

# Covering Principles for the Bride

YHWH is bringing many sons to Glory. As part of this process, those that will bear His Glory are to understand YHWH's requirements for bearing this Glory.

In this writing, we will look at several aspects of YHWH's Glory. We will narrow our focus to the Scriptures that reveal a very important Truth: that wherever YHWH's Glory resides, He requires an appropriate covering of that Glory.

We will look first at two basic principles laid out in Scripture, and then we will observe the inspired commentary in the New Testament, as revealed by the Holy Spirit to the Apostle Paul.

## First Principle

Notice the following passages in Exodus and Numbers:

### Here is the Covering required for the Tabernacle while stationary:

14 And thou shalt make a covering for the tent of rams' skins dyed red, and a covering above of badgers' skins. (Exodus 26:14)

19 And he made a covering for the tent of rams' skins dyed red, and a covering of badgers' skins above that. (Exodus 36:19)

### Here is the Covering required for the Ark of Testimony and all its Furniture when in transit:

5 And when the camp setteth forward, Aaron shall come, and his sons, and they shall take down the covering vail, and cover the ark of testimony with it:

6 And shall put thereon the covering of badgers' skins, and shall spread over it a cloth wholly of blue, and shall put in the staves thereof.

7 And upon the table of shewbread they shall spread a cloth of blue, and put thereon the dishes, and the spoons, and the bowls, and covers to cover withal: and the continual bread shall be thereon:

8 And they shall spread upon them a cloth of scarlet, and cover the same with a covering of badgers' skins, and shall put in the staves thereof.

9 And they shall take a cloth of blue, and cover the candlestick of the light, and his lamps, and his tongs, and his snuffdishes, and all the oil vessels thereof, wherewith they minister unto it:

10 And they shall put it and all the vessels thereof within a covering of badgers' skins, and shall put it upon a bar.

11 And upon the golden altar they shall spread a cloth of blue, and cover it with a covering of badgers' skins, and shall put to the staves thereof:

12 And they shall take all the instruments of ministry, wherewith they minister in the sanctuary, and put them in a cloth of blue, and cover them with a covering of badgers' skins, and shall put them on a bar:

13 And they shall take away the ashes from the altar, and spread a purple cloth thereon:

14 And they shall put upon it all the vessels thereof, wherewith they minister about it, even the censers, the fleshhooks, and the shovels, and the basons, all the vessels of the altar; and they shall spread upon it a covering of badgers' skins, and put to the staves of it.

15 And when Aaron and his sons have made an end of covering the sanctuary, and all the vessels of the sanctuary, as the camp is to set forward; after that, the sons of Kohath shall come to bear it: but they shall not touch any holy thing, lest they die. These things are the burden of the sons of Kohath in the tabernacle of the congregation. (Numbers 4:5-15)

### **Here is the Covering required for the Tabernacle when in transit:**

25 And they shall bear the curtains of the tabernacle, and the tabernacle of the congregation, his covering, and the covering of the badgers' skins that is above upon it, and the hanging for the door of the tabernacle of the congregation... (Numbers 4:25)

The first basic principle is seen in the passages above. Notice the highlighted words, each indicating some type of cloth for covering. Notice that in many cases, this cloth covering is a "double" covering, consisting of two separate coverings, one on top of the other.

We can see from the Exodus passages above, that YHWH required the Tabernacle to have this double-covering, while stationary. Likewise, while in transit, the Numbers passages reveal that the Tabernacle, and the Ark of the Covenant (Ark of Testimony), and each item of its furniture, were to be covered. These will serve as examples for us, when we discover the reason behind these coverings.

### **Second Principle:**

Now notice the following passage in Isaiah Chapter 4:

5 And YHWH will create upon every dwelling place of mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night: for upon all the glory shall be a defence <02646>. (Isaiah 4:5)

The Second basic principle can be seen in the above passage in Isaiah. First, notice that the Hebrew word translated "defense" is the word chuppah, Strong's number <02646>, meaning "chamber or canopy", and is from the word chapha, Strong's <02645>, meaning "to cover or be covered."

We know from Psalms 132:13-14, that "Mount Zion" is figurative of the dwelling place of YHWH. So the Isaiah 4:5 passage above is telling us that "upon every dwelling place of YHWH" will be His Glory, and that "upon all His Glory is to be a covering."

With the understanding of the Isaiah 4 passage, we are able to understand a little more about the Numbers 4 passages, and why the Tabernacle of the Congregation, and the Ark of the Covenant (Ark of Testimony) and all its furniture, had to be covered. It is because the Tabernacle of the Congregation, and in particular the Ark of the Covenant (Ark of Testimony), was a 'dwelling place' of YHWH Himself. Here is where His Glory resided. Here is where the "coverings" were required.

The Ark of Testimony, and over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercy seat - all speak of that one New Covenant Truth: Messiah in you, the Hope of Glory (Col 1:27). This Truth of man's body being the "Tabernacle of YHWH" and the "Temple of the Holy Spirit" was seen in Numbers 19:13, and confirmed to us by Yahushua Himself in John 2:21, and by the Apostle Paul in 1Corinthians 6:19 and in 2Corinthians 5:1-4.

So we realize now that the Glory of the Ark, and the Furniture, and the entire Tabernacle

of the Congregation, speaks of YHWH Himself abiding within Man. As a believer in Yahushua, your body is now the dwelling place of His Glory. Your body is His dwelling place, and it must be covered.

The Glory of the indwelling YHWH, as seen in the Ark and its furniture, and all its coverings - is for Mankind. The Tabernacle, and the Ark and all its furniture, were the 'dwelling place' of YHWH, and all foretell of "His People" as His dwelling place today.

YHWH Himself, dwelling within His people individually, and within the Congregation or assemblies corporately, are both places where His "Glory" dwells. Therefore they must be appropriately covered.

## **Covering the Glory**

It is very probable that the Apostle Paul understood the Numbers passages of the covered Glory of YHWH, and also YHWH's requirement in Isaiah that "all the glory" must be covered. These two sets of passages form the probable reasoning behind the Corinthians passages on coverings. Having this understanding of the coverings passages in Numbers and Isaiah, we will now examine the Corinthians passages.

3 But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Messiah; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Messiah is Elohim. (1Corinthians 11:3)

7 For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of Elohim; but the woman is the glory of the man. (1Corinthians 11:7)

10 For this cause ought the woman to have power <1849> on her head because of the angels. (1 Corinthians 11:10)

15 But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering. (1 Corinthians 11:15)

In the Corinthians passages above we see four things:

1. the man is the glory of YHWH;
2. the woman is the glory of the man;
3. her hair has been given to her for a covering;
4. her hair itself, is a "glory."

These passages, along with the Isaiah passage, tell the story for us clearly, even illustrating the pattern set out for us in Numbers:

1. the man is the glory of YHWH, thus he needs a covering per Isaiah 4:5;
2. Messiah is the Head of Man, and becomes man's "covering," meeting the requirement of Isa 4:5;
3. the woman is the glory of the man, thus she needs a covering per Isaiah 4:5;
4. her hair has been given to her for a covering, meeting the requirement of #3;
5. her hair itself, is a "glory," and thus her long hair needs a covering per Isaiah 4:5;

## **The Glory of the Man**

Now we can see this more clearly. The man is the Glory of YHWH, and as such requires the double-covering to cover the Glory. It is obvious that YHWH has given men and women hair to meet this first covering requirement. We now look to see how the second covering requirement is to be met for the man.

From the 1Corinthians passages, we see that the second covering requirement of the man

can be met by man's spiritual Head. That spiritual head is Messiah Himself. It appears from these Biblical passages that the man's hair, together with the Headship-Covering of Messiah, meet YHWH's requirement for the double-covering of the Glory of YHWH within the man. The covering of the Glory for the woman, however, appears a little more complicated.

## **The Glory of the Woman**

We are told in 1Corinthians 11:7 that the woman is the Glory of the man. As such, she needs the same double-covering as the man, to cover the Glory that she is. Her first covering is the obvious presence of her hair, which is given to the woman as a covering, as stated in 1Corinthians 11:15. This is the Greek word "peribolaion," Strong's number <4018>, and is the first covering for the woman, who is herself the Glory of the Man.

The woman's hair, however, is itself a Glory, necessitating its own additional covering. She can not take credit for her hair being her second covering, because her hair is already designated as a first covering. She must now provide an additional covering, to cover the Glory which is her hair.

We can see from 1Corinthians 11:10 that the woman is to provide a "token" covering to meet this second covering requirement. The word translated "power" in verse 10 is the Greek word *exousia*, Strong's <1849>, meaning "token or sign of authority." This token covering is a "sign" that the woman is under YHWH's headship order, as the Strong's definition of the Greek word indicates - under the headship of the man - and that she is indeed covering her Glory as YHWH requires.

This second covering is the covering, or veil, spoken of in 1Corinthians 11:6. This is the Greek word "katakalypto," Strong's number <2619>, which is a different word from <4018> seen above. This cloth covering now becomes the outermost covering, and designates to all the Heavenly Host that the woman is under the headship of a father or husband. This token cloth covering becomes a sign that the Glory reflected by the woman, of the father or husband, is indeed a "Glory," and not a "shame," since the Glory is appropriately and adequately covered.

This cloth covering most appropriately reflects the glorious and set-apart nature of the Bride of Messiah. Just as the various articles of the Tabernacle were to be covered because of their glorious and set-apart nature, so the Bride will correspondingly cover herself.

## **Conclusion**

We have seen that where the Glory of YHWH dwells, a double-covering is required. We have also seen the expression of this Glory in the man, and in the woman. We have seen how hair is both a covering, and a Glory. We have seen that a cloth can be used to cover the Glory. This is just as we see in the examples of the Tabernacle, and of the Ark and its furniture, in the Book of Numbers.

From the examples in Numbers, and from the testimony of Isaiah, and the Holy Spirit-inspired commentary by the Apostle Paul, we have now come to realize that the hair covering issue is not a "cultural" issue at all, but an issue of fulfilling all righteousness, just as the water-baptism issue was for Yahushua in Matthew 3:15. It is one of bringing Glory to our Creator, and our head, when we follow His instructions and the examples in His Word.

The Bride-Candidates have this one characteristic: Messiah-in-them is their Glory. Wherever the Glory of YHWH resides, there is the appropriate covering found.

The physical cloth covering of the females' hair is surely an issue of "fulfilling all righteousness." It is the Bride-Candidates who have this desire and focus - to fulfill all Righteousness, just as did their Bridegroom. It is the Bride-Candidates who, having the Glory of YHWH, have the desire to be fully covered.