

I Timothy Sermon #15

I Timothy 2

The most important qualities get lost in our culture.

Many worry about looks; our people are obsessed with appearance

The only thing sometimes that stops us from investing more money on our appearance is our wallets—cosmetic surgery, sun-tanning beds, workout machinery, Olay of Olay – no end to new products

How many of us have bought stuff trying to impress others?

There is concentration on the outward appearance.

God told us that human nature is to look on the outward appearance; whereas, “*God looketh on the heart*” – I Samuel 16:7

Too many of us measure our worth on our looks—hair, shape of body, face, brands of clothing, jewelry

God’s people must start living with God’s view of them and not the world’s view, friends’, commercials

I’ve entitled this series “Reclaiming the Biblical Woman, Part 3” – finish up this section Then in April – vs. 11-15

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 3

There is a need to teach women in the family of God who come into the house of God to dress properly.

If you are a Christian – look Christian.

You come to church to worship God, not to show off your clothes or your flesh.

If you are a female and you know Jesus Christ, what does God expect of you?

As a woman of the church, that is where Godly womanhood is to be rolemodeled.

I Timothy 3:15, *“But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.”*

We must train the congregation in God’s rules for the church which are greatly different than the world’s ideals and standards.

Many of the women who come into church come out of heathen backgrounds.

They look like the world, dress like the world.

But the demeanor of a woman of God is different.

Women in the church dress differently than women in the world.

God’s women are supposed to be demonstrating humble godliness, not appearing like prostitutes or showy pagan women.

How does a woman discern the sometimes fine line between proper dress and dressing to be the center of attention?

The answer starts in the intent of the heart.

A woman should examine her motives and goals for the way she dresses.

A woman who focuses on worshiping God will consider carefully how she is dressed, because her heart will dictate her wardrobe and appearance.

Mothers/daughters – be women of dignity – dress as a woman of honor.

If it's too tight or too low or too short, it is immodest.

This detailed the appearance. Now, let us look at the

The Testimony of Women – 2:10

Those women who profess godliness should support that testimony with their demeanor and appearance.

Good works must mark Christian women.

Godliness refers to reverence to God.

She cannot contradict God's design for her in the church and yet claim to love Him.

Works are more important than the wardrobe.

Vs. 10 calls for more or spiritual activity than on shopping, dressing, fixing, and primping.

A woman's works for Christ should be more visible than her hairdo, jewelry, and clothes.

Great energy and finances are spent on beautification, but let's not forget great energy and finances for God.

Paul did not suggest that good works are a substitute for clothing!

I want to make it very clear that I feel that a woman should dress as nicely as she possibly can.

Yes, we need to be appropriately clothed – neat and orderly and look our best – but the emphasis is on Godly fear and good works.

Paul was contrasting the value between the outward adorning – with the true values of Godly character and Christian service.

Glamour can be partially applied on the outside, but Godliness must come from within.

Physical beauty and spiritual beauty are not the same thing.

He contrasts something we wear – with something we do.

In contrast of coming into the public assembly and trying to be distinguished because
of what you have on, No,

We should come in distinguished by our good works and Christian service.

Vs. 10 – “That which becometh” – that which is conspicuous about women

That which stands out about women – God-fearing women

A woman professes Godliness – she wants it to be known that she is a God-fearer – a
child of the King, not of this world

She reverences God.

There is an adorning that is conspicuous to those who are God-fearers and to those
who are not God-fearers.

She is conspicuous for what? Her costume jewelry, her diamonds, her \$1,000 dresses,
her sequins?

Ladies, when people think of you, what do they think of?

Church women should be known for their good works that back up their clear
profession of faith.

They should think of good works.

In the New Testament, God praises women for their good works.

Luke 8:3 – Joanna and Susanna, Magdalene

These ladies ministered to the Lord out of their substance

Jesus’ ministry was well-supported by faithful women.

★God’s women should be known for what they do, not just how they look.

Do you remember Dorcas – Acts 9:36?

She did many good works – when she died, the people wept.

They showed all the coats and clothing that she had made.

These are proper examples. This is what a woman should aspire to.

This is what I want God to remember me for.

That is what the passage is teaching.

In I Timothy 5:9-10 – if the widow was to be taken on by the church to have her income subsidized, she was to be well reported of for her good works and then it names them

Listen, ladies, apply this standard to yourself – if you're married and you have children

She brought up children

She lodged strangers – hospitality

She washed the saints' feet – humble servant

She relieved the afflicted

She diligently followed every good work

This is God's will for ladies' adornment.

Look back – I Timothy 2:9-10

Verse 10 gives the balance between overkill and modesty and dress and works.

If we talked about what you do for God and compare that to the time before mirrors – who would win?

It's the inner qualities of a woman that makes a woman beautiful – this cannot be taught enough.

I'm not going to give a dress code – I'm not into a legalistic list – I'm not going to do that

Immodesty can be clothes too rich or too little.

Immodesty certainly covers clothes that are too tight.

If you had to stand on a chair and jump into your . . .

If your clothes fit you like a rubber suit,

God is not asking a woman to look plain or to look like a hag. He is not saying that. But neither should a woman seek to be provocative in her dress and you are if it is too tight or if it is too short.

Some things are only for your husband.

There can be attire that is appropriate while standing up and not appropriate after sitting down.

Be a woman of God – modest and discreet with dignity – and a healthy respect for God.

What then is modest apparel? Such as covers them completely and decently

We need to shop with God in mind.

Let us stand for closing invitation.

Women, are you known for your servant's heart?

Gospel