

The Virtuous Women - Part Two

Proverbs 31:20-31

Proverbs 31:20 "She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy."

- She has ministry outside of her maternal commitments to those who have a need that cannot pay her back for her ministry.

Proverbs 31:21 "She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household [are] clothed with scarlet."

- She prepares her household for the seasons of life, they are clothed with the covering of preparation, and instruction for survival

Proverbs 31:22 "She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing [is] silk and purple."

- She makes herself presentable to her husband upon his arrival. She has an account at victoria secret. She represents herself well in public to honor her husband. Silk and purple represent royalty increase in wealth.

Proverbs 31:23 "Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land."

- She builds her husband up, and he has respect in the town. She never does things to make him ashamed.

- This woman made a significant contribution to her husband's position in the community and to his success. His domestic comfort promoted his advancement in public honor. A man's good reputation begins with his home and thus the virtue of his wife.

Proverbs 31:24 "She maketh fine linen, and selleth [it]; and delivereth girdles unto the merchant."

- The virtuous woman, again finds something to do from the house to bring in a supplemental income.

Proverbs 31:25 "Strength and honor [are] her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come."

- Strength and honor is the result of her endeavor to walk virtuously and practice the pattern of righteousness. The world discourages women from receiving this reward.

Proverbs 31:26 "She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness."

- Her speech conveys her wisdom and kindness. Her words build up and don't tear down. She is not a gossip or a slanderer. When she speaks, it is to help. Her wisdom instructs her children.

Proverbs 31:27 "She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness."

- Her first thought is for the well being of the members of her own house. She is a skilled manager of the home. The “bread of Idleness” literally means “eyes looking everywhere” as in the lazy man in 6:6 & 9; of who the same root word is used.

Proverbs 31:28 "Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her."

- Her husband and her children (who know her best) see her unselfishness, love, and care that she has for all of them. They are proud of her. She is a good mother and wife, and they let her know it.
- There can be no higher joy for a mother than for her children to grow up to praise her as the source of the wisdom that made them godly.

Proverbs 31:29 "Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all."

- This is saying that many women are faithful to their husbands, but fall short in some of these other areas; but she has done the best of all toward her family and God.

Proverbs 31:30 "Favour [is] deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised."

- Fortune can be deceitful (not from God) Beauty is vain because it is not substantive but the favor that comes from a woman who fears the lord she shall be praised.

Proverbs 31:31 "Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates."

- Her works speak for themselves. She has earned her praise. We see in this, the Lord is pleased with her, because she has done His will in her life. A harvest is assured.
- While she receives material reward (v.22), the praise and success she labored to bring to her family and community will be her praise. The result of all her efforts is her best testament.