



Rehoboth Reformed Church

Thoroughly Equipped Radio Program Outline

May 12th, 2013

Introduction: Proverbs 31:10-31 is applicable to everyone.

Main point. We are taught in the book of Proverbs that "*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge*" (1:7) and *wisdom* (9:10) and *the end thereof is virtue* (2:5f), *honor* (22:4), and *life* (14:27; 19:23). In Proverbs 31, we behold the glorious beauty of the outworking of that godly fear in the life of a wife and mother. As husbands, sons and daughters we are also challenged by this passage to exhibit such godly virtues and love as is found in the book of Proverbs in order to honor, encourage, and strengthen those women in our lives that God has so graciously given to us.

I. It is vitally important to trust her (v. 11)

- A. Do you trust God's wisdom?
- B. Husbands - encouraging your wife includes trusting her.
- C. Sons and daughters - honoring your mother includes trusting her.

II. It is vitally important to be worthy of respect (v. 23)

- A. Does your life reflect the noble character of the child of God?
- B. Husbands - it is so much easier to respect someone who is worthy of respect.
- C. Sons and daughters - remember that she will always be your mother, make her job easier by developing and maintaining a godly, Christian character as taught in the book of Proverbs.

III. It is vitally important to praise her (v. 28-31)

- A. Praise requires the involvement of the mind (noticing the things that are praise worthy).
- B. A wife and mother needs praise from her husband and children. Her work is extremely demanding and never done.

Conclusion: In Proverbs 31, we discover an Old Testament example of faithful love in action. It is First Corinthians chapter 13 revealed in practical ways through the faithful love of a godly wife and mother. In honoring her today (Mothers Day), we give honor to the One who made her and provides His grace and spirit to make her the woman of God that we know and respect.

Footnote: My thanks to Dr. Philip Graham Ryken, who inspired these thoughts on this subject and directed my attention to these particular verses of Proverbs 31 in his book titled He Speaks To Me Everywhere: Meditations on Christianity and Culture.

Preparations for Next Sunday's program: What does the Apostle Paul mean when he uses the phrase "*all Scripture*" in his letter to Timothy (i.e. 2 Timothy 3:16)?

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