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The UK International Conference Policy on
Subject: Jewellery

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Introduction:

In the first instance, it is important that we come to a common understanding as to what was not right in ancient Israel. Once we arrive at a conclusive argument in this regard, then we can make a concrete statement as to whether or not it is a sin to wear or not to wear jewellery in worship services or external of worship services.

First of all it is customary that the 'Standing Order's as well as the doctrinal position of Mt Zion 7th Day Church of God UK International Conference position is relaxed. We hold the view that the wearing of cosmetic type jewellery is in fact not sinful. I might add it is neither the position of the Mount Zion 7TH Day Church of God UK International Conference, to impose any form of regulatory ruling to suggest that the Scriptures hold such a position.

I may concur, by saying in relation to the above-mentioned subject that, it would be helpful to see the texts that may suggest some type of condemnation imposed upon people or rather groups of people who wear jewellery.

It was and still is an important custom within the ancient Near East to adorn oneself in the cosmology that made one self-beautiful. It is said that Eastern woman sometimes have a cord of gold around their head at the forehead, on which are strung precious stones of various sorts, which hang down over the cheeks of their wearers. Hence, their "cheeks are commonly with rows of jewels." Neck chains were made of gold or other metal and

consisted of strings of pearls, corals, and precious stones. They were sometimes made of gold-pieces shaped like a crescent of the moon. Such are referred to in Isaiah 3:18, and Judges 8:21.

It was customary for woman to wear jewellery for worship. The borrowing and lending, that we read in the book of Exodus 11:1-3; 12:35, 36 have nothing to do with work; it must be remembered that the Israelites were going into the wilderness to worship Jehovah. When the Orientals go to their sacred festivals, they always put on their best jewels. Not to appear before the gods in such a way they consider would be disgraceful to themselves and displeasing to their deities. A person whose clothes or jewels are indifferent will borrow of his richer neighbours; nothing is more common than to see poor people standing before the temples or engaged in sacred ceremonies, well adorned with jewels.

In the Book of **Isaiah 3:18-26** it refers to a time when Israel who was considered as being the wife of Jehovah, {metaphor- meaning marriage based upon covenant relationship of circumcision ratified at Mt Sinai} based upon her unfaithfulness, would be reduce to ugliness and her beauty of which she adorned herself for worship would be removed and replaced with baldness, sackcloth, lament and morn. There is no commendation in the text nor does the text suggest that God condemns the wearing of jewellery.

The Golden Calf incident, recorded in Exodus 32:1-6 again showed what the children of Israel thought to be acceptable worship; the removal of their jewels was not in any way suggesting that the church should not wear jewels because they might make a golden calf with it. The children of Israel did not use jewellery as a form of worship. The Golden calf incident, we must bear in mind that they (the Children of Israel) were born in Egypt; it would be perfectly natural to think then that the worship of Arips the Bull God of Egypt may have been their deliverer. This act brought about judgement and death from God.

Mount Zion 7th Day Church of God UK International Conference does not hold such view or custom within the by-laws (Standing Order) or Constitution. Please be reminded however, that it has been and it remains customary that the church uphold certain principals to which one adorn themselves and it is then appropriate to come before God in moderation. As taught by the Apostle Paul 1Tim 2:9 "In Like manner also, that the woman adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and

moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing". We underscore these words because it does not speak of not wearing or adorning of jewellery rather costly clothing and being modest in the jewellery being worn. Let all things be done in moderation, that is in a way that it does not offend or cause offense to anyone in divine worship services etc.

Finally let me say that the Mount Zion 7th Day Church of God UK International Conference will not condemn any sister who may desire to wear modest jewellery as long as the wearing of such jewellery complies with 1 Timothy 2:9

Diligently revised and updated 2011.

Final matter on faith and Doctrine of the **Mount Zion 7th Day Church of God UK International Conference**