

1 Cor 11:1-16 (NASV)	Universal/local truth? Applicable today?
1 Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ.	Universal truth
2 Now I praise you because you remember me in everything and hold firmly to the traditions, just as I delivered them to you.	Does “now” suggest a transition to another thought? 1 Cor 12:1
3 But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ.	Universal truth. Married women or all women?
4 Every man who has <i>something</i> on his head while praying or prophesying disgraces his head.	Observation - why do men remove their hats in public invocations, etc?
5 But every woman who has her head uncovered while praying or prophesying disgraces her head, for she is one and the same as the woman whose head is shaved.	Observation – what is society’s view about women and shaved heads. Example – Manson followers.
6 For if a woman does not cover her head, let her also have her hair cut off; but if it is disgraceful for a woman to have her hair cut off or her head shaved, let her cover her head.	Does “also” imply that two coverings exist – the symbolic covering and hair? NASV, NKJV, ASV, others
7 For a man ought not to have his head covered, since he is the image and glory of God; but the woman is the glory of man.	Universal truth
8 For man does not originate from woman, but woman from man;	Universal truth
9 for indeed man was not created for the woman’s sake, but woman for the man’s sake.	Universal truth
10 Therefore the woman ought to have <i>a symbol of</i> authority on her head, because of the angels.	Angels (still exist) – not local
11 However, in the Lord, neither is woman independent of man, nor is man independent of woman.	Universal truth
12 For as the woman originates from the man, so also the man <i>has his birth</i> through the woman; and all things originate from God.	Universal truth
13 Judge for yourselves: is it proper for a woman to pray to God <i>with her head</i> uncovered?	
14 Does not even nature itself teach you that if a man has long hair, it is a dishonor to him,	“Nature” suggests more than local to Corinth.
15 but if a woman has long hair, it is a glory to her? For her hair is given to her for a covering.	Universal
16 But if one is inclined to be contentious, we have no other practice, nor have the churches of God.	This apply to vs 14-15 or entire context? What is the contention and practice – those who cover or those who don’t?

Consider

- 1 Issue is not - previous practice (yours, mine, theirs) or the majority
- 2 The **reason** not to cover is just as important as the **action** to cover or not cover. Baptism by immersion (action) into John's baptism was still insufficient, as it didn't recognize the Christ
- 3 Should the various universal truths listed in this text suggest the entire passage to be universally applicable?
- 4 Many unanswered questions exist, regardless of the position held. Books have been written, debates have occurred. Differences exist among good brethren as to how this applies today
 - a. J Jenkins (others at Humble CoC) – hair is the symbol of authority, Fontenot – local custom, Others – spiritual gifts
 - b. Himes – public worship only, Others – all prayers
- 5 Humble CoC financially supports and has had several men in gospel meetings who actively teach the need for women to cover their heads – Mike Cox, Karl & David Diestelkamp, Rick Liggin, Paul Williams (written a book on it)
- 6 This doesn't appear to be similar to feet washing John 13:12ff or holy kiss/greeting Rom 16:16
- 7 Comments on custom
 - a. Note that half of a chapter provided via inspiration, only to dismiss it as a local custom or that individual Christians should choose.
 - b. New Testament times common practices don't fit.
 - i. **Jews** – men covered their heads. Lightfoot, Commentary on New Testament from the Talmud and Hebraicas, IV, pp 229-231
 - ii. **Romans** – both sexes covered their heads. Expositors Greek New Testament, II, pp 872-873; Robertson, Word Picture, IV, p. 159; Kittle, Theological Dictionary of New Testament Words, III, p. 562
 - iii. **Gentiles** – neither sex covered their heads. Same as ii.
 - iv. Corinth church included both Jew & Gentile Acts 18:8; 1 Cor 10:1; Rom 15:26-27. If a custom, it was unique to Corinth and Corinth alone. 1 Cor 1:2
- 8 Slandorous comments/behaviors have occurred elsewhere by both views. Hold your position with meekness and fear¹ Peter 3:15. We appreciate the attitude demonstrated at Humble CoC.
- 9 What is the safe position? I prefer that my wife covers her head, honoring me as her head as we both honor Christ.