

1 Corinthians 11:1-16

Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ.

² Now I praise you because you remember me in everything and hold firmly to the traditions, just as I delivered them to you. ³ But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ. ⁴ Every man who has *something* on his head while praying or prophesying disgraces his head. ⁵ But every woman who has her head uncovered while praying or prophesying disgraces her head, for she is one and the same as the woman whose head is shaved. ⁶ For if a woman does not cover her head, let her also have her hair cut off; but if it is disgraceful for a woman to have her hair cut off or her head shaved, let her cover her head. ⁷ For a man ought not to have his head covered, since he is the image and glory of God; but the woman is the glory of man. ⁸ For man does not originate from woman, but woman from man; ⁹ for indeed man was not created for the woman's sake, but woman for the man's sake. ¹⁰ Therefore the woman ought to have *a symbol of authority* on her head, because of the angels. ¹¹ However, in the Lord, neither is woman independent of man, nor is man independent of woman. ¹² For as the woman originates from the man, so also the man *has his birth* through the woman; and all things originate from God. ¹³ Judge for yourselves: is it proper for a woman to pray to God *with her head uncovered*? ¹⁴ Does not even nature itself teach you that if a man has long hair, it is a dishonor to him, ¹⁵ but if a woman has long hair, it is a glory to her? For her hair is given to her for a covering. ¹⁶ But if one is inclined to be contentious, we have no other practice, nor have the churches of God.

How does nature "teach" us (14)?



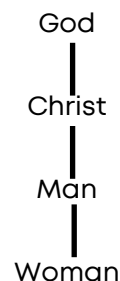
1 Corinthians Words to a Troubled Church

This chapter seems to be a break from the Corinthian questions (7:1, 8:1, 12:1). However, two major aspects of worship are addressed: praying and the Lord's Supper. This sets the tone for the next series of questions about spiritual gifts.

Things to Notice:

- The word "Head" is found 14x in this chapter - reference to either authority or source
- The word "For" begins verses (6-9) followed by a "therefore" (10)
- Now I praise you (2) contrasted with I do not praise you (17, 22)

There is a Divine Order: Head



- Phil 2:6 God & Christ are equal
- 1 Pet 3:7 Husband & wife are fellow heir
- Gal 3:28 neither male or female; for you are all one in Christ

- A man to pray covered is shameful (4)
- A woman to pray uncovered is shameful
- Covering was a symbol of authority (10)

1. It seems that Paul is not introducing the covering as a new thought, rather telling the women not to uncover when they pray.

- Nothing is said about what the covering looks like or how long it is.

2. In that culture, uncovered women were considered shameful. It is not that way today

3. Paul appeals to nature (14), custom (16) what seems right (13) - not Scriptures



1 Corinthians 11:17-34



17 But in giving this instruction, I do not praise you, because you come together not for the better but for the worse. **18** For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that divisions exist among you; and in part I believe it. **19** For there must also be factions among you, so that those who are approved may become evident among you. **20** Therefore when you meet together, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper, **21** for in your eating each one takes his own supper first; and one is hungry and another is drunk. **22** What! Do you not have houses in which to eat and drink? Or do you despise the church of God and shame those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you? In this I will not praise you.

23 For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread; **24** and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me." **25** In the same way *He took* the cup also after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink *it*, in remembrance of Me." **26** For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

27 Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord. **28** But a man must examine himself, and in so doing he is to eat of the bread and drink of the cup. **29** For he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself if he does not judge the body rightly. **30** For this reason many among you are weak and sick, and a number sleep. **31** But if we judged ourselves rightly, we would not be judged. **32** But when we are judged, we are disciplined by the Lord so that we will not be condemned along with the world.

33 So then, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for one another. **34** If anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, so that you will not come together for judgment. The remaining matters I will arrange when I come.

The special memorial of the Lord's Supper was being abused. Paul helps the Corinthians get the proper attitude about this.

Things to Notice:

- The expression "The Lord's Supper" is found only here in the NT (20)
- The gathering of the church (17, 18, 20, 33)

A. The Problem Identified:

1. Division (some were eating and others had nothing - 21-22)
2. Misusing the purpose as a meal (22)
What was taking place shameful (22)
It was for the worse (17)
Many were failing spiritually (30)

B. Paul quotes Jesus from the Gospels (23-26)

- It is Divinely authorized (from the Lord—23)
- There is a Divine Pattern (Do this— 24)
 - _____ look: a reflection (remembrance of me— 24, 25)
 - _____ look: a proclamation (until He _____ comes—26)
 - _____ look: self examination—28, judge ourselves rightly—31)

The mind of the Christian determines whether he eats the Lord's Supper in the proper manner

C. The Solution (27-34):

- _____ yourself (28, 31)
 - _____ for one another (33)
1. How do we know what we are to eat and drink during the Lord's Supper?
 2. How do we know if we have judged ourselves rightly?
 3. What are we supposed to remember about Jesus?
 4. What is meant by the unworthy manner (27)?
 5. What is the Lord's Supper supposed to do?