

Ladies Who Are After God's Heart

We are finally going to talk today about the preciousness of women who are Heavenly designed by the Father's hand. This is a study I wrote back in May around Mother's Day, but timely for sure, we all need a little encouragement and instruction whether we are a mother or not... we are females first. Although this message is geared towards females, I hope our brothers will stick with us today in order to see us more clearly and maybe answer some questions they have about how we operate based on how the Father designed us. All of us know how complicated we can be as females... probably perplexing to males much of the time and even to ourselves occasionally. Here's a secret... we too do not know why we do what we do sometimes... lol But one thing we do have in common with males who love the Lord... we are after God's heart, just like you are. It may look messy sometimes, but we love Jesus and we love you and need your secure guidance in love if you are serving Jesus alongside us. So we will go over many things like this today and it will not surprise most of you – we are going to start out in Proverbs 31, which describes a woman under the influence of the Lord. This instruction is something we need as encouragement to be exactly like the Lord designed us to be. It can be challenging to absorb, we are often our own worst critics – but for today, let's look at it as an encouragement to keep growing in Him, seeking His will and way be done in and through us and have hope that He shall finish the work He started inside each of us.

Proverbs 31

Who^[c] can find a ^[d]virtuous wife? For her worth is far above rubies. The heart of her husband safely trusts her; So he will have no lack of gain. She does him good and not evil All the days of her life. She seeks wool and flax, And willingly works with her hands. She is like the merchant ships, She brings her food from afar. She also rises while it is yet night, And provides food for her household, And a portion for her maidservants. She considers a field and buys it; From ^[e]her profits she plants a vineyard. She girds herself with strength, And strengthens her arms. She perceives that her merchandise is good, And her lamp does not go out by night. She stretches out her hands to the distaff, And her hand holds the spindle. She extends her hand to the poor, Yes, she reaches out her hands to the needy. She is not afraid of snow for her household, For all her household is clothed with scarlet. She makes tapestry for herself; Her clothing is fine linen and purple. Her husband is known in the gates, When he sits among the elders of the land. She makes linen garments and sells them, And supplies sashes for the merchants. Strength and honor are her clothing; She shall rejoice in time to come. She opens her mouth with wisdom, And on her tongue is the law of kindness. She watches over the ways of her household, And does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children rise up and call her blessed; Her husband also, and he praises her: "Many daughters have done well, But you excel them all." Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing, But a woman who fears the LORD, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands, And let her own works praise her in the gates.

One thing so very special about a virtuous woman... The Lord created her to serve, compliment and give to others in a most precious way. Which makes her not only priceless, but present. We often feel like we have no purpose or worth or blame ourselves a lot... But once the Lord has His hand upon us and we surrender to Him – we are blessed with the fruit of our hands by the lives we touch.

Just a few key points we glean from Proverbs 31 regarding a virtuous woman –

- She walks in the path without complaint that God has called her to walk.
- She shapes the lives of all she connects with.
- She is both wise & strong.
- She lives with conviction, in awe and fear of the Lord.
- She is refined by His hand and carries herself with dignity.
- She speaks with kindness.
- She is intelligent in mind and in spirit.
- She makes good choices and walks in discipline.
- She has good character and is able to see spiritually beyond the moment she is in.

All of these characteristics were taken out of the Word of God... so please do not count yourself out or feel like you miss the mark so what's the use. Look at these qualities and see how far you have come with the Lord's hands upon you, realizing you are in a process of being formed into His image and He leaves nothing undone, including us.

There are so very redeeming qualities about this virtuous female, unique only to her. It is habits they keep and the way they do life that sets them apart. You might see in all this just how much you resemble the virtuous women spoken of in Proverbs 31 –

- She appreciates every moment and lives a life with no regrets, seizing every opportunity to be used by the Lord.
- She is not distracted or moved by others, self-will or her emotions. Instead she lets God dictate her responses and thoughts, recognizing when it is a voice speaking to her to cause her to stumble.
- She exercises self-control.
- She resists fleeting pleasures that do not compliment how God created her.
- She is committed to higher standard living, to be one who is pleasing to her Father in Heaven and lives life as an example to others of what it means to be a daughter of the Most High God.
- She's very intentional about her time, her energy and her focus.
- While she does work for the Lord daily, she is not caught up in foolishness and is constantly seeking Him for direction through reading His Word, learning of Him and executing His plans over her own.
- She has matured to the point she has built habits into her life that keep her on track, even when she does not feel like it, she seeks His will.
- Loving her Lord and loving others is not a chore because it has been woven into the tapestry of her heart and displayed through deep desires to reflect His love.
- Emotions from being overwhelmed or being tired do not overtake her to the point they dictate her actions and responses.
- She pushes through resistance as she leans heavily upon the Lord so she stays focused on what truly matters.
- She doesn't engage in gossip and unmeaningful or unnecessary conversations.
- Fear and procrastination have no placement in her life.
- She guards both her time and her mind, living purposely for the Lord.
- She knows what she allows to capture her attention will shape her for good or for evil.
- She does not compare herself to others, realizing her beauty comes from within.
- She does not let into her the things which do not enhance her spiritual growth.

- She has learned the benefits of saying no and does not overcommit to that which drains her.
- She follows a structured routine that reflects excellence.
- She wakes up early, spending time in reflection and prayer with the Lord, purposely planning out her day.
- She has learned to appreciate delayed gratification, knowing it requires her strength in the Lord during the waiting which results in greater rewards from Him.
- She surrounds herself with those who uplift and not teardown and with those who inspire her on the path God has chosen for her. She lets no one pull her into negativity.
- She has mastered her thoughts knowing they shape her reality.
- When facing challenges she does not panic or complain.
- She does not dwell on that she cannot change, leaving those things in God's hands.
- She comprehends discipline is freedom, not control or confusing to her because she realizes it is the key to unlocking her highest potential.
- She is not enslaved to toxic relationships and is rather surrendered to God.
- She learns daily of the Lord and is always growing spiritually.
- She is selective about what she reads, watches and listens to... always guarding her heart, keeping it pure.
- She thinks deeply upon the Lord and is not afraid to admit she doesn't know everything, she is clothes in humility.
- She asks heartfelt questions to draw her closer to Him and seeks Godly mentors, listening attentively to those who walked the path before her.
- She is both willing to learn of Him and to change.
- She is not offended, but able to adapt in any situation.
- She sets boundaries and keeps them.
- She keeps her word.
- She has learned from both victories and setbacks, knowing they are simply stepping stones to greater wisdom.
- She is quick to apply what she learned from her past mistakes.
- She is fully equipped to prioritize what is and is not important in her life.
- She loves to empower others for the goodness and growth of the Lord.
- She values herself and does not tolerate disrespect.

I know that was a long list... some things you probably can see already perfected within you and other things you are in a growth state. Whatever the case may be... Our Father promises to us to perform His perfect work within us. He is not done with us yet... we are in a process, a beautiful one and we just discovered some key elements to His complete work within.

So ladies... your eyes haven't even seen what the Lord has in store for you, nor have you imagined, but hopefully after today you've heard a bit more about His purposed design when He thought of you. His promise to preserve you, guide you, watch over you continually and guard you in every way is true. But, there's always a but... you must let Him do so by surrendering to Him, placing Him first and valuing your worth as much as He does. When you know who you are, you will not tolerate anyone treating you differently than He would. Remember... we teach others how to treat us by what we tolerate and we attract what we are, sometimes not what we want, need or what the Lord has in store for us.

Titus 2:3-4 gives us some principals on becoming a Biblical woman who become doers of His Word – spiritually mature, having put away from us childish things.

Just a few of these are:

- Behaving Holy
- Never falsely accusing others
- Never drunk – on anything, including substances, anger, money, control, etc...
- Loving only one man, remaining devoted to him unless adultery or abuse is involved
- Loving unconditionally our children
- Being very discreet of a sound mind, temperate, self-controlled; not led by desires
- A teacher of good things
- Chaste in reverence, pure, free of carnality, modest, clean and decent
- Keepers of the home – orderly, clean, spiritually healthy and cultivate a loving environment where one can rest in peace
- Teaching the younger women to be sober and love their own husbands and children

God has designed us to be an example of good and not evil. To be useful to Him, welcoming, pleasant, happy, joyful, upright, content and honorable. We are created to be obedient to God first and then to Godly husbands; not attempting to rule over them, but as a backbone would be to uphold them to do good and purposed things for the Lord.

You may be asking why, what is the point? The answer is in Titus 2:5, which says... So that we shall not ever blasphemy the word of God and bring Him dishonor in anyway or our husbands, household, children, family and especially... the Kingdom of God's family. And He even tells us our purpose is to adorn the doctrine of God and Jesus our Savior in all things. That's just beautiful and what a calling we are honored to carry within us indeed!

And here in Titus 2:11-14 we get to see the fruit of our labor for the Lord, the end result –

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for good works. Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.

HE is our reward. He promises to deliver us from every lawless deed and purify us – marked as His own special people for His good works! Wow... what an incredible reaping that is – deliverance and purifying all in one!

Ladies, please know... You were already created beautiful in His sight, to know your worth and not allow the incredible gift placed within you as a daughter of the King to be damaged or tainted in any way is what the Lord is asking you to do. We are never to be so laden down with sin, we become open to being taken captive by men who do not love the Lord, the Word calls them “creeps” in 2 Timothy 3:6. YOU are the doorkeeper to who is and is not granted entry into your life. But when our vision of ourselves gets skewed, we will lower the bar, forgetting it is “I” who permitted this... and start blaming the man.

Like I said numerous times... We teach people how to treat us by what we tolerate. If we do not value ourselves, why would we expect anyone else to? They won't and nor should they really. We get our worth from the Lord and are made whole when we lovingly obey Him. There is sheer satisfaction inwardly when we choose to obey the Lord. All these attributes we've talked about today shall increasingly manifest into our lives when we lovingly seek to surrender and obey the Lord Jesus by making HIM and HIM alone Lord in our lives... not attempting to serve two masters, only HIM. We may try to please both man and God, but that is a defeating and impossible task, causing much weariness and heartache.

Ladies... You are priceless, I pray you know your worth and do not lower your value in order to gain something you want right now or to lower your expectations for instant gratification. Looking at yourself through the Lord's eyes and how He cherishes you... causes Him to be grieved when we let those have entrance into our lives He would otherwise not permit. If we could only see what He sees as beautiful hidden within us, we would keep that gift He placed within instead of squandering it away. He sees you valuable enough to lay His life down in suffering because you were bought with a very heavy price, that is just how precious you are.

These things I am about to discuss do matter and once we follow Jesus's guidelines He established for us in His word... We start to believe what He spoken over us, about us. Again, these aspects do matter, adding to or taking away from us as a created female.

- How we dress and if we dress as He says, "modestly." We know males are drawn by the eye, which is how they were created – so if we are not dressing modestly, guess what kind of male is going to gravitate to us? The kind that operates through the lust of the eye. It might bring you immediate satisfaction to get this sort of attention, but in the end... if he can be drawn to you by such type of clothing, then he also can be drawn away from you to another the same way. Our clothing should bring honor to the Lord and not attention to ourselves. Modesty for a decent female is crucial when representing the Kingdom of God. And I am not saying to not look pretty or wear long skirts and long sleeves... I am saying what the Lord has said... be modest in our appearance, which means balance and appropriate covering, not revealing clothing. Again, you attract what you present of yourselves, so this is a way of weeding out the wolves from those who love the Lord before they enter into your life to destroy it with great heartache.
- Something else that does matter is how we behave. Our words, actions, places we go – all of it will draw males of the same nature held within. You love Jesus and keep your ways according to His, you will greatly diminish your chance of being misled by someone with ulterior motives. If we are loud, seductive in speech, alluring or obnoxious then that becomes the type of male who approaches us. We always attract what we desire... I've spoken to many struggling females who get upset when the man they sought after turns out to be just what they presented themselves as to be... It is for our own good the Lord instructs us to conduct ourselves with the understanding of God's holiness and purpose for our lives as if He is a constant presence within us. If we are loud, drunken, seductive and using outwardly techniques to draw a man, then it is that type of man who will be drawn to us. But if we display the abiding presence of Jesus within, then someone who also contains Him will be drawn to us.

We should view our privilege to stay hidden under the covering of Jesus as an honor and reward, not some difficult demand we must keep. He desires we be equally yoked with our partners... so if we do not heed to His ways, we should get upset when that partner does not either. Many people get caught up in EQUALLY YOKED UNHOLY TIES... then one gets saved by Jesus and everything falls to pieces. The Lord desires we stop walking in rebellion, doing life our way because when we do this we step outside of His covering, getting injured and becoming fragmented to the point we are no longer "whole."

My suggestion is this... When we prepare ourselves to go out in public, ask this... To what aspect of myself of who I am inwardly am I drawing attention to outwardly by my appearance? You may think this doesn't matter, but it does, very much so. Every single person who sees us, measures us without thought based on our appearance. And you may not like it or even say you do not do that... but you do, everyone does because it is instinctual, ingrained within all of God's creation without thought – even animals do this.

We should ask ourselves... Am I honoring Jesus in public as one who He would love to escort me with on His arm? If everyone I meet could see Jesus holding hands with me and walking... Is how I act and dress be like someone who Jesus is proud to present and call His bride? And if not... then we have a few things to change, don't we? These are things we immediately can change ourselves and should do so to give honor and glory to our King, Jesus.

It is by our appearance He is seen in and through us and many people who do not know of Jesus will only see Him through you. It is by our appearance we tell others what is the most important thing about us. I guess you all could say, this is sort of a Momma Talk... mainly because no one told me this, I had to learn it on my own, making many mistakes only to end up in danger and crying many tears. And sadly, many females like myself never had a father who truly loved them or a Godly mother who values her worth so that in love they could instruct us and train us up in the way we should go. Therefore, many of us veered off the path only to end up a hot mess fragmented soul who is laden with many sins where creeps sneak in to taint and afflict. As I get older my heart breaks for young females today, especially when I can discern the path they are on – even if they love Jesus – is going to be filled with tears and hopelessness because they do not value their worth. Having done all that foolishness already, coming full circle, I do my best to sit these destined ladies down and tell them how their value and their worth is not contingent upon a man lusting after them, but rather seeing how God is making all things beautiful in His time, including you.

I promise you... If a man is only drawing to you because of your revealing clothes or seduction, he is not worth your time. A man who God sends and who loves you... Protects you and covers you and honestly would never ever want another man lusting after you. He already knows your heart because the Lord Himself revealed it to him. The Lord shows that man how you are to be honored and loved, just as Jesus would.

And here is a big one... God did not create you to simply fulfill the lusts and flesh desires of a man. So that's a lie... one I would love to go into more in detail, if it would help anyone. So just let me know.

Here is what God says about you... The valuable price to have you is above rubies! Can you imagine? You are so valuable one must go to our Father in Heaven to ask for permission to have you as their own. And you cost more than tons and tons of rubies! I don't know about you... but I don't know anyone who has tons of rubies laying around to sell. So it would take quite some time to collect enough things of value in order to purchase your presence considering the Lord's plan. Our issues is... we as women often refuse to wait upon the Lord for His timing to bring to us the one He has chosen. The Bible says... a man will find his wife... sadly, females are trying to find their husbands – which makes everything out of whack and out of Godly order. As nest builders... we sometimes take any old bird we can find and drag them in pretending they were sent and found us. Aren't we silly sometimes?

Okay, we are almost done – The Lord bought you... you are His now and not just everyone can have access to you, that is His decision now, not ours. As we age, we become okay with this... actually most of us prefer it. We've got burned so many times, we settle and in truth just say – have Your will be done in our lives Lord according to Your perfect plan and will. The difference here is... the spiritually mature say it and mean it, the foolish are still learning, but they will age too one day and like I said, I was just like you. Since your value is more than all the riches in the World, it takes more than Worldly riches to attain you.

We know outward beauty will fade so one day those tactics will not work anymore, but your meekness and quietness of the Lord will only increase as you age. Inward beauty comes forth as the outward beauty is subdued. If a man is not decent enough to cherish the inward beauty of you, you do not want him anyway, trust me. He will use you until he finds another more exciting to use and you will be left empty and wanting. Even if he physically stays, he is already gone...

Last thing, when we let Jesus instruct us, we are then led by the Spirit to instruct our own children, teaching them what is good and training them for the days and battles ahead so that their lives are more peaceful than ours was... so that they prosper in this life knowing Jesus and His ways and are not laden with chaos day in and day out.

In this life we can be such a rich blessing to many... gently bringing them along, assisting them on their spiritual journey with Jesus, teaching others their true value as a child of God because we are filled with God's love flowing in and through us endlessly. His love is void of sensual tendencies and when we are willing to be changed and used by Him... it says – He will draw people to us for His purpose. When we are in Jesus, we are made whole and we stay whole unless we on our own freewill choose to disobey and step outside of His covering. But again, as long as we stay whole surrendered to Him, we will resist all impurities of false love because we are familiar with, intimately involved with the purity of His love – which is opposite to seductive love that only satisfies the lusts of the flesh momentarily.

Ladies... beautiful women of God... You are radiant already – valued and loved... It is my prayer the Lord's admiration and honor of you is enough. I diligently pray collectively for both the single and married ladies that you would not lose heart and faint while waiting and being formed into Jesus's lovely bride. If you are single may you learn to wait upon the Lord for His perfect timing to fulfill all your heart's desire and if you are married may you be willing to let go and let God bring His centric force in to align your marriage with His perfect design. I pray you are moldable in His hands and you lean into Him and not fight against Him as He opens and closes doors according to wholeness He is establishing within your life and heart. Above all else, please be open to Jesus and share the secret desire of your heart – come to Him in honesty and humility and just wait... no prayer is too big for Him and no matter your age, if your request is decent and you have patience to wait... He shall fulfill all your needs according to His riches in glory.