
Sermon Text Discussion 5/14/17

Proverbs 31:10-31 – “Honoring Women of True Beauty” by Drew Hunter

Overview

While Proverbs 31 has appropriately been considered the “go-to” chapter on what it means to be a godly wife and mother, its application extends far beyond to include more than married women with families. This text exists in scripture to fill the world with praise for worthy women. The woman described in Proverbs 31 is considered worthy because:

- 1) She serves her household (v.10-17)
- 2) She contributes to the culture (v.18-24)
- 3) She cultivates true beauty (v.25-27)
- 4) She is worthy of praise (v.28-31)

In order to praise these qualities, we need to be men and women who prize them the way the Word does so clearly in this passage.

Quotations

“When I considered this for the first time, I laughed out loud. The very passage I often skipped because it was about an excellent wife was the key to understanding my singleness! Here was the guide I needed to understanding my femininity as a single woman and for showing me how to invest this season, this gift, in the church. As I studied the Proverbs 31 woman, the priorities for my life came into focus. The role that’s described in this passage is that of a wife, but her godly, noble character is what all women should desire.”

-Carolyn McCulley

Understanding & Application

- 1) This text exists in Scripture to fill the world with praise of godly women. Are you proactively praising the godly women the Lord has graciously brought into your life?
- 2) When you reflect on the times you have praised women, what are the things you have praised them for? For those of you who are parents, what are the reasons/traits/actions you are teaching your children to value in others?
- 3) True or false: the Bible paints an ideal picture of godly women as being those who are quiet, confined to the home, and otherwise generally meek. Defend your answer.
- 4) In what ways has this passage appropriately challenged your view of biblical womanhood?
- 5) In what ways is the image of the godly woman in this chapter similar to how our culture desires women to be? How is it different?
- 6) How is this woman able to laugh confidently at the uncertainty of the future (v.25)? Where does she get this assurance?
- 7) What do you need to change (in your heart, your home, your place of work, your family etc.) in order to create an environment where godly women are prized for the right reasons and praised both privately and publically?