

Manhood and Womanhood - Part 4

Proverbs 31:10-31

Young single men, if the most beautiful woman imaginable were to walk in this worship gathering today, would she captivate your attention?

Well, she is here, but you have to listen to this sermon to see her.

The Treasure of a Wise Wife

Proverbs 31:10-31

¹⁰ An excellent wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels.

¹¹ The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain.

¹² She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life.

¹³ She seeks wool and flax, and works with willing hands.

¹⁴ She is like the ships of the merchant; she brings her food from afar.

¹⁵ She rises while it is yet night and provides food for her household and portions for her maidens.

¹⁶ She considers a field and buys it; with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.

¹⁷ She dresses herself with strength and makes her arms strong.

¹⁸ She perceives that her merchandise is profitable. Her lamp does not go out at night.

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

²⁰ She opens her hand to the poor and reaches out her hands to the needy.

²¹ She is not afraid of snow for her household, for all her household are clothed in scarlet.

²² She makes bed coverings for herself; her clothing is fine linen and purple.

²³ Her husband is known in the gates when he sits among the elders of the land.

²⁴ She makes linen garments and sells them; she delivers sashes to the merchant.

²⁵ Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come.

²⁶ She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.

²⁷ She looks well to the ways of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness.

²⁸ Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her:

²⁹ "Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all."

³⁰ Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.

³¹ Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates.

Biblical Complementarianism: Men and women are co-equals in the sight of God because both are made in God's image, and they have distinct roles in God's design (though often overlapping) that are intended to work together in beautiful harmony for God's glory.

A Mature Man of God: A Spirit-filled man who is eager to lead, provide for, and protect women and children with appropriate love, courage, and gentleness.

A Mature Woman of God: A Spirit-filled woman who is eager to support the worthy leadership, protection, and provision of men with enthusiasm, resourcefulness, and discernment.

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Wisdom in Proverbs: The skill to live life well that comes from truly embracing the fear of the Lord.

Proverbs 1:1-4

The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel: ²To know wisdom and instruction, to understand words of insight, ³to receive instruction in wise dealing, in righteousness, justice, and equity; ⁴to give prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the youth-

Proverbs 1:5-7

Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance, ⁶to understand a proverb and a saying, the words of the wise and their riddles. ⁷The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

The Fear of the Lord: Having a proper esteem and reverence for the Lord that creates a

submissive spirit in you so that you are eager to learn his word and obey his ways.

Proverbs 1:8-9

Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching, ⁹ for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck.

Proverbs 2:1-4

My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, ² making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; ³ yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, ⁴ if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures,

Proverbs 2:5-8

then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God. ⁶ For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; ⁷ he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity, ⁸ guarding the paths of justice and watching over the way of his saints.

Proverbs 10:1

A wise son makes a glad father, but a foolish son is a sorrow to his mother.

Proverbs 5:1-4

My son, be attentive to my wisdom; incline your ear to my understanding, ² that you may keep discretion, and your lips may guard knowledge. ³ For the lips of a forbidden woman drip honey, and her speech is smoother than oil, ⁴ but in the end she is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword.

Proverbs 5:8-12

Keep your way far from her, and do not go near the door of her house, ⁹ lest you give your honor to others and your years to the merciless, ¹⁰ lest strangers take their fill of your strength, and your labors go to the house of a foreigner, ¹¹ and at the end of your life you groan, when your flesh and body are consumed, ¹² and you say, "How I hated discipline, and my heart despised reproof!

Proverbs 8:1-4

Does not wisdom call? Does not understanding raise her voice? ² On the heights beside the way, at the crossroads she takes her stand; ³ beside the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries aloud: ⁴ "To you, O men, I call, and my cry is to the children of man.

Proverbs 8:10-12

Take my instruction instead of silver, and knowledge rather than choice gold, ¹¹ for wisdom is better than jewels, and all that you may desire cannot compare with her. ¹² "I, wisdom, dwell with prudence, and I find knowledge and discretion.

Proverbs 8:17-21

I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently find me. ¹⁸ Riches and honor are with me, enduring wealth and righteousness. ¹⁹ My fruit is better than gold, even fine gold, and my yield than choice silver. ²⁰ I walk in the way of righteousness, in the paths of justice, ²¹ granting an inheritance to those who love me, and filling their treasuries.

Proverbs 2:4-6

If you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, ⁵ then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God. ⁶ For the LORD gives wisdom.

Proverbs 8:1, 8

Does not wisdom call? . . . Take my instruction instead of silver, and knowledge rather than choice gold, ¹¹ for wisdom is better than jewels, and all that you may desire cannot compare with her.

Proverbs 31:10, 26

An excellent wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels. . . . She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.

Proverbs 1:7

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Proverbs 8:12-13

"I, wisdom, dwell with prudence, and I find knowledge and discretion. ¹³ The fear of the LORD is hatred of evil."

Proverbs 31:30-31

Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. ³¹ Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates.

Proverbs 6:6-8

Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. ⁷ Without having any chief, officer, or ruler, ⁸ she prepares her bread in summer and gathers her food in harvest.

Proverbs 31:13, 19, 21

She seeks wool and flax, and works with willing hands.

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

²¹ She is not afraid of snow for her household, for all her household are clothed in scarlet.

Proverbs 19:17

Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will repay him for his deed.

Proverbs 31:20

She opens her hand to the poor and reaches out her hands to the needy.

Two cool things about this poem:

- 1. It is an acrostic poem. A-Z**
- 2. It is a chiasmic poem. X**

Is it wrong for a woman to have a career?

- 1. A woman who is single obviously does not have the same pull toward the home as a woman who is married.**
- 2. A wife, even without children, should embrace that her primary duty is to help her husband be who he is called to be by primarily focusing on the home front.**
- 3. A wife may need to work outside the home for the sake of her home.**
- 4. A wife with children must especially evaluate the degree of her commitment to her home compared to work.**

Applications to All of Us:

- 1. We should celebrate the fact that God has redeemed womanhood and made the wise woman a reality.**
- 2. We should celebrate when a woman is able to give her full undivided attention to her home and not be burdened with the feminist ideal of trying to live up to a career on par with men.**
- 3. We should understand that there are two good reasons why women may find themselves working outside the home.**
 - a. She desires to and is able to without compromising the quality of her focus on the home.**
 - b. She doesn't necessarily desire to but she needs to and is willing to in order to help provide for her home.**
- 4. We should celebrate all the sacrifices that women make in the home and out of the home for the sake of the home.**

Application to Young Men:

You need to be looking for a woman of true godly, wisdom!