*The Christian Treasury.*)

While propriety in dress should be observed at all times as outlined by the writer above, this is peculiarly applicable in connection with the worship of God. Gaudy dress in courts of God's own House not only reveals the vanity of the person so clothed, but indicates a spirit far removed from such as desire to worship God in spirit and truth, and who seek to humble themselves under the mighty hand of Him against Whom they have so grievously sinned. The congregation is also disturbed. Some, through the same vanity of mind, are so taken with the display of finery that they cannot settle their minds on the

worship. Others, who have more respect for the worship of God, are grieved and hurt at such frivolity and consequently disturbed. At Family Worship also a certain decorum should be observed and all made to feel that “great’s the Lord and greatly He is to be magnified; yea, worthy to be feared is He above all gods beside” (Ps. xcvi, 4)