

A Woman Who Fears The LORD . . .

(A Study on Proverbs 31)



A Virtuous¹ Woman

INTRODUCTION

Proverbs 31 compares the spiritual beauty of a woman of virtue to a ruby of great worth with its many radiant facets. The world's view of a beautiful and successful woman is contrary to what the Word of God teaches. Magazine, television, radio, and internet advertising have polluted women with images of sensuality and eternal youth, leading them to pursue a false sense of beauty. Nevertheless, striving after these distorted ideals, women find that they can never out-run the hands of time.

The woman of God needs to have a true perspective of her inner beauty as well as external beauty. If her primary focus is on her inner woman, it will radiate in outward beauty. This beauty will never fade away, unlike the external that is sure to pass away. God's desire is that every woman seeks Him to bring about the radiance of His holiness in her.

THEME SCRIPTURE

Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies (Proverbs 31:10 KJV).

MEMORY VERSE

Charm² is deceitful and beauty is passing,³ but a woman who fears the LORD, she shall be praised (Proverbs 31:30).

¹ Virtuous: woman of valor; worth, excellence, noble character and strength.

² Charm: favor, graciousness; kind, pleasant, precious.

³ passing: vain, emptiness, transitory, unsatisfactory; fleeting.

II. THE VANITY OF MAN'S BEAUTY

What does God's Word say about man's temporal physical being?

Psalm 39:4, 5 _____

_____ 4

Psalm 49:12 _____

Psalm 78:39 _____

Psalm 103:15, 16 _____

Proverbs 31:30a _____

Isaiah 40:6-8 _____ 5

WRITE out verse 8. _____

II Corinthians 4:16 _____

⁴ handbreadth: as short as the measurement of the palm of a hand.
⁵ loveliness: goodness, kindness, beauty, favor.

James 4:14b _____

PERSONAL

Have you been able to keep your physical youthful beauty from fading away? How have you seen it diminishing?

III. A WOMAN’S INWARD BEAUTY

READ I Peter 3:3-5.

Do not let your adornment ⁶ *be [merely] outward – arranging of hair and wearing gold, or putting on [fine] apparel.* What is it to be (vv. 3, 4a)?

How does God see this (v. 4b)? _____

PERSONAL

What do you need to change today to beautify your inner woman? _____

⁶ *adornment*: to put in proper order; decorate, garnish, trim.

IV. THE BEAUTY FROM THE LORD

How does the LORD beautify His people?

Psalm 149:4 _____

Romans 12:1, 2 _____

II Corinthians 3:18 _____

_____ ⁷

Philippians 3:20, 21 _____

II Peter 1:3, 4 _____

PERSONAL

Based on these Scriptures, how will the LORD beautify you? How is He transforming you into His image?

⁷ glory of the LORD: His splendor, grandeur, magnificence, radiance, majesty, brilliance, absolute perfection.

What will you do to put on His beauty? _____

V. THE BEAUTY OF GOD’S PEOPLE

The Word of God often portrays the beauty of His people through symbolic pictures and illustrations. How does He describe His people?

Psalm 45:13, 14a _____ 8

Song of Solomon 6:4, 10 _____ 9

Isaiah 61:10 _____

_____ 10

Isaiah 62:3 _____

Revelation 19:7, 8 _____ 11

_____ 12

⁸ King’s daughter: the Bride of Christ, the King of kings.

⁹ my love: the church, the love of Christ.

¹⁰ robe of righteousness: symbol of righteousness; God’s provision of salvation by grace through faith in Christ.

¹¹ marriage of the Lamb: the uniting of Christ, the Lamb of God, to His Bride the Church.

¹² linen: clean and bright fabric; laborious to produce; valuable for their freshness and coolness; garments of the priest and the bride of Christ; signifies the righteous acts of the saints, Revelation 19:8.

*Many daughters have done well,
But you exceed them all.*

Proverbs 31:29

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Due to the holy nature of God, the first letter of all references to Him,
His holy name, and His Word have been capitalized.

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