

**HOLY MANY IN UNHOLY SOCIETY:
A study in I and II Corinthians
AMEN Bible Study 2013-2014**

**God's Design for Headship
I Corinthians 11:2-16
December 5, 2013**

II Peter 3:15b-16 "...as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him, as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction..."

Reformed practice of Interpretation:

Scripture interprets Scripture
Context is King!

Dangerous delusions in interpretation: Taking a good help and making it the ultimate goal.

Intentional fallacy Graphic fallacy Affective fallacy

11:2 I. God's design for headship is found in traditions of the Apostles.

- :2a A. Remember Apostles in all we do.
 "...because you remember me in everything..."
- :2b B. The Apostle passes on traditions from Christ.
 "...maintain the traditions even as I delivered them to you."
 cf. Romans 6:17; I Corinthians 11:23; I Corinthians 15:3

11:3 II. God's design for headship is understood through covenant.

- :3a A. God has assigned headship to husbands in the covenant of marriage.
 "...I want you to understand that the head of every man is Christ, and the head of every wife is her husband...."
 cf. Ephesians 5:22-32
- :3b B. God has assigned headship to Christ in the covenant of grace.
 "...and the head of Christ is God."
 cf. Philippians 2:1-5; Matthew 26:36-46; I Corinthians 15:20-21

11:4-10 III. God's design for headship orders our corporate worship.

- :4 A. Men who cover their heads in worship dishonor their Head.
 "*Every man who prays or prophesies with his head covered dishonors his head.*"
- Men cover their heads in grief when seeing their kingdoms slip away (II Sam 15:30, Esther 6:12), but we worship in celebration in the inauguration of Christ's kingdom!
 - Men cover their heads in autonomy (Daniel 4:33), but we worship in dependency!
 - Men cover their heads in self-righteousness (Matthew 23:5), but we worship in His righteousness! For His glory to show our veils are removed.

- :5-10 B. Women who cover their heads in worship honor their head.
 "*But every wife who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head, since it is the same as if her head were shaven. For it a wife will not cover her head then she should cut her hair short. But since it is disgraceful for a wife to cut off her hair or shave her head, let her cover her head. For a man ought not cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God, but the woman is the glory of man. For man was not made from woman, but woman from man. Neither was man created for woman, but woman for man. That is why a wife ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels.*"

Ritual and Symbol Verses Reality and Substance
(Excusers on angels – I Peter 1:10-12; Luke 10:18; I Timothy 3:16)

11:11-12 IV. God's design for headship equalizes men and women IN THE LORD.

Men and women need one another to faithfully reflect God's glory.

"Nevertheless, in the Lord woman is not independent of man nor man of woman; for as a woman was made from man, so man is now born from woman. And all things are from God."
cf. Galatians 3:27-29; Romans 16:1-2; Genesis 1:27

11:13-16 V. God's design for headship is rebellion in an age of relativism.

:13-14 A. Men lose hair, women cover hair, and God gets the glory.

"Judge for yourselves: it is proper for a wife [woman] to pray to God with her head uncovered? Does not nature itself teach us that if a man wears long hair it is a disgrace for him, but if a woman has long hair it is her glory? For her hair is given to her as a covering."

:16 B. Godly men welcome God's design for headship for God's glory.

"If anyone is inclined to be contentious, we have no such practice, nor do the churches of God."
cf. I Corinthians 14:26-40

"In an age of relativism, orthodoxy is the only possible rebellion left." - Peter Kreeft