

Mother's Day: 5/10/2020

Characteristics of a Godly Woman

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Proverbs 31:10-31 ¹⁰A wife of noble character, who can find? She is far more precious than rubies. ¹¹The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he lacks nothing of value. ¹²She brings him good and not harm all the days of her life. ¹³She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands. ¹⁴She is like the merchant ships, bringing her food from afar. ¹⁵She rises while it is still night to provide food for her household and portions for her maidservants. ¹⁶She appraises a field and buys it; from her earnings she plants a vineyard. ¹⁷She girds herself with strength and shows that her arms are strong. ¹⁸She sees that her gain is good, and her lamp is not extinguished at night. ¹⁹She stretches out her hands to the distaff and grasps the spindle with her fingers. ²⁰She opens her arms to the poor and reaches out her hands to the needy. ²¹When it snows, she has no fear for her household, for they are all clothed in scarlet. ²²She makes coverings for her bed; her clothing is fine linen and purple. ²³Her husband is known at the city gate, where he sits among the elders of the land. ²⁴She makes linen garments and sells them; she delivers sashes to the merchants. ²⁵Strength and honor are her clothing, and she can laugh at the days to come. ²⁶She opens her mouth with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. ²⁷She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. ²⁸Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband praises her as well: ²⁹"Many daughters have done noble things, but you surpass them all!" ³⁰Charm is deceptive and beauty is fleeting, but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. ³¹Give her the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her at the gates. (BSB)

Intro: This chapter claims to be written by a "King Lemuel". V. 1 "These are the words of King Lemuel—the burden that his mother taught him:" (BSB) Many believe that since it means "devoted to God" it was a nickname Solomon's mom gave him.

I. Here are the details of this passage.

- A. A woman's **character** is what should determine her value. V. 10-12
- B. She is willing to do her part to **provide** for her family. V.13-16
- C. She has a **strong** work ethic. V.17-19, 24, 27
- D. She is **generous**. V.20
- E. She cares about the **quality** of what she does. V.21-22
- F. She **honors** those around her. V.23
- G. She has a contagious inner **strength**. V.25-26

H. She makes a positive impact on those whom she **ministers** to. V.28

I. She **deserves** honor and should be **purposely** honored. V.29-31

II. How do we apply these truths?

A. Make godliness your **primary** goal.

B. Cultivate a heart of **service**.

C. Practice **generosity**.

D. Tend to the **details** in your life. The little things make huge differences.

E. Allow yourself to **receive** praise. Too many embrace criticism and reject praise.

F. Take **time** for your own needs. You cannot give if you have nothing to give.