**JEWELRY IN THE BIBLE**

The question is, does the wearing of jewelry and make-up goes against the scripture?

Let's go through several passages of scripture on the topic.

**Genesis 24:22, 30, 53**

**22***And it came to pass, as the camels had done drinking, that the man took a golden earring of half a shekel weight, and two bracelets for her hands of ten shekels weight of gold.*

***30*** *And it came to pass, when he saw the earring and bracelets upon his sister's hands, and when he heard the words of Rebekah his sister, saying, thus Spake the man unto me; that he came unto the man; and behold, he stood by the camels at the well.*

**Genesis 24:53**

*Then the servant brought out gold and silver jewelry and articles of clothing and gave them to Rebekah; he also gave costly gifts to her brother and to her mother.*

**Building of the Sanctuary**

**Exodus 35:22**

*All who were willing, men and women alike, came and brought gold jewelry of all kinds: brooches, earrings, rings and ornaments. They all presented their gold as a wave offering to the Lord.*

**Song of Songs 1:10**

*Your cheeks are beautiful with earrings, your neck with strings of jewels.*

**Song of Songs 4:9**

*You have stolen my heart, my sister, my bride; you have stolen my heart with one glance of your eyes, with one jewel of your necklace.*

David lamented with this lamentation over Saul and over Jonathan his son

**2 Samuel 1:24**

*“Daughters of Israel, weep for Saul, who clothed you in scarlet and finery, who adorned your garments with ornaments of gold.*

**Jeremiah 2:32**

*Does a young woman forget her jewelry, a bride her wedding ornaments? Yet my people have forgotten me, days without number.*

**Isaiah 54:12**

*I will make your battlements of rubies, your gates of sparkling jewels, and all your walls of precious stones.*

**Isaiah 61:10**

*I delight greatly in the Lord; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.*

**Proverbs 1:9**

*They are a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck.*

**Ezekiel 16 (NKJV)**

*1 Again the word of the Lord came to me, saying, 2 “Son of man, cause Jerusalem to know her abominations, 3 and say, ‘Thus says the Lord God to Jerusalem: “Your birth and your nativity are from the land of Canaan; your father was an Amorite and your mother a Hittite.*

*4 As for your nativity, on the day you were born your navel cord was not cut, nor were you washed in water to cleanse you; you were not rubbed with salt nor wrapped in swaddling* *cloths.*

*5 No eye pitied you, to do any of these things for you, to have compassion on you; but you were thrown out into the open field, when you yourself were loathed on the day you were born*

*6 “And when I passed by you and saw you struggling in your own blood, I said to you in your blood, ‘Live!’ Yes, I said to you in your blood, ‘Live!’*

*7 I made you thrive like a plant in the field; and you grew, matured, and became very beautiful. Your breasts were formed, your hair grew, but you were naked and bare.*

*8 “When I passed by you again and looked upon you, indeed your time was the time of love; so, I spread My wing over you and covered your nakedness. Yes, I swore an oath to you and entered into a covenant with you, and you became Mine,” says the Lord God.*

*9“Then I washed you in water; yes, I thoroughly washed off your blood, and I anointed you with oil. 10 I clothed you in embroidered cloth and gave you sandals of badger skin; I clothed you with fine linen and covered you with silk.*

*11 I adorned you with ornaments, put bracelets on your wrists, and a chain on your neck. 12 And I put a jewel in your nose, earrings in your ears, and a beautiful crown on your head.*

*13 Thus you were adorned with gold and silver, and your clothing was of fine linen, silk, and embroidered cloth. You ate pastry of fine flour, honey, and oil. You were exceedingly beautiful and succeeded to royalty.*

*14 Your fame went out among the nations because of your beauty, for it was perfect through My splendor which I had bestowed on you,” says the Lord God.*

*15 “But you trusted in your own beauty, played the harlot because of your fame, and poured out your harlotry on everyone passing by who would have it. 16 You took some of your garments and adorned multicolored high places for yourself and 17 You have also taken your beautiful jewelry from My gold and My silver, which I had given you, and made for yourself male images and played the harlot with them. played the harlot with them.*

*18 You took your embroidered garments and covered them, and you set My oil and My incense before them. 9 Also My food which I gave you—the pastry of fine flour, oil, and honey which I fed you—you set it before them as sweet incense; and so, it was,” says the Lord God.*

*20 “Moreover you took your sons and your daughters, whom you bore to Me, and these you sacrificed to them to be devoured. Were your acts of harlotry a small matter, 21 that you have slain My children and offered them up to them by causing them to pass through the fire?*

*22 And in all your abominations and acts of harlotry you did not remember the days of your youth, when you were naked and bare, struggling in your blood.*

In **Isaiah 3:15-23**, God was warning Israel about abusing the poor. The people of Israel continued to ignore the needy, therefore God threatened to strike the Israelite women with scab on their heads and take away all of their regalia, including, perfume, rings, scarves, purses, necklaces, mirrors, and fine dresses, if they continued to illtreat the poor.

**(Note: the scarf, perfume, purse, mirror, and fine dresses are all treated exactly the same as jewelry: no different, no better, no worse.**

**All of those things are “finery.”)**

Does **I Peter 2:9** s*ay we should look ‘different, peculiar, weird’?”*

*"****9*** *But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a* ***peculiar*** *people..."*

No. The text does not say that! The word “peculiar” mean to “belong to”.

How does Jesus say people will recognize a Christian?

**John 13:35**

*"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."*

Peter went on to say **1 Peter 3:3,4**

***3*** *Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel.*

***4*** *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.*

These verses do not forbid women from styling their hair, nor it prohibit women from putting on jewelry, make-up or a beautiful dress. There are other item mentioned in the text that we should not conveniently overlook namely the *plaiting of the hair and putting on of apparel.*

*Nobody is saying that we should not put on clothes, nor we should not be plaiting our hair because we understand that there is a context and likewise the wearing of gold.*

Remember what Jeremiah said in **Jeremiah 2:32 under inspiration:**

***32 Can a maid forget her ornaments, or a bride her attire?*** *yet my people have forgotten me days without number.*

Israel at the borders of the promise land

**Exodus 33:3-4**

***3*** *Unto a land flowing with milk and honey: for I will not go up in the midst of thee; for thou art a stiffnecked people: lest I consume thee in the way.*

***4*** *And when the people heard these evil tidings,* ***they mourned****: and no man did put on him his ornaments.*

That was a sign of mourning, similar to the custom of putting on sackcloth and ashes.

They were mourning over God’s threat not to go with them to the Promised Land. It was in that context that God had said, *If I were to go with you ..., I might destroy you*.

"Now go into this act of mourning and I will decide what to do with you.”

Of course, centuries later, God reminded Israel that He gave them jewelry as a blessing for beauty:

*“I gave you lovely jewelry, bracelets, beautiful necklaces, a ring for your nose, earrings for your ears, . . . so you were adorned with gold and silver. . . . more beautiful than ever”* **(Ezekiel 16:11-14)**.

**1 Timothy 2:9-15** "**9** In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array.

**10** But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works.

**11** Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection.

**12** But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence."

**13** For Adam was first formed, then Eve.

**14** And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

**15** Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

**Jezebel**

**Jezebel**, who practiced sorcery and murder, was judged for her wicked deeds, not for her appearance.

**2 Kings 9: 22 "***And it came to pass, when Joram saw Jehu, that he said, Is it peace, Jehu? And he answered, What peace, so long as the whoredoms of thy mother Jezebel and her witchcrafts are so many?"*

**The Exodus**

God told Moses to command the Israelite women to take silver and gold jewelry and put it on their daughters.

**Exodus 3:22***But every woman shall borrow of her neighbor, and of her that sojourneth in her house, jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment:*

*and ye shall put them upon your sons, and upon*

*your daughters; and ye shall spoil the Egyptians.*

“Thus says the Lord God [to the King of Tyre:] ‘You were the seal of perfection,

“As an earring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold, so is a wise counsel to an obedient ear.” Proverbs 25:12

Jesus mentioned a ring in a positive light **(Luke 15:22)**

22 “*But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring out the best robe and put it on him and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet".*