5. She carefully plans for the well-being of her family 21, 25

6. The excellent woman will be rewarded 28-31

The reward of godliness is longer lasting this side of eternity, but most importantly it is eternal **I Ti 4:8**

The way to a long lasting reward I Ti 2:9-11

CONCLUSION: 30 Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, *but* a woman who fears the LORD, she shall be praised

- a) Middle age crisis:
- b) Young and single men: Pr 6:26
- c) Where is Christ in this sermon?:

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"...HAVING BEEN BUILT ON THE FOUNDATION OF THE APOSTLES & PROPHETS, JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF BEING THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE..."

EPHESIANS 2:20

SEPTEMBER 21, 2008

The Priority of the Glory of God #12 In our family life (3)

Introduction:

Review: We have considered the priority of the Glory of God in our <u>redemption</u>, in our <u>worship</u>, in our <u>prayer life</u>, in our <u>good works</u> and more recently, the priority of the Glory of God in our <u>family life</u>.

The family in God's purpose to Glorify Himself

- 1. From the beginning, God set man on earth to live in a family
- 2. He purposed to work in Redemptive History through families
- 3. The immediate family of a believer is under a covenant shelter!

The Man of a God-Glorifying home

- 1. From Eph 5:26-ff he must be: a loving man
- 2. From I Ts 2:10-12 this man must be: firm and yet tender as a father
- 3. From I Co 14:34-35 he must be: a man of the Book
- 4. From Matthew 7:7-11 he must be: <u>a caring provider</u>
 Conclusion: a model of servant-leadership like his Savior Mk 10:45

Thesis: The Woman of a God-Glorifying home - Read Pr 31:15-31

My purpose: I do not intend to beat you down and have you leave church guilty, despondent and defeated.

Reference: Pastor Stu Johnston's sermons.

Method: six traits about the woman whose priority is the Glory of God

1. She is the most valuable commodity in her house 10-12 10 An excellent wife, who can find? For her worth is far above jewels Def.: The "excellent wife": the Hebrew word means strength & power, valiant, even the strength of an army.

- a. <u>Against the stereotype</u>: strength is mentioned twice in the passage
- 17 She girds herself with strength, and makes her arms strong
- 25 Strength and dignity are her clothing, And she smiles at the future.

b. She is the source of unmixed good:

- 11 The heart of her husband trusts in her, And he will have no lack of gain.
- 12 She does him good and not evil All the days of her life.

c. Her worth exceeds that of "rubies"

A <u>rebellious</u>, <u>demanding</u> and <u>contentious</u> woman is not a cause of gain to her husband, but of great loss. **Pr 25:24**

2. This woman is industrious and diligent

- a. She is creative in her domestic abilities to the benefit of her family 13,14
- b. She also has commercial abilities that bring profit to her family 16

We cannot deny that this *text praises the woman who is able to enrich her family*, not at the expense of abandoning her primary sphere of dominion which is the home

- c. The excellent woman is hard-working and entrepreneurial 18, 19, 24
- d. She is a good administrator and tenacious
- e. Practical: dividers versus multipliers / consumers versus increasers
- 3. The virtuous woman is caring, kind and sensible 15, 20, 26
- a. She is sensible to the needy and helps them materially
- b. She is a woman of true spirituality.
- c. <u>Practical</u>: "may your words be with grace, and seasoned with salt" in order to bring grace to the hearers.
- 4. Her character and labors are visible in the small details 21-23
- a. Her diligence shows:
- home decoration
- orderliness.
- the way her family dresses.
- b. <u>Practical</u>: vs 27 She **looks well to the ways of her household**, And does not eat the bread of idleness.

The tracks of her diligence are observable in the sphere of her dominion