

“RISE UP AND CALL HER BLESSED”
THE PROVERBS 31 WOMAN

INTRODUCTION

A. Proverbs 31:10, 28-29, 31

There is a scarce supply of virtuous women, which increases the value of each. Due to her excellence, she deserves to be blessed by her children and praised by her husband.

B. Proverbs 25:24; 27:15-16

Contrast the woman described in this acrostic poem against the women Solomon often warned about in the Proverbs.

I. THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN IS A BLESSING TO HER HUSBAND

A. Proverbs 31:11-12

A married woman who is not good for her husband cannot be virtuous whatsoever.

B. Proverbs 6:32-35; Titus 2:5

Because she is trustworthy, her husband's jealousy is not provoked. She is chaste and everyone knows it.

C. Proverbs 12:27

She is cautious to avoid waste.

D. Proverbs 18:22

She does him good because she is his good thing!

II. THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN IS A BLESSING TO HER HOUSEHOLD

A. Proverbs 31:27; 1st Timothy 5:14; Titus 2:5

Women have the responsibility of managing the house.

B. Proverbs 14:1

Not every woman is wise. Not every woman builds her house; some wreck theirs. So, be thankful for the good ones!

C. Proverbs 27:23

It takes diligence to care for living creatures.

D. Proverbs 31:21, 13, 19

She is hands-on when it comes to clothing her family. I am thankful my mother is such a talented seamstress who actually has made with her hands man of the clothes my siblings and I, as well my children have worn through the years. I am thankful my wife has been diligent to find quality clothes for our kids at low prices in garage sales and thrift stores.

E. Proverbs 31:14-15; 20:13

She goes the distance to feed her family. My wife is one who plans the menu for the week on Sunday night and does the shopping on Monday morning. It's a 30-mile roundtrip to get to the nearest grocery stores and she knows which ones to purchase which products from to get the most economic prices.

III. THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN IS A BLESSING TO HER COMMUNITY

A. Proverbs 31:20; 19:17

She is generous toward those less fortunate, as all should be.

B. Proverbs 31:23; Deuteronomy 16:18

She supports her husband's involvement in civic affairs, which is what is usually under consideration whenever sitting at the gates is mentioned.

IV. THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN IS FINANCIALLY SAVVY

A. Proverbs 31:16, 18, 24

She is capable of making substantial purchases on her own, investing profits, and crafting and selling merchandise. Of course, none of these activities should interfere with her duty to manage the house.

B. Acts 16:14-15

Lydia is an appropriate example of a businesswoman who was faithful to God.

C. Luke 8:1-3

Virtuous ladies with their own financial means are generous toward the servants of God.

V. THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN IS PHYSICALLY CAPABLE

A. Proverbs 31:17, 25

She may not be hitting the gym and pumping iron, but she's not getting fat on the couch, either. Being a busy wife and mother, she is no weakling.

B. John 4:7, 28

The women of the ancient orient were in the habit of carrying waterpots from their homes in the cities to the wells outside the gates.

C. Ruth 2:4-7, 17

Ruth was admired when she worked all day and collected an ephah, over six gallons, of grain.

D. Nehemiah 3:12

When it came time to rebuild Jerusalem's walls, there were daughters directly involved in the work, and they weren't just making the sandwiches.

VI. THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN IS MINDFUL OF HER APPEARANCE

A. Proverbs 31:22

When it is common to see women wearing pajamas in public or skin-tight, see-through stuff, it is refreshing to consider the virtuous woman in her linen and tapestry.

B. Proverbs 31:30a

Being virtuous, though, she doesn't get carried away with her outward appearance, choosing instead to focus on God.

C. Proverbs 11:22

Looking good is no substitute for poor thinking.

D. 1st Timothy 2:9-10; 1st Peter 3:3

Outward adornment cannot be her obsession.

VII. THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN USES HER WORDS EFFECTIVELY

A. Proverbs 31:26

When she opens her mouth, wisdom and kindness come out.

B. 1st Timothy 2:11-12; 1st Peter 3:4

For the most part, she will be characterized by quietude. When the time is right to speak, though, what she says will matter.

C. Ephesians 5:29

Grace, rather than corruption, will prevail in her speech.

VIII. THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN FEARS JEHOVAH

A. Proverbs 31:30_b

The foundation of this woman's character is her fear of the Lord.

B. Exodus 1:15-21

Women who fear God need not fear men, even powerful ones. They take bold action to do what is right.

C. Luke 1:46-50

One blessed woman, Mary the mother of Jesus, praised the mercy of God on those who fear Him.