

The Woman to Marry - Check list Proverbs 31

This passage is addressed to young men seeking a wife and describes what the godly woman will be like, in other words the character of the woman you should look for when seeking a Christian wife.

Pro 31:10 Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies.

The basic idea is the finding of a woman that is worth marrying and the advice is to look not at her wealth but at her godliness (virtue)

Pro 31:11 The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil.

He trusts her because of the Holy Spirit in her and does not need anything else from her like a dowry or bride price.

Pro 31:12 She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.

He never needs to be concerned over her actions because of the Spirit in her reflecting God's love towards him in all she does.

Pro 31:13 She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands.

She is not lazy but is diligent in all she does for the household (such as making clothes for the people in the house and means her household is well maintained by her)

Pro 31:14 She is like the merchants' ships; she bringeth her food from afar.

There were no corner stores in her day so she had to travel distances to obtain things and she was prepared to do that was necessary to obtain what her household needed.

Pro 31:15 She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens.

She puts the need of her family before her own because she loves them and is diligent in performing her duties.

Pro 31:16 She considereth a field, and buyeth it: with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard.

She is not afraid to work outside the house to help provide its needs but does it in such a way it does not interfere with her duties as a wife

Pro 31:17 She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms.

She attacks with diligence all she has to do (tucking up her dress so it won't get in the way) and attacks what she has to do with all her strength.

Pro 31:18 She perceiveth that her merchandise is good: her candle goeth not out by night.

She makes certain everything is done correctly and all that the household needs she does.

Pro 31:19 She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff.

She is not afraid to do menial or boring work if it is required.

Pro 31:20 She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy.

She is compassionate to those who need it and does not love money so shares what she can with those that need it. She uses it properly as God says to use it (to help the poor and needy).

Pro 31:21 She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household are clothed with scarlet.

Her family does not go without the important things they need

Pro 31:22 She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing is silk and purple.

She only provides the best for her family

Pro 31:23 Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land.

Her husband is able to go about his business without the need to supervise her activities so is able to be an example to those around.

Pro 31:24 She maketh fine linen, and selleth it; and delivereth girdles unto the merchant.

In her spare time she does things that help the household additional to her normal duties.

Pro 31:25 Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come.

Her character (inner strength and integrity) and not her appearance mark her and she will rejoice eventually as a result of all she does.

Pro 31:26 She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness.

She always encourages people and shows love and compassion toward them in all she says and does. She does not have a critical spirit.

Pro 31:27 She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness.

She is diligent in all she does for her household so that all their needs are met

Pro 31:28 Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her.

Her husband and children respect her and praise her to people

Pro 31:29 Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all.

When compared to other women she comes off very favourably.

Pro 31:30 Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.

Ability and good looks are deceptive but godliness in a woman will always be praised.

Pro 31:31 Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.

What she does praises her and she will be rewarded for all she does by her husband.