

Chapters 8-10: Paul prohibits the Corinthians from being involved in pagan worship.

In Chapter 11, Paul turns to address three items of abuse in their own worship services:

- **A concern of women's head coverings in the context of public worship (11:2-16)**
- The abuse of the poor when celebrating the Lord's Supper (11:17-34)
- The abuse of speaking in tongues in public worship services (Chapters 12-14)

General Thoughts to Keep in Mind

Verses 2-3

1. Paul lists four people (or groups of people) and says there is a "headship" relation among them. List the four people and describe the nature of their relationship.

Verse 4

2. What is our first clue to identifying the problem facing the Corinthian congregation?

Corinthian thought:

3. Why would a man having his head covered during public worship "shame" Christ, his head?

Paul's argument:

Verses 5-6

Two Corinthian-societal aspects worth noting:

1)

2)

Paul's argument:

4. What are some current societal "norms" of projecting masculinity and femininity?

Verse 7

Paul's argument:

Verses 8-9

5. When was this relationship (the principle in v3) established between men and women?

[Verse 10](#)

“For this reason...”

ἐξουσίαν - NIV84 vs. NIV11

“because of the angels” – Who does “angels” refer to?

[Verses 11-12](#)

6. The relationship between men and women could lead a person to think the two should live independently. How does Paul correct that mistaken notion?

[Verses 13-15](#)

[Verse 16](#)

7. Why does Paul direct the Corinthians women to wear head coverings in worship?

[Apply It](#)

- a) Why do we not insist that women wear hats to worship?
- b) So Pastor, make this make sense! Does Paul want Christ-followers to stand out or blend in?! How is Paul not making extra laws for Christians to follow?
- c) Evaluate: “The _____ church is too oppressive. I never feel like I can fully express myself.”
- d) Some congregations want to establish customs apart from other churches in their fellowship. Why is this dangerous? At all beneficial?