

I Peter 3:3-6

Focus On The Inward And Being In Subjection

I. Introduction: Remember, we are talking in this context about a Christian woman that is married to a non-Christian man (**I Peter 3:1-2**).

A. Dressing up something/someone to look good doesn't change what that person or thing really is internally (**Matthew 23:27-28**).

1. We should be concerned about what the Lord sees (**I Samuel 16:7**).
2. Not about what the world says looks good (**Luke 16:15** and **Romans 12:1-2**).

B. Think about outward beauty being vain in contrast to a woman that fears the Lord (**Proverbs 31:30**).

1. What good is it to ornament a pig (**Proverbs 11:22**)?
2. The evil woman might look good. She might use that beauty to her carnal advantage (**Proverbs 6:23-26**).
3. What makes any person, male or female, "good" is God's view of that person (**Deuteronomy 6:18**; cf. **III John 1:11**).

II. Body: *"Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement"* (**I Peter 3:3-6**).

A. Whose adorning is not outward "window dressing" (**I Timothy 2:8-15**).

1. The word translated "adorning" [κόσμος]: "Orderly arrangement, that is, decoration; by implication the world (in a wide or narrow sense, including its inhabitants, literally or figuratively [morally]): - adorning, world" (Strong's # 2889).

a. Mostly translated "world" (@ 186 times), i.e. **Matthew 4:8**, **Matthew 5:14**, **Matthew 13:35**, **Mark 16:15**, etc.

b. Interestingly, notice the word "world" and the context in **I John 2:15-17** (each time you see the word "world", it is the same Greek word).

2. The women of Judah were outwardly beautiful, but were really filthy (**Isaiah 3:16-24** and **Isaiah 4:4**).

3. Men would do well to look for a woman who does not use her outward appearance to get what she wants. An evil woman can use her looks to manipulate men (**Proverbs 2:16-19**, **Proverbs 7:10-27**, and **Ecclesiastes 7:26**).

B. Let it be the hidden man [human being; inwardly - **Romans 2:29**] of the heart (**I Timothy 1:5**).

1. Starting within (**Matthew 23:26** and **Ephesians 4:22-24**).
2. Not corruptible, meaning the immortal [cf. **I Timothy 1:17**]. Thus, showing the godly woman's focus is on the spiritual rather than on the carnal (**Romans 8:5-8**).
 - a. The outward is perishing (**II Corinthians 4:16**).
 - b. There has to be some balance here. The godly wife does care, to a degree (**I Corinthians 7:31**), about some carnality to please her husband (**I Corinthians 7:34**).
3. Meek [mild; humble] (**Matthew 5:5**).
4. Quiet [peaceable; cf. **I Timothy 2:2**] (**Romans 14:19**; cf. **Proverbs 12:4**, **Proverbs 19:13**, **Proverbs 21:9**, and **Proverbs 25:24**).
5. This woman, in the sight of God, is very precious (**Proverbs 31:10**).

C. Holy women of the past, who trusted in God (**I Timothy 5:5**), adorned [cf. **Luke 21:5** and **Revelation 21:2**] themselves with the aforementioned conduct and were in subjection to their own husbands like Sara.

1. We've talked about subjection in this context (**I Peter 3:1**).
2. Sara referred to Abraham as Lord (**Genesis 18:12**).
3. Consider how Sara followed Abraham and the pattern of faith that establishes (**Hebrews 11:8-15**).
4. Being the daughters of Sara in the like figure of what all saints are in Christ to Abraham (**Galatians 3:26-29**).

III. Conclusion: Our Next Study; *"Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered"* (**I Peter 3:7**).