

Proverbs 31

31 The words of King Lemuel, the utterance which his mother taught him:

¹⁰ Who can find a virtuous wife?

For her worth *is* far above rubies.

¹¹ The heart of her husband safely trusts her;

So he will have no lack of gain.

¹² She does him good and not evil

All the days of her life.

¹³ She seeks wool and flax,

And willingly works with her hands.

¹⁴ She is like the merchant ships,

She brings her food from afar.

¹⁵ She also rises while it is yet night,

And provides food for her household,

And a portion for her maidservants.

¹⁶ She considers a field and buys it;

From her profits she plants a vineyard.

¹⁷ She girds herself with strength,

And strengthens her arms.

¹⁸ She perceives that her merchandise *is* good,

And her lamp does not go out by night.

¹⁹ She stretches out her hands to the distaff,

And her hand holds the spindle.

²⁰ She extends her hand to the poor,

Yes, she reaches out her hands to the needy.

²¹ She is not afraid of snow for her household,

For all her household *is* clothed with scarlet.

²² She makes tapestry for herself;

Her clothing *is* fine linen and purple.

²³ Her husband is known in the gates,

When he sits among the elders of the land.

²⁴ She makes linen garments and sells *them*,

And supplies sashes for the merchants.

²⁵ Strength and honor *are* her clothing;

She shall rejoice in time to come.

²⁶ She opens her mouth with wisdom,

And on her tongue *is* the law of kindness.

²⁷ She watches over 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 daughters have done well,

But you excel them all."

³⁰ Charm *is* deceitful and beauty *is* passing,

But a woman *who* fears the LORD, she shall be praised.

³¹ Give her of the fruit of her hands,

And let her own works praise her in the gates.