

MOTHER'S DAY: What is a Woman?

PROVERBS 31:10-31

Dr. Matt Shackelford

■ Central Church

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■ Social Media: #WOMANHOOD

5 Celebrations for a Worthy Woman:

1. **W** --- She has a **Womb** (2, 10-12).

2. **O** --- She has an **Offering** (13-19).

3. **M** --- She has **Mercy** (20).

4. **A** --- She has **Assurance** (21-27).

5. **N** --- She has **Nobility** (28-31).

Proverbs 31:10-31 (ESV)

“An excellent wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels.

¹¹The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain.

¹²She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life. ¹³She seeks wool and flax, and works with willing hands.

¹⁴She is like the ships of the merchant; she brings her food from afar.

¹⁵She rises while it is yet night and provides food for her household and portions for her maidens.

¹⁶She considers a field and buys it; with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.

¹⁷She dresses herself[e] with strength and makes her arms strong.

¹⁸She perceives that her merchandise is profitable. Her lamp does not go out at night.

¹⁹She puts her hands to the distaff, and her hands hold the spindle.

²⁰She opens her hand to the poor and reaches out her hands to the needy.

²¹She is not afraid of snow for her household, for all her household are clothed in scarlet.

²²She makes bed coverings for herself; her clothing is fine linen and purple.

²³Her husband is known in the gates when he sits among the elders of the land.

²⁴She makes linen garments and sells them; she delivers sashes to the merchant.

²⁵Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come.

²⁶She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.

²⁷She looks well to the ways of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness.

²⁸ Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her:

²⁹“Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all.”

³⁰Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

³¹Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates.”

MOTHER'S DAY: What is a Woman?

PROVERBS 31:10-31

1. How does the biblical definition of a woman differ from the cultural definition? How does the culture systematically attack the word of God in gender and family? What verses outside of this passage would you use to explain biblical manhood and womanhood to someone confused by the systematic definitions?
2. This passage presents a powerful picture of womanhood. Though the sight of the worthy woman's life is one of sacrificial work, selfless preparation, and broad influence, the underlining quality that shines is her faith. Verse 25 says that "she laughs at the time to come!" Far from arrogance, her "fear of the Lord" causes her to have "strength and dignity." What are some ways you can remind yourself of the fear of the Lord? How can you create such an environment in your home?
3. Take special note of the massive influence this worthy woman wields. In what areas in the passage do you see the spread of her influence?



Quote for the Week. . . by Andreas Köstenberger

"Motherhood is not disparaged in biblical teaching; contrary to many in modern society, it is held up as the woman's highest calling and privilege.... The roles and responsibilities in a household according to Scripture – Fathers: Provide for family/children (2 Cor. 12:14) and ensure proper nurture and discipline (Eph. 6:4; Col. 3:21; Heb. 12:6). Mothers: Raising of children/motherhood (1 Tim. 2:15) and managing the home (1 Tim. 5:14). Children: Obedience to parents (Eph. 6:1-3; Col. 3:20) and care for parents in old age (1 Tim. 5:8)."