

# GLAD TIDINGS

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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## DOES JESUS HAVE A HAIR CODE?

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**T**o many, the question is ridiculous. Surely, Jesus does not care how I wear my hair. His coming to die on the cross for my sins shows His concern for the much bigger picture of salvation in eternity than laying down restrictions on such mundane things as my hair. Please, let us move on to more important things!!!

No so fast. Is the following passage of no importance? “Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a dishonor to him? But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her; for her hair is given her for a covering” (I Corinthians 11:14-15).

In the context of man’s headship of woman and how it is to be manifested in connection with exercising miraculous spiritual gifts, Paul refers to nature teaching’s regarding the distinctive length of hair between men and women. In order to reinforce his inspired command for women to wear a covering in exercising their spiritual gift, distinguished from men who were to have their head uncovered, he points to nature for an illustrative distinction.

The long hair of women, comparable to a covering, and the distinctive short hair of men comparable to a lack of covering is nature’s illustration of his point.

God, from the very beginning, made man and woman different. This observable difference has been further reflected through time in the man wearing his hair shorter than the woman. This distinction certainly was ingrained in the society in which the Corinthians lived. The Christian must honor the practice which honors God’s natural order of the sexes.

Jesus does not tell us how long is long, or how short is short. But, godly men and women will want to make sure they do not cross the line wearing their hair the length that causes them to appear looking like the opposite sex. In so wearing the hair, it is a dishonor, for we are ignoring God’s distinctions.

Godly women are to pay attention to another principle regarding the hair. They are not to bring attention to themselves through the means of extravagant and elaborate decorating of the hair. “Whose adorning let it not be

the outward adorning of braiding the hair, and of wearing jewels of gold, or of putting on apparel; but let it be the hidden man of the heart...” (I Peter 3:3).

Jesus, through his apostle, is not forbidding the braiding of the hair or wearing jewelry, any more than He is forbidding the wearing of clothes. A woman whose hair is of such length that she wants to braid it is certainly free before God to do so. The Lord is condemning the ostentatious spirit which promotes the wearing of elaborate head dressings, excessive jewelry, and elaborate clothing while ignoring the meek and quiet spirit (cf I Tim. 2:9-1-10).

Jesus’ hair code is centered upon honoring principles, instead of legislating a definite length or style. As you think about your appearance, God wants you to pay attention to the norms of society that reflect God’s truths. When you look in the mirror ask yourself, does the length of my hair give honor to my distinctive sex? Does my appearance honor the godly character? If so, you are complying with Jesus’ hair code.