

THE CHURCH 29

EPHESIANS 5:23

23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

EPHESIANS 5:24

24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.

EPHESIANS 5:25

25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

I PETER 3:5

5 For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands:

I PETER 3:6

6 Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.

I PETER 3:7

7 Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

I CORINTHIANS 11:12

12 For as the woman is of the man, even so is the man also by the woman; but all things of God.

I CORINTHIANS 11:13

13 Judge in yourselves: is it comely that a woman pray unto God uncovered?

I CORINTHIANS 11:14

14 Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have *LONG hair, it is a shame unto him?

LONG: komao {kom-ah'-o}
to let the hair grow, have long hair

I CORINTHIANS 11:15

15 But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering.

GREEK LEXICON -- STRONG'S NUMBER 2863

komao {kom-ah'-o}
to let the hair grow, have long hair

(from Wiersbe's Expository Outlines on the New Testament)
Paul is often accused of being critical of women and placing them in an inferior position, but this is not true.

He realized that God is a God of order, and that when anything is out of order, there is confusion and loss of power. Paul nowhere teaches that women are inferior to men in the eyes of God,

but rather that God has laid down the principle of headship (not dictatorship) that makes Christ the Head of man and man the head of woman.

a [covering] Greek: peribolaion
something thrown around anyone,

The long hair of a woman is given her for a mantle, veil, or covering. That is, long hair can be used as a veil. (from Dake Annotated Reference Bible)

I CORINTHIANS 11:15

15 But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering.

The word "for" is translated from the Greek anti, which means "against" or "instead of."

Koua is translated "have long hair" both in verses 14 and 15. According to Gingrich, the word means, "wear long hair, let one's hair grow long."

Thayer renders it, "to let the hair grow, have long hair." Obviously, one cannot allow hair to grow and cut it, at the same time.

Koun (a noun) is the word translated "hair" in the phrase "for her hair is given her for a covering". "According to the passages cited by Bauer and Moulton and Miligan's Vocabulary of [the] Greek New Testament kome is uncut hair.

The passages where this word occurs in Greek literature demand a meaning 'uncut hair!' Ferguson goes on to point out that the word kome is used to describe the Nazarites, who were forbidden to cut their hair.

ADAM CLARKE said: But if a woman have long hair, The Author of their being has given a larger proportion of hair to the head of women than to that of men; and to them it is an especial ornament, and may in various cases serve as a veil.

It is a certain fact that a man's long hair renders him contemptible, and a woman's long hair renders her more amiable. Nature and the apostle speak the same language; we may account for it as we please.

MATTHEW POOLE said: *But, he saith, if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her. Long hair is comely for the woman, and accounted to her for a beauty or ornament, for God hath given her hair for a covering.*

Men and women should so order their hair, as by it to preserve the distinction of sexes.

Men should not wear their hair after the manner of women, either dishevelled, or curled, and tricked up about their heads, which speaks too much of an unmanly and effeminate temper, much more was what became not Christians. And if this be forbidden men.

(Bible Knowledge Commentary) says:

Long hair was a woman's glory because it gave visible expression to the differentiation of the sexes.

This was Paul's point in noting that long hair was given to her as a covering. Natural revelation confirmed the propriety of women wearing the physical covering.

I CORINTHIANS 11:16

16 But if any man seem to be contentious, we have no such custom, neither the churches of God.

1 Cor 11:16

16 If anyone wants to be contentious about this, we have no other practice nor do the churches of God.

NIV

1 Cor 11:16

But if one is inclined to be contentious, we have no other practice, nor have the churches of God.

NASU

1 Cor 11:16

16 This is how things are done in all of God's churches, and that's why none of you should argue about what I have said.

CEV

1 Cor 11:16

16 If anyone wants to argue about this they can't, because we don't have any custom like this nor do any of the churches of God.

(God's Word to the Nations Bible Society)

For 2,000 years christian women abstained from cutting their hair. Short hair became fashionable with the victory of the women's movement in achieving the right to vote for women.

Women became free in the 1920's and beyond with shorter hair and shorter skirts.

In the United States women traditionally allowed their hair to grow naturally long but this drastically changed by 1920. "Probably the greatest change in women's hair modes came in the early 1900s when the hair was bobbed.

Up to this time, no matter how the hair was worn, it was long. By 1920 short hair had become the dominant fashion.

About this time also the hair styles worn by popular motion-picture stars in Hollywood began to start trends in women's coiffures" (*Compton's Interactive Encyclopedia*, 1998).

"At the end of World War I a short haircut for women, called the bob, was considered scandalous. . . . Women all over the world quickly adopted the styles and colors of Hollywood actresses".

At the same time, men wore their hair much shorter than women and this continued until the 1960s and 1970s when rebellious young men dared to break with convention, allowing their hair to grow longer than before.

"It was the singing group, The Beatles, that repopularized longer hair for the first time in many decades with their bowl haircuts". About the same time, many girls began to allow their hair to grow longer than their mothers did.

Paradoxically, some girls even today wear their hair much longer than their mothers and grandmothers—while these older women cut their hair very short!

Through the influence of *Vogue* (1892), *Mademoiselle* (1935), and *Glamour* (1939), women are very concerned about their hairstyles and fashion in general.