

From The Heart Of One Woman

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What is a woman? She is a complex entity: she can be a wife, a mother, a grandmother, a career woman, a teacher, a student — all these and more — wrapped up into one being which is above all, a dedicated servant of God.

Human life and human character are so many-sided, the Bible approaches every side from several different angles. As the final analysis, *“by their fruits ye shall know them.”* Since we are essentially spiritual and eternal, we strive to bring forth those fruits of the spirit; love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. The state of your soul is always expressed in your outer condition and the intangible influence which you radiate at large. The soul that abides with God cannot be hidden, and actually does its best work unconsciously, by the radiation of peace and joy. *“Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s spirit dwells in you? Make love your aim and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts.”* The only way of earning these gifts is by practicing the presence of God. Our entire beings are absorbed by love, and our every thought and every act are motivated by purest love. Let us serve God better by loving those around us with a deeper and more compassionate devotion.

When a woman lives such a life, it may be said of her, *“She is far more precious than jewels; her children (and grandchildren) rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her.”* If her influence extends beyond her home, as a teacher or student or leader of women in the church, only the distant shores of eternity will show how far have spread the ripples of righteousness which were caused by the paddles of her little craft on the ocean of life.

Proverbs 31:10-31

New King James Version

“Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth is far above rubies. The heart of her husband safely trusts her; so he will have no lack of gain. She does him good and not evil all the days of her life. She seeks wool and flax, and willingly works with her hands. She is like the merchant ships, she brings her food from afar. She also rises while it is yet night, and provides food for her household, and a portion for her maidservants. She considers a field and buys it; from her profits she plants a vineyard. She girds herself with strength, and strengthens her arms. She perceives that her merchandise is good, and her lamp does not go out by night. She stretches out her hands to the distaff, and her hand holds the spindle. She extends her hand to the poor, yes, she reaches out her hands to the needy. She is not afraid of snow for her household, for all her household is clothed with scarlet. She makes tapestry for herself; her clothing is fine linen and purple. Her husband is known in the gates, when he sits among the elders of the land. She makes linen garments and sells them, and supplies sashes for the merchants. Strength and honor are her clothing; she shall rejoice in time to come. She opens her mouth with wisdom, and on her tongue is the law of kindness. She watches over the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: ‘Many daughters have done well, But you excel them all.’ Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing, But a woman who fears the LORD, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands, And let her own works praise her in the gates.”

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