

GENDER CONTENDER *(continued from inside)*

following. (pay attention to Acts 5:32)

Support structures of society have been being pulled and twisted for “many generations,” as in Isa. 61:4. There, we note **three things:** **1)** rebuilding work is made possible **2)** Isa 61:1 starts with the work through God’s Spirit, so needed and **3)** Jesus uses and links Isa.61:1-3 to Himself (Lk.4:18, 19).

One super-significant society support structure is womanhood. Remember, all I am talking about here is a woman’s hair as it relates to the glory of God. Also remember, the most essential glory from God that we humans can enjoy is *inward*, and as it deals directly and radically with sin in one’s life. Women *do* have a tremendous role to play in our human existence. Adam found that out.

Remember the **covering** of God’s **glory** which man enjoyed before sin entered the picture? It appears to me that the Bible gives a very clear union of these same two features of “**glory**” and “**covering**” when it speaks about the hair of a woman that is really seeking to walk with God. The Bible says, “Does not even nature itself teach you that if a man has long hair, it is a shame to him? But if a woman has long hair, it is a *glory* to her; for her hair is



BIG MISTAKE! Celebrity, Jackie Gleason, told Rocky Marciano a big mistake he made at a rough nightclub nicknamed **The Bucket of Blood** in New Jersey. A man heckled him repeatedly. He apologised to the audience and said he would be back after “taking care” of this heckler. He invited the man outside, began to speak, then woke up on the basement floor of the place, next to the furnace with a doctor at his side. The heckler was heavyweight boxer, “Two-Ton” Tony Galento. Gleason’s arrogance and not knowing who that man was got him flattened. God does not heckle us, but urges us to turn from sin and come to Him. He wants to “KO” sin from our lives, & He gave far more than a “**bucket of blood**” on that rough cross in order to do it. Most people don’t know who God is, are already close to the “furnace,” & God is trying His best to wake them up.

given to her for a covering” (1 Cor. 11: 14, 15). It doesn’t say that a veil is given for a covering, but her long hair is her glory, but *her own*. Don’t worry about gray hair, for “*The gray head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness*” (Prov. 16:31). Don’t worry about **beauty**, for God “*will crown, adorn and beautify the humble with salvation!*” (Ps. 149:4). No wonder the Bible speaks of “*the beauty*” and “*beauties of holiness!*” (Ps. 110:3; 96:9).

As with clothing, so with a woman’s hair—modesty and simplicity are the principal, with the guiding light of God’s Word, the Bible.

God wants the distinction kept intact between the two sexes He created. Yes, Gal. 3:28 says “*There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus*” This verse supremely teaches that **ALL** people have need of Christ and **ALL** people are welcome to come to Him for full salvation from sin and thereby be an equal part of God’s family. If we obscure or adulterate sex or salvation, we are daring to contend against God. As Dean Martin said, “**If you’re smart, you won’t come out**”... **against God.**

Jesus said “Come to me...I will give you rest...and you will find rest to your souls.” Matt. 11: 28-30

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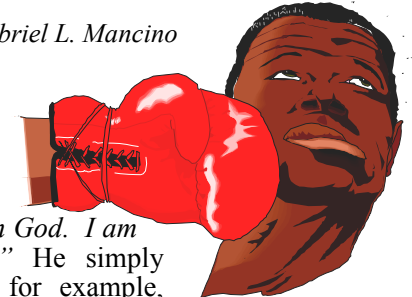
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“Lift up a standard for the people.” **Isaiah 62:10**

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GENDER CONTENDER

by Gabriel L. Mancino



“Contend earnestly for the faith which was once and for all entrusted to the keeping of the saints” (Jude 3)

In 1954 (my birth year), comedy team **Jerry Lewis** and **Dean Martin** held an event to raise money to **fight** Muscular Dystrophy. They brought in the world’s only ever undefeated heavyweight champion boxer, **Rocky Marciano**, to “**fight**” Jerry Lewis. They all came to the centre of the ring. “Referee” Martin announced, “**Go to your corners and when the bell rings...**” then, looking and pointing at Lewis, said in a lowered voice...“**if you’re smart you won’t come out!**”

Marciano, in one *real* pre-fight advert, lifted his gloved fists and said “I let *these* do my talking.” What a contrast to many boasters!

Jesus did not go around boasting of His Divine nature, telling everyone,

“I am God. I am God!” He simply said, for example, “*the works which the Father has given Me to finish--the very works that I do--bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me*” (Jn. 5: 36), and “*If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me; but if I do, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father is in Me, and I in Him*” (Jn. 10: 37, 38), and “*Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves*” (Jn. 14: 11). Rather than boast, **Marciano** let his gloves do the talking. Jesus went about doing good (Acts 10:38). In the verses above from St. John, the Lord Jesus was saying, “*I let My works do the talking!*”

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PRIDE! Satan was not cast out of heaven for murder, rape, paedophilia or robbery, but for his **PRIDE-prompted rebellion**. Prov. 6:16, 17 says “*These six things the LORD hates, yes, seven are an abomination to Him:*”... The first? “**a PROUD look!**” This sin led Babylon’s greatest king to eat grass like an ox for 7 years until God returned his sanity. He repented and got totally right with God. His **PROUD** grandson-king didn’t learn, then literally saw “the handwriting on the wall,” death & the city’s destruction. (Daniel 4 & 5).

GENDER CONTENDER

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HOW CHRISTIANS ARE TO FIGHT

The Bible says *“the weapons of our warfare are not earthly, fleshly human weapons, but mighty, through God, to the pulling down of strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, being ready to give punishment to whatever is against His authority after you have made it clear that you are completely submitted to Him and under His control”* (2 Cor. 10: 4-6). These brand new Christians in Corinth, Greece, to whom St. Paul wrote, were “dug out” from the wild background of that first century. Yet, they had a moral-sexual situation in their midst that Paul said would even shock other “pagans!”

TO COME OUT OR NOT TO COME OUT

Martin advised Lewis not to go out against Marciano when the bell rang. Yet, 20 centuries of people by the hundreds of millions, or billions, right up to this generation, have dared to oppose Jesus Christ by their rejection of His Divine Person, Words and Works. Like Martin, I would say *“If you’re smart, you won’t do that.”*

In the world’s most tragic contradiction, **people come out, yet won’t come out.** They *dare* to come out in daily opposition to Christ. Sometimes this is by habit or by fear of what others may think, say or do; a type of God-condemned cowardice (Rev. 21:8). Yet, most people **refuse to come out** in glad submission to the Lord Jesus Christ. He said *“And you will not come out to me that you may have life”* (Jn. 5: 40).

One of the first things Jerry Lewis said when the bell rang was **“Listen, I think I made a mistake.”** Wise conclusion! God IS listening for such a confession. Oh, that millions would come to that same conclusion as it relates to Christ and their own spiritual condition and eternal destiny! Such a conclusion is a result of God-given awakening and conviction by means of His Holy Spirit in order to correct the mistake. Such a change is called repentance; a complete turn-around. **Another** well-known celebrity made a **“Big Mistake.”** See back page, bottom.

GENDER CONTENDER

After coming to this country in 1982, **two things soon stood out** to me as nothing else did.

First, I was shocked at how many **churches** had been **“converted”** into Muslim mosques, Hindu temples, restaurants, flats, social centres...you name it! In fact, the very church premises I and my family lived at for 22 years was sold, though I pled with the leaders not to do it. It has become a hotel. God knows all about it.

You won’t believe **the second thing** that quickly and boldly stood out to me! It appeared to me that, among traditional Muslim, Hindu and Jewish people, there was something very special about a **woman’s hair!** It appears to me that **this second thing** is linked to others...*some adopted; others abandoned...*in the long trail of man’s disobedience to and departure from God. This takes us to the Garden of Eden, which I view literally, and not as an allegorical fairy tale.

NAKED OR COVERED

Man and woman were made and apparently lived without clothing. Man’s “covering” was the sinless glory



We meet at Christ Church on the corner of Brent Street and Heriot Road in Hendon (NW4) at 5:45 pm Sundays. Nearest Tube: Hendon Central.



(continued from left)

of God; the “Shekinah.” This was lost by man’s disobedience and sin. As a result, God Himself provided a **“covering”** to cover the body; and it wasn’t a skimpy garment, but covered the body fully and therefore modestly. The Bible links **“shame”** and **“nakedness,”** as in Isa. 47:3, Nahum 3:5 and in Jesus’ warning and counsel in Rev. 3: 17, 18.

The death of an animal to provide man’s **covering** pointed toward the coming death of Christ to provide the only true **covering** for man. Christ’s death provides for the only adequate **covering** for sin which caused man’s moral and spiritual nakedness in the eyes of a holy God. Even if a person wears a full suit of **Eskimo clothes** or any such full body-covering clothes, they remain spiritually naked before God if they have not turned from sin and asked, allowed and believed God to save and change them through the **“covering”** He provided in Christ.

When Satan succeeded in his strategy for the Fall of Man, it attacked the foundation of society: husband and wife, man and woman, the home. Satan has chiselled away at this foundation ever since, and, oh, what disfigured and dire disorder he has on display as we are well into this “advanced” 21st century.

“CONVERTED” CHURCHES AND WOMEN’S HAIR

So, how does this relate to **“converted” churches** and traditional **women’s hair?** First of all, truly converted churches will usually not be “converted” into anything else, but will advance Christ’s kingdom in the fullness of His Spirit, pressing on in the work He gave them to do.

Now, about a woman’s hair, I mean long hair; as long as it will grow with-

out cutting or trimming it. Such long hair can simply be **another Eskimo suit** if the woman doesn’t truly walk with God. See more on this point on the back page.

A BIBLE PANORAMA OF THE GLORY OF GOD

In human history, **God’s glory** first rested upon Adam and Eve. The **glory** or **“Shekinah”** of God resting on or among His people is referred to throughout the Bible. That **“glory”** awaits us in *“the new Jerusalem”* (Rev. 21: 2, 10, 11).

God’s glory led His people during the time of Moses. God ordered them to make a **Tent of Worship**, which God’s glory “filled,” just as it did much later when the Jewish Temple was built by King Solomon (2 Chron. 5: 13; 7:1).

God ordered Moses to build the Tent exactly as He told him on Mt. Sinai. God also told Moses about **“the holy anointing oil”** in a similar, special way, forbidding *anyone* to make anything like it! **No copying was allowed.** People like to copy. The world largely markets in fakery. God provides, and wants us to have **“The Real Thing”** in its totality. He wants **His glory** to be in us in order for us to live and to work as He wants us to. The primary evidence of this presence of His glory *in* and *among* His people is the total forgiveness of all sin and the cleansing of the inward man from that evil inclination that prompts him to sinful action in the first place.

God’s glory was upon Jesus Christ by His very nature. Referring to Jesus, John 1:14 says: *“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”* That Bible verse is not alone in declaring this tremendous point.

The glory of God, then rested upon Jesus’ obedient disciples starting at the Feast of Pentecost, as seen in Acts 2 and

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