

**Mother's
Proverbs 31:10-31**

Mothers play many _____ in a successful family relationship. Proverbs 31 appears to be a composite picture of God's role model wife and mother. One woman could hardly perform all the functions here mentioned in a _____ time, and she probably had _____ to help accomplish her wishes. This woman is equally active in home and business duties. She is _____ by her husband and seeks to help him at all times. She works hard, makes difficult decisions, earns and invests money well, is compassionate and helpful to the needy, is prepared for the future, and has wisdom to teach other people. She has earned a high reputation in her _____, in the business world, and in her community of associations. All of this is possible because her life is centered on _____.

A GODLY WIFE'S CHARACTER (31:10-31)

- I. Her _____ (31:10, 25, 29)
- A. She is more precious than rubies (31:10).
 - B. She is clothed with strength and dignity (31:25): "She laughs with no fear of the future."
 - C. This priceless woman is a _____. Whether it be sewing or cooking, taking care of the children, assisting her husband in family business, or running her own business, she is faithfully doing her _____.
 - 1. She works willingly (v. 13); it is not a matter of _____ but compassion.
 - 2. She loves her husband and therefore seeks to _____ him.
- II. Her _____ (31:13-22, 24, 27)
- A. With her _____ (31:13-15, 17-19, 21-22, 27)
 - 1. She _____ them with proper clothing (31:13, 21)
 - 2. She _____ meals and her day (31:14-15): She brings food from afar and gets up early to prepare breakfast.
 - 3. She is tireless in her work (31:17-19): She is a hard worker, looking for bargains and working late into the night.
 - 3. She cares for and watches over the entire _____ (31:22, 27)
 - B. With her _____ (31:16, 24)
 - 1. She buys and sells property (31:16)
 - 2. She plants vineyards with her earnings (31:16)
 - a. She makes and sells clothing to the merchants (31:24)
 - b. With the less fortunate (31:20): She extends her arms to the poor and needy.
- III. Her _____ (31:26): Her words of instruction are wise and _____.
- IV. Her _____ (31:11-12, 23, 28, 31)
- A. Her _____ (31:11-12, 23)
 - 1. _____ her (31:11): "She will greatly enrich his life."
 - 2. _____ she helps him (31:12): "She will not hinder him."
 - 3. Is _____ among the city elders (31:23).
 - B. Her _____ (31:28): They "stand and bless her."
 - C. Her _____ citizens (31:31): She should be publicly praised.

V. Her _____ (31:30): She _____ and reverences God.

God _____ women with some of His most important tasks. He sent women with the Resurrection news to the rest of the disciples. Jesus accepted women into full discipleship. He commended Mary of Bethany for her efforts to sit at His feet and learn, rather than do the accepted thing and retire to the kitchen.

What is so striking about God's description of the Proverbs 31 woman is that it so powerfully _____ the view of some Christians that a good wife must stay home, have babies, and keep busy with housework. Proverbs 31 shows us a woman of the Old Testament who is in fact a businesswoman, using her talents and abilities to the fullest, and performing the same kind of tasks that the men of that society performed.

She _____ the garments her staff produces: she sells linen garments and "supplies the merchants with sashes." It seems she makes decisions in the distribution of her _____ as is illustrated by her generosity: "She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy." In modern terms, she is aware of the needs of the less fortunate, and distributes some of her profits to them.

And what do the _____ in this Bible-time society think of the activist wife? Why, "Her husband is respected at the city gate, where he takes his seat among the elders of the land." Rather than being a threat to his fragile male ego, the wife's accomplishments are a source of pride and add to his prestige!