

FA15. Women Dressing Modestly and Not Adorning Themselves While in Prayer.

Women are to dress modestly and not adorn themselves while in prayer.

FA15a: *Women are to dress modestly while in prayer.*

FA15b: *Women are not to adorn themselves while in prayer.*

This precept is derived from His Word (blessed is He):

Key New Testament Scriptures

1 Timothy 2:9-10

Likewise, the women, when they pray, should be dressed modestly and sensibly in respectable attire, not with elaborate hairstyles and gold jewelry, or pearls, or expensive clothes. Rather, they should adorn themselves with what is appropriate for women who claim to be worshipping God, namely, good deeds.

Additional New Testament Scriptures

1 Peter 3:3-4

Related New Testament Mitzvot

FB04 Women Dressing Modestly at All Times

Supportive Tanakh Scriptures

1 Samuel 16:7

But ADONAI said to Sh'mu'el, "Don't pay attention to how he looks or how tall he is, because I have rejected him. ADONAI doesn't see the way humans see- humans look at the outward appearance, but ADONAI looks at the heart."

Proverbs 11:22

Like a gold ring in the snout of a pig is a beautiful woman who lacks good sense.

Comment

Clothing is fabric that we don to conceal parts of our bodies, and adornments are beautifying additions to our clothing and bodies such as jewelry. When Scripture speaks of dressing modestly during prayer it is referring to clothing that calls undue attention to the wearer and has the effect of distracting others who are similarly in prayer. While not stated in this *Mitzvah*, it applies to men as well as women, but it is especially applicable to women because women (more-so than men) are conscious of their physical appearance and attractiveness, while men tend to be more susceptible to feminine visual distraction.

The broader principle of this *Mitzvah* for women to dress modestly, not only while in prayer but at all times, is dealt with in *Mitzvah* #FB4 further on in this compilation. Please be aware that this *Mitzvah* #FA15 does not eschew being well dressed during prayer, nor does it require women to cover themselves completely nor avoid all adornments. It only forbids those articles of clothing and adornments that the prevailing society and natural attraction of men for women would consider immodest and problematic.

Related Mitzvot in Volumes 1 & 2

None