

Godly Homemakers

Proverbs 31:30

Introduction: The key part of this passage is verse 30b. The entire picture here is one of a woman who “fears the Lord.” One commentator states that this passage is closely tied to the beginning of Proverbs - specifically 1:1-7, which speaks of the blessing on a life that fears the Lord.

It is interesting that we have had so many frightening stories about mothers who abuse, leave or murder their children in recent years. It is a sad commentary on our times. It is a good thing that we praise godly motherhood and godly homemaking. Let’s note some things out of this passage today about the godly homemaker.

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III. The Salute To A Godly Homemaker

I. The Search For A Godly Homemaker

The passage begins with a question, “Who can find a virtuous woman?” It is apparent from the passage that is about a wife and mother. She is praised because she is a godly homemaker. So much has been said in a disparaging way about women who believe that home is the most important place on earth for them. Yet, we can look around and see what has happened to the family and also see the decline of American morals and religious life. The two go hand in hand. As goes the home, so goes the nation.

A. A Search For Great Virtue

Phyllis Diller was in a beauty shop for 7 hours on one occasion - and she went on to say that it took her that long just to get an estimate! In all honesty, beauty is not that hard to find; but the search for character and virtue is much more difficult.

B. A Search Of Great Value

Two most important decisions a man can make in life are...

- First, **the Lord** you will serve.
- Second, **the Lady** you will marry.

First will determine heaven or hell in **life to come.**

Second will determine heaven or hell **in this life!**

“If Mamma ain’t happy, ain’t nobody happy!”

I read somewhere recently that a survey was done among teenage girls and over 70% of them said they would rather be regarded as sexy than intelligent. Well, that means 70% of them have proven already their lack of intelligence. Beauty is a fleeting thing, but virtue can last an entire lifetime.

II. The Strengths Of A Godly Homemaker

It takes great strength to be a godly homemaker. Ditch digging is easier than being a godly homemaker, especially if a woman is married to a man who doesn’t appreciate the difficulty involved in homemaking!

A. *She is Honorable In Marriage 11-12, 23*

1. Her Husband Is Honored In Private Life
2. Her Husband Is Honored In Public Life

People have always thought more of me once they meet my wife. An insurance salesman said to backwoods man, "How would your wife carry on if you should die?"

The country man said, "I don't rightly care how she carries on after I'm dead, as long as she behaves herself while I am alive."

A man is blessed if he has a wife who is a virtuous woman. He should realize that and give her the praise she is due.

B. *She Is Frugal With Money 13-19, 24*

1. Her Practical Disbursements

One man said that he and his wife had a joint checking account, which basically meant that he had a device that allowed his wife to beat him to the draw! A godly homemaker is careful with spending family money.

2. Her Portfolio Investments

She buys land, plants on it, then sells the goods for a profit. Not many families buy land to plant items and sell them these days, though they was a common thing during the days when this text was written. The point of this passage is that a godly wife and homemaker knows how to invest not just how to spend!

3. Her Personal Improvements

She puts her hand to the spindle, meaning that she learns how to do her tasks well. She develops herself with improvements for the sake of God and her family.

C. *She is Exceptional In Mercy 20*

Her heart goes out to others who are less fortunate. She seeks to share with those who are suffering. Her concern is not just for "me and mine." She has a missionary heart!

D. *She Is Effectual In Motherhood 21, 26-28*

1. Her Anticipation

She thinks about her children and husband, and she anticipates their needs before they arise. I watched my wife plan out the children's school clothes and my clothes for Sundays all those years when our children were growing up. What a blessing to have a wife that thinks ahead and cares for her family before the need arises.

2. Her Instruction

Susannah Wesley spent one hour each day praying one of her 17 children. In addition, she took each child aside for a full hour every week to discuss spiritual matters. No wonder two of her sons, Charles and John, were used of God to bring blessing to all of England and much of America. Here are a few rules she followed in training her children: "(1) Subdue self-will in a child and thus work together with God to save his soul. (2) Teach him to pray as soon as he can speak. (3) Give him nothing he cries for and only what is good for him if he asks for it politely. (4) To prevent lying, punish no fault which is freely confessed, but never allow a rebellious, sinful act to go unnoticed. (5) Commend and reward good behavior. (6) Strictly observe all promises you have made to your child."

Husbands, you need to listen to your wife's instructions on occasion, as well. Your wife will sometimes tell you to watch out for a certain woman. When she does that, you best listen. Wives are given a special, invisible antenna just to scope out dangerous situations. And if you try to tell her a lie, that same antenna can read you like a book. One man said, "Have you ever seen one of

those machines that can tell when you're lying?" The other replied, "Seen one, I married one!"

3. Her Exertion

Looking at wedding pictures, a young son said to father, "Is that when mother came to work for us." Mothers are consummate workers. "A man works for sun to sun, but a woman's work is never done." We must appreciate the exertion a godly homemaker puts into her work for the family.

E. She Is Sensational In Her Manner 17, 22, 25

1. She Is Fit

A farmer and his son went to a large city for the first time. He stood in front of an elevator, something he had never seen. He saw an old, shriveled up little lady get inside. The door closed, some lights overhead blinked a few times and the door opened again. Out stepped an attractive young woman. The farmer looked at his son and said, "Boy, I should have brung your mamma up here and put her in that thing."

A godly woman seeks to stay fit and healthy. Of course, beauty is much deeper than the outward appearance and we should remind ourselves that man looks on the outside but God looks on the heart. Keeping your heart fit before God is first and foremost in life!

2. She Is Fashionable

There is absolutely nothing wrong with a woman seeking to look her best, to dress in clothes that are fashionable for her times or for her to desire to look beautiful.

3. She Is Feminine (A Signified Lady)

One woman said that there was a real problem being a woman in these modern times: "You have to look like a young girl, dress like a boy, talk like a man and work like a dog." Dear lady, you don't have to do that! You can be truly feminine, dignified and ladylike without

sacrificing personhood or success in this world! God made us different to make us delightful to each other.

III. The Salute To A Godly Homemaker

She deserves the praise she gets. Some of you men criticize your wife's judgment in matters. You shouldn't do that, look who she married! One fellow said the reason every man needs a wife is that too many things go wrong that you just cannot blame on the government!

Actually, it is fitting that we have a day to honor godly wives, mothers and homemakers. They get little praise outside the house of God and the Christian family. The world mocks godly women and places ungodliness on the stage for applause. Let us give honor to the godly homemakers!

A. The Depth Of It - It Comes From those Who Know Her Best

When you have a godly woman in your home, you owe it to her and to God to praise her!

B. The Height Of It - She Is Placed On A Pedestal

A godly homemaker is to be lifted up and honored.

C. The Length Of It - It Lasts When Beauty Has Passed

The virtue of a godly mother and homemaker does not wear out with time. In fact, godliness in womanhood grows more beautiful as the years go by. In reality, no woman can live up to all that is found in this passage. This is the ideal! The nearest any woman will come to this kind of womanhood, and motherhood, is with a deep, lastly and consistent commitment to the Lord. The woman in the passage before us "feared" the Lord. The word fear can be translated as trusting with faith and following with faithfulness!

This is a good day for women, mothers, wives to renew your commitment in life, family and spiritual labor to the Lord. It also a good time for those of us who have had wives and mothers who have blessed us through godly living to show the Lord we are grateful. Perhaps you would like to come to the church altar today and sit on the front pew or bow down in the old-fashioned way and recommit your life or honor God for the godly woman or women He has placed in your life.