
A Woman Who Feels the Lord – Proverbs 31:10-31

Charm [is] deceitful and beauty [is] passing, But a woman [who] fears the LORD, she shall be praised. (Proverbs 31:30)

THE QUESTION (Her Extreme Value as a Virtuous Wife)

1. **She Is Difficult to Find**
¹⁰ Who can find a virtuous wife?
2. **She Is Difficult to Value**
For her worth *is* far above rubies.

HER RELATIONSHIP TO HER HUSBAND:

1. **She Creates Trust in Her Husband**
¹¹ The heart of her husband safely trusts her;
2. **She Works to Retain What Her Husband Works For**
So he will have no lack of gain.
3. **She Seeks Her Husband's Good**
¹² She does him good and not evil
4. **She Commits Herself to Him for Life**
All the days of her life.

HER ACTIONS:

1. **She Chooses the Cheaper Path**
¹³ She seeks wool and flax,
2. **She Enjoys the Added Work**
And willingly works with her hands.
3. **She Seeks the Efficient Way**
¹⁴ She is like the merchant ships, She brings her food from afar.
4. **She Practices Planning and Self-Discipline**
¹⁵ She also rises while it is yet night, And provides food for her household, And a portion for her maidservants.
5. **She Looks at and Leverages the Possibilities**
¹⁶ She considers a field and buys it; From her profits she plants a vineyard.
6. **She Postures Herself for Accomplishment**
¹⁷ She girds herself with strength, And strengthens her arms.
7. **She Expends the Extra Effort**
¹⁸ She perceives that her merchandise *is* good, And her lamp does not go out by night.
8. **She Uses Her Skills Profitably**
¹⁹ She stretches out her hands to the distaff, And her hand holds the spindle.

HER CARE:

1. **For the Needy**
²⁰ She extends her hand to the poor, Yes, she reaches out her hands to the needy.
2. **For Her Family**
²¹ She is not afraid of snow for her household, For all her household *is* clothed with scarlet.
3. **For Herself**
²² She makes tapestry for herself; Her clothing *is* fine linen and purple.

HER EFFECT:

1. **She Enables Her Husband (cf. v. 11-12)**
²³ Her husband is known in the gates, When he sits among the elders of the land.
2. **She Provides Additional Income (or Preserves It – vv. 11,13)**
²⁴ She makes linen garments and sells *them*, And supplies sashes for the merchants.
3. **She Is Known for Her Character**
²⁵ Strength and honor *are* her clothing; She shall rejoice in time to come.
4. **She Faces the Future with Confidence**
²⁵ Strength and honor *are* her clothing; She shall rejoice in time to come.
5. **She Impacts Others with Her Speech**
²⁶ She opens her mouth with wisdom, And on her tongue *is* the law of kindness.
6. **Summary(?)**
²⁷ She watches over the ways of her household, And does not eat the bread of idleness.

HER REWARD:

1. **Honor from Her Children**
²⁸ Her children rise up and call her blessed;
2. **Honor and Praise from Her Husband**
Her husband *also*, and he praises her: ²⁹ "Many daughters have done well, But you excel them all."
3. **Praise from God**
³⁰ Charm *is* deceitful and beauty *is* passing, But a woman *who* fears the LORD, she shall be praised.
4. **Fruit from Her Efforts**
³¹ Give her of the fruit of her hands,
5. **Praise for Her Efforts**
And let her own works praise her in the gates.