



Sermon Title: A Christian Home part 3

Sermon Title: Women: Blessed not Burdened

Date: 5/8/ 2022

Proverbs 31:10-31

Proverbs 31 has been a burden on women of faith for generations. It is a section of scripture commonly known as **The Virtuous Wife or the Godly Woman**. The Advice given to the King in order to find the perfect bride.

Big Idea: Perfection is not a requirement; Jesus is shaping you perfectly.
by cultivating these Attributes in your life:

First, let's lighten the load: **Proverbs 31:23-27** is where a great summary takes place:

She has skills to sew and make clothing, she's also a great business woman with the ability to create a large sales territory, master the delivery logistics, and cultivate business connections. She never feels tired and always keeps her cool. She never speaks unless it is a sweet, wise, life lesson, she never wastes any time. **THAT!** is why the passage feel like such a burden, who could fulfill all that. The husband goes off, sits in the gates, not worrying about anything – because the bride is forever burning the midnight oil.

If this is the type of wife the king should be looking for. Think for a moment about King Jesus and his Bride: the church (**Revelation 19:6 – 9**). Jesus is the King, he is the bridegroom – and every believer is part of His family. *We are described as the Bride.

Beautiful description

Proverbs 31:23-27

We are gifted by the Holy Spirit and granted the privilege to serve the bridegroom. As a believer in Jesus – Everything listed in Proverbs 31 is a gift of ability to you and I from the Holy Spirit.

It's the gifting from God that makes you attractive, not the standards that other people put in your head - being valuable, trustworthy, loving, industrious, compassionate, helping the poor, developing a Christ-like character, filled with wisdom.

Undeserved Recognition

Proverbs 31.28-29

Our recognition is undeserved:

The people you shared your testimony with, the ones who came to faith because you were brave enough to introduce them to Jesus - those are the children, at the end of your life and into eternity who will stand up and proclaim you to be a blessing.

Your praise in those moments will be undeserved – because you were simply the messenger of the salvation already provided for through Jesus' blood. We will be recognized as one of his own; because of what he did on the cross.

Faithful Spirit

Proverbs 31:30-31

Charm and Beauty: two ways that some use to get out of doing what needs to be done.

- To charm someone is to purposefully mislead someone by appealing to their emotions. To pleasantly manipulate someone for your own gain.
- Beauty is something that fades fast, is subject to changing opinion, never achieved only chased after.

Instead – in our Reverence for Jesus, we imitate him - by loving God and loving others. That is something to hear proclaimed at the gates of Heaven!

The next time you read Proverbs 31, think about it as a description of every believer. It is a passage for all of us to use as spiritual encouragement of what we are designed to be.

Discussion Questions:

- **What about the sermon stuck with you this week? What part challenged your thinking?**
- **Explain the importance of viewing Proverbs 31 as a description of every believer.**
- **Do you know a woman who is burdened down with the expectations of Proverbs 31? What guidance can you give her to get out from under that burden?**
- **What things listed in Proverbs 31 are strengths for you? What things from the list do you struggle with?**
- **Who is a godly woman you know, and how has she influenced your spiritual life?**