

## PRICED ABOVE RUBIES Proverbs 31:10-13, 26-29

Intro: Women are very special and are to be treated as such. A church with godly women is a blessed church. For godly women sing in the choir; they work in the nursery (and it is work); they teach in Children's Chapel; they visit; they clean the Prophet's Chamber, making the beds, sweeping the floors, washing the laundry, etc. Godly women teach in Sunday School; godly women tithe and give above and beyond the tithe. Godly women prepare many meals for our Conferences and Revivals. We need to give our ladies a hand because without them the local church would not be what it is today.

Many women today are blaming their lack of godliness on the husband, and in a way I understand what they are saying. But I know many godly women who have sorry husbands. You see godliness, dear lady, is your choice. Either you will chose to be godly or you will chose to be a worldly women.

A man with a godly wife is truly blessed. Many men that I have known, have ruined their lives by leaving the woman who loves God for a slut. The Bible tells us that the virtuous woman is priceless.

Look with me at Proverbs 31:10: it starts with a question: "Who can find a virtuous woman?" That is a really good question for our day and age. The world and society pushes illicit sex and ungodly behavior that scars those involved for life. Young ladies, hold onto your virtue; once you lose it you can never get it back. God will forgive you; He will use you in His service, but the scar will remain. Proverbs 31:10 goes on to say of the virtuous woman, "...her price is far above rubies." I checked the price of Burmese Rubies yesterday, 8 May 2010, and Rubies were trading from \$1,800 dollars a carat to \$20,000 per carat for a natural untreated stone. Note that it does not say, "her price is far above a ruby." It says, "far above rubies."

Friends, virtue is truly commendable in a man, but a virtuous women is truly special and precious like a rare stone. Men don't trade in a Mercedes for a VW.

### I. Vss. 11-19, THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN IS FAITHFUL TO HER HUSBAND

- A. Vs. 11-12, She is faithful to her husband. Let me say here that some men want a faithful wife, but they want to run around. Mister, you are a sorry dog.

1. Vs. 11, He knows that he can fully trust her. She is not going to slipping around or acting out some “Desperate Housewives” episode. We hear a lot about trust in our day; there is no greater trust than to trust Christ in salvation. For a man to have a woman he can trust is a wonderful and marriage saving plus. “A good man is a better, stronger man if someone admires, loves and trusts and follows him” (Dr. John R. Rice).
  2. Vs 12, The life’s goal of a virtuous woman is to do her husband good. No, her number one priority is not her career outside the home. A woman’s number one priority is her husband and the home.
    - a. A woman’s greatest work and highest ambition is to be a good wife and a good mother. Far too many women today are more concerned about being popular outside the home than they are about being a good godly woman in the home.
    - b. The virtuous woman’s life is wrapped up in her family. She spends her life doing good and not evil.
- B. Vss. 13-14, THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN IS FAITHFUL TO HER DAILY DUTIES OF WIFE AND MOTHER
1. Vs.13, The virtuous woman is to be a good housekeeper.
    - a. She is a willing worker. So many gals today have never had to do much of anything that they did not want to.
    - b. She is diligent in seeing what needs to be done. Television has ruined many good, hard working wives. They are more interested in their programs than the needs of the home.
  2. Vs.14, This woman is good at shopping for the bargains. Her food comes from whatever source has the deals. Today, she would be clipping coupons and using E-Bay. She is a thrifty person.
- C. Vss. 15-19, The virtuous woman is a good manager of time as well as resources.
1. Vs. 15, This will remind many of you of the days when the wife would be up early to get biscuits, gravy, eggs, grits and sausage ready for the men who would be working in the field.

2. Vs. 16, She has good business sense.
3. Vs. 17, She is strong. This is not always physical strength. Women need the strength that God gives emotionally and spiritually.
4. Vs. 18-19, She works from can to can't. She takes care of the clothes of the children and husband.

II. VSS. 20-25, THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN IS A CARING WOMAN

- A. Vs, 20, She cares for the poor and needy. Not only does she care, she serves and helps the poor.
- B. Vs, 21, The virtuous woman realizes that hard times will come, so she prepares for future difficulties. Too many women in our day live for now only, not considering the future.
- C. Vs, 22, She keeps a humble but attractive home.
  1. She keeps herself up.
  2. Dr. John R. Rice said: "God intended women to be pretty and attractive, but some of you go to extremes...God put beauty in all good women. And he who findeth a wife findeth a good thing."
- D. Vs. 23, A good wife is not jealous of her husband if he has a good reputation. A good wife is a great asset to a man. I could not do what I do here at home and around this country without a good wife.
- E. Vs. 24, She is not greedy. What she makes she uses for the good of the family, not that she does not get things she needs.
- F. Vs. 25, The strength is that of mind, courage and resolve.
  1. "Honor"— she has a good name because of prudence and piety.
  2. "She shall rejoice in time to come." Matthew Poole says: "The sense is either 1. In her old age she reaps the comfort and benefit of her youthful labors. 2. She lives in constant tranquility of mind, and a confident and cheerful expectation of all future events, how calamitous soever, partly because she hath laid in provisions for a rainy day, and chiefly because she hath the comfortable remembrance of a well-spent life" (Vol. 2, 277).
- G. Vs. 26, "She openeth her mouth with wisdom."
  1. Psalm 111:10, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." Here is a God fearing woman.

2. She has a tongue controlled by grace. Her tongue is a thoughtful, forgiving and kind tongue. How is your tongue dear lady?

- H. Vs. 27, Like a mother hen, she watches out for the family. If one of her chicks goes astray, she goes after it to get it under her loving wing again. “Her bread is well earned by her labors; therefore she eats it with pleasure and appetite...” (Lawson 887).

Conclusion: In verses 28-29, we have the desired reward of a truly godly mother. Children who appreciate their godly mother; the one who brought them “up in the fear and admonition of the Lord.” She has a husband who praises her for her virtue.

Dr. Cecil A Fayard, Jr.  
May 9, 2010