



The Woman Who fears The LORD . . .

Her Husband Trusts Her

(A Study on Proverbs 31)

Introduction

God created man, that he might have intimate fellowship with Him for all eternity. God saw it was not good for man to be alone so He created woman. God created Adam out of the dust of the ground but Eve was taken out of Adam, from a place close to his heart. Man and woman were created in the image of God and after His likeness . . . spiritual beings able to enjoy continual, sweet and intimate friendship with their Maker. The man was to have dominion over all that God had created and the woman was to be his helper and loving companion. By the will of God, the two were joined together and became one flesh. Together, under the guidance of their Creator, they were to be fruitful and multiply, fill the earth and subdue it. This Holy union was God's perfect plan for marriage and through it man and woman would raise up a godly heritage that would fulfill God's eternal purposes for all the ages to come. The Serpent¹, seeking to destroy God's plan, masterfully deceived the woman; and she convinced her husband to sin against God bringing severe judgment on both of them. But God, in His abundant mercy, provided the Way that man could be forgiven and his marriage restored.

THEME SCRIPTURE

The heart² of her husband safely trusts³ her; so he will have no lack of gain (Proverbs 31:11).

MEMORY VERSE

She does him good and not evil all the days of her life (Proverbs 31:12).

¹ serpent: snake, satan; from the Hebrew word to hiss, whisper, magic spell, enchanter.

² heart: centre; feelings, will, intellect.

³ trusts: be confident, find refuge, sure, without care, to hope safely in.

I. A TRUSTWORTHY WIFE

READ Proverbs Chapter 31.

What is the reason that the virtuous⁴ woman can be trusted (Proverbs 31:30b)? _____

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LIST the verses and actions that make her an honorable woman that can be trusted by her husband and everyone else.

In what two ways does the husband honor the virtuous woman (v. 28)? _____

⁴ virtuous: wife of valor, excellence, noble character and strength.

⁵ fears: reverence for the LORD; the beginning of wisdom, hatred for sin, standing in awe of who God is.

What do this husband and wife have in common (vv. 23, 31)? _____

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II. A HELPER AND COMPANION FOR ADAM

READ Genesis 2:18-25.

What did God say about Adam (v. 18a)? _____

What did God say was lacking in Adam's life (vv. 18b-20)? _____

How did God create a companion for Adam (vv. 21, 22)? _____

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How did Adam meet Eve (v. 22b)? _____

At the time of his union with his companion, what did Adam declare (v. 23)? _____

What was God's command to Adam and Eve when He brought them together (v. 24)? _____

⁶ gates: entrance to the city where all the legal transactions took place.

⁷ ribs: curved side, place close to his heart.

NOTE

. . . *they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed* (Genesis 2:25). Because the first man and woman had not fallen into sin, they were pure mentally, physically and sexually. God created marriage. He is the Source of all love. Emotional, sexual and spiritual satisfaction and fulfillment in marriage come only through Him.

III. A HOLY UNION

1. READ Ephesians 5:21-33.

What are both men and women to do (v. 21)? _____⁹

What is a wife to do (v. 22)? _____

Why (v. 23)? _____

What is the wife's submission compared to (v. 24)? _____

How is a husband to love¹⁰ his wife (v. 25)? _____

How does Christ cleanse His bride, the church (v. 26)? _____

⁸ joined: cleave, cling, adhere, follow close.

⁹ submit: military term, obey; subordinate, to come under authority.

¹⁰ love: nourish, rear up to maturity, train.

Why (v. 27)? _____

How ought men to love their wives (vv. 28, 29)? _____

11 12

Just as all believers become one with Christ as members of the body of Christ (v. 30), man and woman also become one. How does this happen (vv. 31, 32)?

What additional godly characteristic is the wife to have for her husband (v. 33)? _____

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2. READ Colossians 3:18, 19, 23-25.

What warning is given to the husband (v. 19)? _____

Bitterness can destroy a marriage. How are we to behave instead (Ephesians 4:31, 32)?

Why? _____

What are we to pursue and why (Hebrews 12:14, 15)? _____

¹¹ nourish: rear up to maturity, train, bring up.

¹² cherish: to brood, foster, uphold, shelter, help.

¹³ respect: reverence, regards him, honors him, praises him.

What will a root of bitterness in our heart do? _____

PERSONAL

How will you respect your husband or someone God has put as an authority over you? _____

IV. GODLY LIVING IN MARRIAGE

READ I Peter 3:1-12.

How can a godly woman be an influence to a husband who does not obey the Word of God (vv. 1, 2)?

_____ 14

What should the focus of her adorning be (vv. 3, 4)? _____

How did the holy women of old, who trusted in God, as Sarah, adorn themselves (vv. 5, 6)?

LIST the ways that the husband is to love and honor his wife (v. 7a)? _____

If he obeys God, how will they both be blessed? If not, how will he be hindered (v. 7b)?

_____ 15

¹⁴ chaste conduct: conversation, clean, innocent, modest, pure, way of life.

¹⁵ heirs together: co-heir, having in common.

PERSONAL

How will you adorn the hidden person in your heart? _____

CHALLENGE

READ I Peter 3:8-12.

Further instructions are given to couples, as well as all men, so that their relationships can be blessed of the LORD. What should we all do (vv. 8, 9)?

Why? _____

What are we warned not to do (v. 10)? _____

What else are we instructed to do (v. 11)? _____

Why (v. 12)? _____

*Her husband also [rises up and calls her blessed],
and he praises her.*

Proverbs 31:28

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