

## I Timothy Sermon #13

I Timothy 2:9

Sound doctrine for church conduct

Sound doctrines that govern our conduct in church

Chapter 2 deals with public worship – two areas

1<sup>st</sup> – prayer – vs. 1-8

2<sup>nd</sup> – is women – vs. 9-15

This passage on women breaks into two sections:

Verses 9-10 which deal with women's adornment

And then is vs. 11-15 – we are dealing with women's subjection to men as teachers in  
the church

This is one of the most interesting sections of the Bible/topics

This subject on women is hardly ever addressed these days.

So, we will enter the water slowly – we will have a lengthy series on the woman's role in  
the church.

The Bible has a lot to say.

And I want to try and visit every verse that speaks to this subject.

The role of women in the church is a topic that is hotly debated today.

Sadly, the debate has left the pages of Scripture to find its resolution.

The Bible doctrines are being swept away by the flood tides of feminism.

Churches, schools, and seminaries are rapidly abandoning truths they have held since  
their inceptions.

Therefore, I have entitled this series "Reclaiming the Biblical Woman, Part 1"

I Timothy 2:9

Let us stand for the reading of God's Holy Word.

I Timothy 2:9-10

Let us pray.

You may be seated.

## Reclaiming the Biblical Woman, Part 1

Many have abandoned biblical accuracy in favor of the culture.

The ultimate source of those attacks is the archenemy of God, Satan.

His goal, as always, is to overthrow God's plan and corrupt His design.

Satan is behind the effort to entice women away from their God-created roles in society, in the family, and in the church.

In the church, it is not surprising to find great struggles over gender roles.

I've seen both extremes in churches – on one hand, women were second-class citizens/treated as slaves – and on the other, where women are permitted to occupy places of leadership in all public services.

They have women preachers, choir directors, and officers.

No position is withheld from them and, as a result, the women are not only prominent but we find that they become dominant in the church.

These are the extremes – not Biblical.

Let's establish first that God *has* used women.

In the Word of God we see Deborah, Queen Esther, Ruth, and others.

We will look at this aspect in coming weeks.

Chapter 2, thus far, has discussed the conduct/role of men in the gathering of the church – 2:1-8, Paul turns his focus to the subject of women in worship.

The emphasis in this section is on the place of women in the local church.

God addresses their appearance, attitude, testimony, role, design, and contribution.

First, let us look at

## I. The Appearance of Women in Public Worship

Vs. 9a – in like manner, **likewise** . . . marks the transition  
From the man to the woman – *anair* to the *gunay*

Paul is not expressing his opinion or giving advice.

His words carry divine authority.

Men are commanded to pray and **(in the same way)** women are mandated to adorn  
themselves in a manner fitting worship of God.

### A. Modest Dress

The contrast here is between the artificial glamour of the world and the true beauty of a  
Godly life.

**Adorn** is from *kosmeo*, from which the English word “cosmetic”

It means “to arrange,” “to put in order,” or “to make ready.”

Every woman arranges herself.

The question is, is the arrangement Biblical!

A woman must arrange herself appropriately to join God’s people as they worship.

Part of that important preparation involves the outside, the wearing of **proper clothing**  
– modest apparel – respectable fashion.

The word translated “modest” simply means “decent and orderly.”

A woman’s clothing should be decent, orderly, and in good taste.

This word is only used twice – the other place is in 3:2 – translated of good behavior

The Pastor is to have his life harmoniously arranged, having his life in an orderly  
fashion.

So the first principle is that a lady is not slovenly dressed

We could use the term “disheveled” – refers to an untidy appearance – an appearance in loose disarray.

Clothing encompasses not only the clothing itself, but also the look—the whole demeanor.

Women are to come to the corporate worship ready to face the Lord.

They must not come in slovenly disarray or personal display because of an unbecoming wardrobe or demeanor.

Women are to be clean, buttons are buttoned, matching colors – general principle

Proper adornment on the outside reflects a properly adorned heart.

Our dress is important to God – look our best.

Dress does matter.

This is our first principle.

**Vs. 9b** – Here Paul gives us two accompanying characteristics of modest dressing.

Two things that govern the dress code of a woman

This is our second principle – The Attitude of the Woman – vs. 9b

Will dictate her dress, fashion styles and choices

These two attitudes are to characterize a woman’s approach to her appearance in worship.

What does “shamefacedness” mean?

Does that mean that women come into church and they do not look at anyone? No.

This word goes back to Wycliffe’s translation – back in 1380s – that word has been in our English translations for over 500 years now.

It does not refer to being ashamed – it refers to keeping herself so as to not shame herself – not going to wear anything that shames herself.

“Shamefacedness” literally means “modesty, the avoidance of extremes.”

This word appears only here in the New Testament.

It refers to modesty mixed with humility – when looking at apparel and accessories –  
modesty mixed with humility

She is careful to think of what it would look like – this character trait helps her decide  
before she wears it – it is a modest reserve

A Godly woman would be ashamed and feel guilt if she distracted someone from  
worshiping God, or contributed to someone’s lustful thought life.

A woman characterized by this attitude will dress so as not to be the source of any  
temptation.

A woman who possesses this quality is ashamed to go beyond the bounds of what is  
decent and proper.

The word also has the connotation of rejecting anything dishonorable to God.

A Godly woman hates sin so much that she would avoid anything that would engender  
sin in anyone.

*“Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it is better for  
him that a heavy millstone be hung around his neck, and that he be drowned in the  
depth of the sea. . . . but woe to that man through whom the stumbling block comes!”*  
(Matt. 18:6-7)

Ladies can be a stumbling block.

Look at the second attitude when it comes to dress.

“Sobriety” comes from a Greek word that means “having a sound mind and good  
sense.”

It describes an inner self-control

The basic sense is self-control.

A mind that has a self government to it

A mind in control over the emotions – overcome temptation when it comes to dress and accessories

This is the ability to walk the fine line of not being overindulgent or under indulgent.

Women are to exercise control so that neither their passions nor anyone else's are excited.

These are the two things that govern the woman and her wardrobe.

Men and women need to teach this to their kids and yes, parents, we are responsible for what our kids wear.

Godly fear and sobriety – govern the woman.

The woman's thought pattern should not be—

Would I have to be daring to wear this?

Would I have to be bold to wear this?

Would this turn heads if I wore this?

Women need to be conditioned not by magazines, TV, window shopping, but by the Word of God about these matters.

Many Christian women have lost the sense of propriety when it comes to dress.

Men need to help their wives and daughters in this area.

Men, it is our **responsibility** to help our wives and daughters – to teach what is within the bounds of proper, Christian, modest reserve.

This sobriety can be gained and lost.

Women need these two virtues – modest reserve and sound mindedness – sensible thinking about this area

I. The Appearance

II. The Attitude

Next Wednesday – we will look at the rest of this verse.

Let us stand for closing invitation

Ladies, are you adorning yourselves in modest apparel?

Do you have the Godly attitudes of not shaming yourself alongside sobriety?

Salvation