



## BIBLE TALK

**Mike King**

Question: Is it wrong for a Christian to wear jewelry?

Answer: This is a very good question which the Bible does address. Peter says concerning wives: *“Do not let your adornment be merely outward—arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel—rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God”* (1 Pet. 3:3-4). Paul, in writing to Timothy, said: *“the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing, but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works”* (1 Tim. 2:9-10).

The New Testament’s teaching is that the Lord’s people should not depend or rely upon outward adornment, but that the chief adornment should be a righteous life adorned with a meek and quiet spirit. People at that time relied upon outward adornment for attraction; but Paul and Peter emphasized the adornment of spirit and character instead of the body. The Bible does not forbid giving attention to the body. This should be done; but the chief attention should be given to *“the inner man,”* or *“the hidden man of the heart.”* The New Testament does not so much forbid a proper use of bodily adornment as it stresses the adornment of the inner person. Extreme mode of dress or bedecking with jewels portrays the wrong kind of image and sets the wrong example before others. These bodily adornments usually portray a worldly mind and a lack of spirituality by the users. The Lord’s people should put on humility, modesty, and righteousness in the service of God. What we **are** is more important than what we **have**, so we need to be careful and not communicate the wrong message.

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