

Adornment

WHAT IS ADORNMENT?

Definitions

- "Something that adds attractiveness" (Dictionary).
- "Generally an accessory or ornament worn to enhance the beauty or status of the wearer, often worn to embellish, enhance, or distinguish the wearer, and to define cultural, social, or religious status within a specific community. When worn to show economic status, the items are often either rare or prohibitively expensive to others. Adornments are usually colorful and worn to attract attention" (Wikipedia).
- Strong's G2889 ("adorning"): ornaments, decorations (Strong's Concordance).
- Strong's G2885 ("adorn"): to put in proper order, arrange (Strong's Concordance).

ADORNMENT includes jewelry but is not limited to jewelry.

Adornment in the Bible

- Isaiah 61:10 – does this endorse jewelry?
 - "ornaments" _____
 - "jewels" _____
- Jeremiah 31:4 – "adorned with tabrets"
 - "tabrets" _____
- Luke 21:5 – "adorned with stones & gifts"
 - What was adorned? _____
- 1 Timothy 2:9 – what are women to adorn themselves with? _____

- 1 Peter 3:3 – what adornment is to be shunned? _____
- 1 Peter 3:4 – what ornament is to be put on? _____

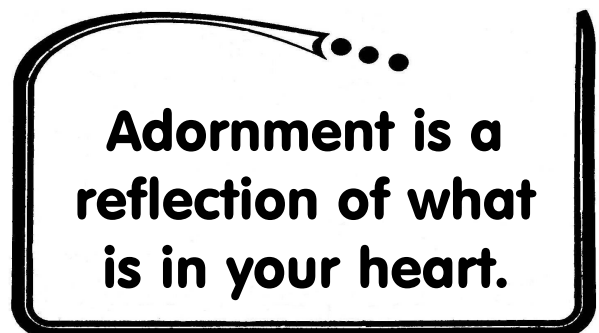
Popular Opinions

- "The outside doesn't matter as long as the heart is right."
- "God looks on the heart."
- "God doesn't care what you wear."
- "It's okay if used in moderation."
- "Everyone else is doing it."

"In ancient times bodily ornamentation were associated with pagan worship practices and personal self-decoration for beauty. Today, bodily ornamentation are mostly for self-beautification and sexual appeal" (Christian Dress & Adornment).

Adornment

- Put off: _____
- Put on: _____



Youth Bible Study

Compare the Adornment of 2 Women

- The church (Revelation 12:1) _____

- False religion (Revelation 17:4) _____

The Wedding Ring

History

- Beginnings – believed to be in Egypt
- Circle – represents never-ending love
- Worn as a symbol of ownership, status, and submission
- Pope Gregory I – engagement ring decree
- 1919 – a drop in diamond sales
- "A diamond is forever" campaign
- WW2 – men began to wear wedding rings

Rejected by:

- Methodists (following Wesley's teachings)
- Mennonites
- Early Baptists
- Seventh Day Adventists
- Sixth-seal Church of God
- Early Holiness Movements (Pentecostals)
- "There was a time in America when the majority of Christians did not wear jewelry of any kind. The emphasis on personal holiness fell into decline in the later 1800s, and from that time wedding rings became more and more accepted" (Jewelry/Wedding Rings).

Reasons Given for Wedding Rings

- "Lets people know you are married"
- "It is expected"
- "Shows your commitment to your spouse"
- "Helps you to fit in"
- "Reminds you that you are married"

Wedding Ring Concerns

- Opens the door for other jewelry
- Missed opportunities to witness
- Cause for envy
- Is it good stewardship?
- It can be addictive
- Worn by nuns & priests
- Considered a "anti-cheating" device
- A spiritual meaning is being given to something with pagan origins

Did You Know?

- Prince William, President Trump, and many other public figures have chosen to not wear wedding rings.
- Many couples report removing their rings when they are angry. (Eternal love?)
- Not wearing a ring: One in eight polled said they would be judged as boring if people knew they were married.
- Some women see a wedding ring on a man as a challenge and will flirt more.

Jewelry/Ornaments in the Bible

- Sometimes used for the temple, sacrifices, currency, financial status, as symbols of civil or religious power.
- Condemned when used for idolatrous or magical purposes.
- Isaiah 3:16-21 – the Lord will take away "bracelets, earrings, the rings, and nose jewels"
- Exodus 33:5 "stiffnecked" – "put off thy ornaments"
- Jeremiah 4:30 "art spoiled" – "thou deckest thee with ornaments"
- 1 Corinthians 6:20 – "glorify God in your body"
- Ezekiel 23:40 – speaking of harlots & idolaters; "thou didst . . . deckedst thyself with ornaments"
- Genesis 35:1-4 – Jacob & his family returned to Bethel; they buried their strange gods and jewelry before making an altar to God

Studying to gain a greater understanding of the Bible and be changed by it.