

Repairing Broken Walls: Paul's Instructions to Timothy (1 Timothy 2:1-15)

1. **Talking to God About Others – Prayer (1-2)**
2. **Talking to Others About God – Proclamation (3-7) (Evangelism)**
3. **Taking the Lead – Principled Leadership by Pious Men (8; cp. 3:1-11)**
4. **Taming the Threads – Purity and Propriety – Word-Directed Wardrobes for Women (9-10)**

in like manner also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing, but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works.

⁹ Ὡσαύτως [καὶ] γυναῖκας ἐν καταστολῇ κοσμίῳ μετὰ αἰδοῦς καὶ σωφροσύνης κοσμεῖν ἑαυτάς, μὴ ἐν πλέγμασιν καὶ χρυσίῳ ἢ μαργαρίταις ἢ ἱματισμῷ πολυτελεῖ, ¹⁰ ἀλλ' ὃ πρέπει γυναῖξιν ἐπαγγελλομέναις θεοσέβειαν, δι' ἔργων ἀγαθῶν.

Literal word order: Likewise [also] females in a garment orderly with shame and sensibility to be ordering themselves, not in braided and gold or pearls or costly clothing

“in like manner also” – hosautos – likewise – in the same gender-specific intent of godliness

“that the women” – gunaikas – female, with no indication of age – this is largely an issue that affects all ages, and is something that needs to be taught from the earliest age on up. Train your daughters from childhood to be modest!

“adorn” – kosmein – present infinitive verb form of the word for “modest” in “modest apparel” – the idea of “to order” with an objectively defined order (as “designed” or “ordered” by God) – we do not establish our own idea of order, but live in light of God’s created and revealed order. You are to “adorn” yourself in light of and in accordance with God’s design. This is present tense – modestly is ongoing. Modesty is modesty. There is not one modesty for church and another for the pool. If dressing a certain way causes men to lust in one place, it most certainly will do so in another. {Ernie}

“themselves” – modesty is a ongoing, all-the-time personal responsibility. You are not to wait to have someone “dictate” or define modesty. You are to proactively dress as God dictates. It is not someone else’s job to make you dress in a modest way.

“in modest” – kosmioi – same root as “adorn” – describes the garment to be worn – orderly, as in accordance with God’s creative order.

“apparel” – singular – katastole – robe against – your garment, not your coat. Your normal outfit. Seems to indicate a long flowing garment (“stole” itself indicates a long robe).

“with propriety” – aidous – shame or shamefacedness – some discard this passage as being only for jewelry or fancy clothes (which it does address) – this term seems to counter that strongly – we are to have a sense of shame, a sense that we are to cover ourselves. There is a shameful way to dress (Note the response of Adam and Eve in the garden when they sinned.)

“and moderation” – sophrosunes – sensibility; reason – our clothing is to be dictated by with a proper understanding of shame, and with reason or sense. We need to think about what we wear, and change our clothing as we think things through. Does this cover me? Would dressing this way provoke others to impure thoughts? Will it cause me to draw attention to myself?

“not with braided hair” – plegmasin – “braided” – could be hair, or anything braided – addresses elaborate arrangement. Our dress and our styles should be subdued, not “wowing.”

or gold or pearls or costly clothing, but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works.

5. **Tapering the Talk – Withholding Words to Let the Leaders Lead (11-14)**
6. **Training Our Own Children – Parenting as a Priceless Priority (15; cp. 5:10,14)**