



The Woman Who fears The LORD . . .

She Reaches Out To The Needy

(A Study on Proverbs 31)

Introduction

The love that *The Woman Who Feels the LORD* has for her God, compels her to reach out to the poor and needy. She not only extends her hands to the needs of her husband, and her children but also has a compassionate heart that touches and helps those who are physically as well as spiritually destitute. Her love for God enables the needy to see and know her God.

The Scripture declare that God is good, compassionate, tenderhearted and full of mercy. In His great love for mankind, He sent His Only Begotten Son to this world that He might become poor so that we could become spiritually rich. His mission on this earth was and continues to be, to feed the hungry, minister to the hurting, heal the sick and set free those who are captive to sin. Christ can identify with us through His birth in a stable, His work as a carpenter and the humble way that He lived. In His death He entered our deepest pain by taking on Himself the blame for the sins and sufferings of the world. Through the miracle of His resurrection, those who have been touched by the Master and confessed Him as LORD, whether they are rich or poor, will inherit spiritual life on this earth as well as life everlasting in the life to come.

THEME SCRIPTURE

She extends ¹ her hand to the poor, yes, she reaches ² out her hands to the needy (Proverbs 31:20).

MEMORY VERSE

If you extend your soul to the hungry and satisfy the afflicted soul, then your light shall dawn in the darkness, and your darkness shall be as the noonday (Isaiah 58:10).

¹ extends: stretch out forth, spread abroad, spread self out.

² reaches: reach forth to touch.

I. THE GOOD DEEDS OF THE VIRTUOUS

READ Proverbs 31:1-9, 20, 26.

King Lemuel’s mother is a wise woman, she fears the LORD. What did she strongly warn her son not to do?

v. 3 _____³

Why? _____

vv. 4-7 _____

Why? _____⁴

What did she tell the young king to do instead (vv. 8, 9)? _____

What did she instruct her son a virtuous woman will do (vv. 20, 26)? _____

II. THE MISSION OF CHRIST

1. READ Isaiah 61:1-3.

Isaiah prophesied, *The Spirit of the LORD God is upon Me* [Christ]. What mission was Christ anointed to accomplish on this earth?

³ strength: force, wealth, virtue, valor; the same word that describes the virtuous woman.

⁴ pervert justice: alter, to be given to change, disguise, be diverse.

v. 1 _____ 5

_____ 6

_____ 7 8

_____ 9

_____ 10

_____ 10

v. 2 _____

v. 3 _____

_____ 11

2. READ Matthew 11:1-6.

John the Baptist was the cousin of Christ and called of God to be the herald of the Messiah¹².

What did Christ do after He chose His disciples and instructed them (v. 1)? _____

Where was John (v. 2)? _____

⁵ Messiah: anointed, consecrated, set apart.

⁶ good tidings: the good news, the Gospel of Jesus Christ; His birth, life, death, resurrection; salvation.

⁷ heal: bind wrap firmly, gird about.

⁸ broken-hearted: to burst, break down in pieces, crush, hurt.

⁹ captives: prisoners, those taken away.

¹⁰ bound: put in bonds, tied.

¹¹ trees of righteousness: strong tree as an oak, mighty, support pillar.

¹² Messiah: the coming anointed One.

What did John tell his disciples to ask Jesus (v. 3)? _____

What did Jesus answer him (vv. 4-6)? _____

PERSONAL

How has Christ reached out and touched your life when you were physically or spiritually poor and needy?

III. THE GOOD SAMARITAN

READ Luke 10:25-37.

In this parable¹³, Jesus teaches a lawyer to reach out and give a helping hand to those in need.

What title did the lawyer¹⁴ give to Jesus and what did he ask Him to test Him (v. 25)? _____

Where did Jesus tell the lawyer to find his answer (v. 26)? _____¹⁵

¹³ parable: a story to illustrate and teach a deep spiritual truth.

¹⁴ lawyer: expert in the Mosaic law.

¹⁵ law: the commandments, the Word of God.

What did the lawyer quote from the Scriptures (v. 27)? _____

What would happen to the man if he obeyed this law (v. 28)? _____

What did the lawyer say justifying himself (v. 29)? _____

What happened to the traveler in the parable (v. 30)? _____

What did the priest¹⁶ do (v. 31)? _____

What did the Levite¹⁷ do (v. 32)? _____

What did the Samaritan¹⁸ do (vv. 33-35)? _____

Which one reached out to touch and help the poor and wounded man (v. 36)? _____

What did Christ command the lawyer to do (v. 37)? _____

¹⁶ priest: Levite who was actively involves in the daily sacrifices in the temple.

¹⁷ Levite: a member of the priestly tribe who served occasionally in the temple.

¹⁸ Samaritan: half-breed inhabitants of Samaria who were despised by the Jews.

PERSONAL

Tell of a time when you walked away from someone in need that God put directly on your path?

What will you do next time? _____

IV. GIVE AND BE BLESSED

What do the following Scriptures teach concerning reaching out to the physically and spiritually needy? Who taught it? What promise is there for you?

Proverbs 25:21 _____

Isaiah 58:6-8 _____

Matthew 5:41-45 _____

Matthew 19:16-22 _____

Luke 6:38 _____

19

Luke 12:31-34 _____

20

Acts 20:35 _____

Ephesians 4:28 _____

PERSONAL

How has God blessed you when you have sacrificially given to someone in need? _____

CHALLENGE

SUMMARIZE the following Scriptures to encourage yourself to start reaching out to those in need.

Proverbs 11:25 _____

¹⁹ bosom: large bag in the Eastern dress; generosity reaps boundless generosity.

²⁰ alms: compassionateness, beneficence, good deeds.

Malachi 3:10 _____

II Corinthians 9:6-11 _____

*Open your mouth for the speechless,
in the cause of all who are appointed to die.
Open your mouth, judge righteously,
and plead the cause of the poor and needy.*

Proverbs 31:8, 9

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His holy name, and His Word have been capitalized.

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