

Virtuous Women

Isaiah 62:1-19

- By the age of thirty 81% of white women will be married, 77% Hispanic, and only 52% African American.
- Since 1970 marriage has had a steady decline 1,000 unmarried women 31.1 will marry in 1950 that number was 90.
- Average age for marriage is 27.
- For African American women 15 and over, 47% are married in 1950 that number was 65%.
- Women with a bachelor's degree 60% are married; women without graduating high school only 30% are married.
- 48% of Black Men are married; 45.2% to black women. 8.5% of black men marry white women and 3.9% of black women will marry a white male.
- Only 32% of Black Women will marry again if divorced 58% of white 44% Hispanic
- Sociologist Roland Hinds, *"African American men who left home felt they were not able to hold the family together and were afraid of looking like a failure."*
- Judge Lynn Toler, *"Young men often had trouble adjusting to a revolving door of casual acquaintances, who each had a different set of rules to abide by."*
- Black women find it more difficult to meet black men who have their social and economic status (education & job status) undereducated, low economic status, incarcerated.

Isaiah 62:1-19

1 For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth.

- Salvation that God attributes to believers is one that has a lamp and is burning (Wise) and is bright, and has gone forth as described in 5 wise and 5 foolish, fascinating! *Mathew 25:1 Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.*

2 And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD shall name.

3 Thou shalt also be a crown of glory in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God.

4 Thou shalt no more be termed Forsaken; neither shall thy land any more be termed Desolate: but thou shalt be called Hephzibah, and thy land Beulah: for the LORD delighteth in thee, and thy land shall be married.

5 For as a young man marrieth a virgin, so shall thy sons marry thee: and as the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee.

Who can find such a woman?

Proverb 31:10

10 Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies.

- Who with their earthly human intellect; can find a virtuous women?
- There is not one mention of her outward appearance, with men this would definitely difficult.

11 The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil.

- This woman is a loyal friend and lover. (developed friendship first) He has a continual partner to cheer him on in times of difficulty.
- The first man, the strongest man, the wisest man, the man after Gods own heart, the mighty might of Mt Carmel all have one thing in common.

12 She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.

- No matter the season, no matter the test, no matter the storm, no matter the temptation.

13 She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands.

- She looks for means to be an ontrapenure and is not afraid to get her hands dirty for the family.
- Key word willingly and seeketh.

14 She is like the merchants' ships; she bringeth her food from afar.

- She has a business and it is far reaching.

- She is tutoring on a website and being compensated.
- She watches politicians when they run and offers to fold envelopes and make calls for a reduced fee.

15 She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens.

16 She considereth a field, and buyeth it: with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard.

- She looks at a territory and is willing to pay the price to cultivate that field.
- Her hands are committed to the task and she plants a means that she will have a continual harvest!

17 She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms.

- She is in the word and her daily task develop strength (willingness to bear the burden the greater the burden the greater the strength!)

18 She perceiveth that her merchandise is good: her candle goeth not out by night.

- She inspects her work to ensure its quality (lord have mercy). Her candle is not affected by the darkness! She does not acclimate to the darkness she dispels it.

19 She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff.

- She creates different streams of income into the house.
- These tools are used to turn wool into thread for making clothing. When she is through gathering grapes she is making clothes.