

A Woman Who Fears The LORD . . .

(A Study on Proverbs 31)



Clothes Her Family in Scarlet

INTRODUCTION

A woman who loves God takes care that her family is adequately clothed through every season. *She is not afraid of snow for her household,¹ for all her household is clothed in scarlet²* (Proverbs 31:21). In ancient days, scarlet was a stately, strong, thick cloth able to absorb and retain heat, usually worn by royalty. She has no fears concerning the comfort and health of her family even through the fiercest winter. Scarlet is a type of the protective blood of Christ. The scarlet thread of Jesus' blood is woven throughout the entire Word of God. The godly woman not only provides protective garments for the heat of the summer and the cold of the winter, but she also seeks to protect her family from the spiritually fierce seasons of life with the crimson blood of Christ. She fears not the chill of unbelief or the harsh assaults of Satan when her children take refuge in the blood of Christ. *And they [the saints] overcame him [the dragon]³ by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony . . .* (Revelation 12:11).

THEME SCRIPTURE

She is not afraid of snow for her household, for all her household is clothed with scarlet (Proverbs 31:21).

MEMORY VERSE

. . . the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin (I John 1:7b).

¹ *household*: all members of the household; family; servants.

² *scarlet*: crimson, blood red; fabric double dyed from a crushed female insect; one of the three primary colors in the furnishings of Israel's tabernacle; rare, strong, expensive, well-made; symbolic of the blood of Christ.

³ *dragon*: serpent of old; Devil, Satan, Deceiver, Father of Lies; Lucifer.

I. THE GODLY WOMAN

READ Proverbs 31. How does the godly woman provide, protect, and watch over her family? How does she clothe herself physically, spiritually? What does she do to beautify her character?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on its right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface.

PERSONAL

How do you provide for and protect your family?

II. THE COVERING OF SIN AND GOD'S PROTECTION

In the following Biblical accounts, we clearly see the first blood sacrifices for the covering of sin and God's protection over His people.

1. READ Genesis Chapter 3.

God created Adam and Eve and placed them in a perfect world providing all that they needed. Yet they were tempted to sin and chose to disobey Him.

DESCRIBE the serpent that the LORD God had made. How did he question the woman that God created (v. 1)?

What did the woman say to the serpent were God's instructions to her and Adam regarding the trees in the garden of Eden (vv. 2, 3)?

Satan is the Father of Lies. How did he entice Eve to sin against God? What were his lies to her (vv. 4, 5)?

God created man in His image: spiritual beings able to be in constant communion with Him. Satan, a created being of God, cunningly tempted Eve into focusing her eyes on the temporal pleasure of the forbidden fruit, therefore diverting her attention from God and breaking her fellowship with God.

What did she see when she chose to focus on the tree and disobey God's command concerning the tree (v. 6)?

What did she do? _____

What was the immediate result of Adam and Eve's sin (v. 7)? _____

With what perishable clothing did they attempt to cover themselves? _____

Though Adam and Eve had broken fellowship with God, He didn't abandon them. Where was God? What had their sin caused them to do (v. 8)?

After pronouncing judgment on Adam and Eve for their sin, what coverings did God provide (v. 21)?

What did the LORD God have to do to provide a covering for them as a result of their sin? _____

NOTE

This was the first blood sacrifice for man's sin, which could only provide a temporary covering. It was a foreshadowing⁴ of Christ, the Lamb of God who would shed His blood once and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Hebrews 9:22, *Without the shedding of blood there is no remission.*⁵

2. READ Exodus 12:1-28.

God determined to lead the children of Israel out of their 400-year bondage in Egypt. Because of the hardness of the pharaoh of Egypt's heart, God pronounced ten plagues on the Egyptians. After they were struck with nine plagues, the pharaoh would still not let them go. In order to protect His people from the tenth and most devastating plague, the death of all the firstborn males, what did the LORD instruct His people to do for their protection (vv. 1-11)?

What was God going to do (v. 12)? _____

How would the blood on their doorposts protect God's people (v. 13)? _____

What did Moses instruct God's people to do (vv. 21-23)? Why? _____

⁴ foreshadowing: foretelling of things to come; to give a suggestion of something that has not yet happened.

⁵ *remission*: forgiveness, covering, atonement for sin.

What were God's people instructed to tell their children (vv. 26, 27a)? _____

How did they respond to God's command (vv. 27b, 28)? _____

NOTE

The blood on the doorposts is symbolic of the protection that would come through Christ, the Lamb of God, through His sacrificial death on the cross.

The practice of sacrificing a lamb for a covering for man's sins continued until Christ offered Himself as the final sacrifice.

PERSONAL

What did you learn about the significance of the blood on the doorpost? _____

How will you teach your household the significance of the blood? _____

III. THE BLOOD OF CHRIST

In the Old Testament, man could not approach a Holy God without a blood sacrifice for man's sins. The old system covered the sin but did not remove the sin. Jesus' sacrifice on the cross was complete and final to remove man's sin.

What do the following Scriptures teach concerning the blood of Jesus, the Lamb of God?

John 1:29 _____

Acts 20:28 _____

Romans 5:6-9 _____

6

Ephesians 1:7 _____

7

Ephesians 2:13 _____

Colossians 1:13, 14 _____

Hebrews 9:14 _____

I Peter 1:18,19 _____

⁶ justified: to render just or innocent.

⁷ redemption: purchasing back that which was lost by the payment of a ransom.

PERSONAL

Understanding that the woman that fears the Lord spiritually clothes her family in scarlet, symbolizing the blood of Christ, what does the shedding of Christ's blood mean to you?

PERSONAL

Using the above Scriptures, WRITE a prayer of gratitude from your heart of the precious blood that Christ shed for you.

*Strength and honor are her clothing;
She shall rejoice in time to come.*

Proverbs 31:25

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