

God-fearing Beauty

19 November 2017 PM – Proverbs 31:30 – Scott Childs

- d) One of the simplest and clearest ways to speak out against the unisex movement is to dress distinctly feminine. (Deuteronomy 22:5) "*The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the LORD thy God.*" Though in Bible days both men and women wore long robes, not pants and dresses, this verse is crystal clear that God demanded distinction between the genders.
 - e) Seek to look distinctly feminine. (1 Corinthians 11:14-15) "*Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him? But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering.*"
- 3) Study verses on **modesty**.
- a) (Proverbs 7:10) "*And, behold, there met him a woman with the attire of an harlot, and subtil of heart.*" What does this verse say about the message of clothing? __ Some clothing is provocative.
 - b) (Matthew 5:28) "*But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.*" Yes, men need to guard their thoughts, but how should a Christian lady dress to help the men?
 - c) (1 Timothy 2:9) "*In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array;*"

3. God-fearing women are truly beautiful

- a. The closer you get to God, the more you reflect His character and beauty.
- b. Physical beauty fades with time but God-fearing beauty increases with time.

Conclusion: Can you gain that praiseworthy, God-fearing beauty?

Absolutely! I challenge you this evening to take your notes and spend time this week studying this for yourself. Ask God to help you fear Him more so that you can develop God-fearing beauty.

Song: More Like the Master - 325

Introduction: Tonight's message is going to be more of a study. I want you to interact with me and answer questions. Our verse this evening tells you how you can gain spiritual beauty that will be praiseworthy. **Read Proverbs 31:30.** This woman will be praised by her husband. She will be praised by her children. And most importantly she will be praised by God. Look closely at the verse and tell me, "What does this woman do to become praiseworthy?" __ **She fears the Lord!** What is the one virtue she has that sets her above other women? __ **She fears the Lord!** What is it that gives her inner beauty that far surpasses any physical charm or beauty? __ **She fears the Lord!** Can you gain that praiseworthy, God-fearing beauty? __ **Absolutely!**

Transition: This evening I want to help you discover from the Bible how you can truly fear the Lord so you can gain this spiritual beauty that will be praiseworthy.

1. You cannot do what you don't understand

a. Defining the fear of the Lord is not easy

- 1) It is like prying open a fresh pumpkin seed or cleaning off an avocado pit. It is hard to get a good hold on it.
- 2) The word "fear" is defined as fear or reverence. Ancient Hebrew Dictionary: Awe or fear where one throws self to the foot of one in authority.
- 3) One who truly fears the Lord will be respect Him, long to please Him, and fear to break His heart or incur His discipline for disobedience.

b. Note how the Bible uses the term

- 1) (Deuteronomy 13:4) "*Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him.*" According to this verse, what would be a primary requirement for fearing God? __ Obeying God.
- 2) The pagan sailors in the story of Jonah came to fear God when they saw the miracle of the calm sea. (Jonah 1:16) "*Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice unto the LORD, and made vows.*" What did

their fear of God cause them to do? __ Worship God!

- 3) When people of Ephesus saw how the demons reacted to false teachers, many were saved and feared the Lord. (Acts 19:19) "*Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men: and they counted the price of them, and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver.*" What did their fear of God lead to? __ Changed lives!

2. Fearing God will change your life

a. How will fearing God change your life?

- 1) (Isaiah 6:5) "*Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.*" Fearing God will humble you when you see God's holiness.
- 2) (Deuteronomy 17:19) "*And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them.*" You will gain fear of God as you daily study the Bible.
- 3) (Proverbs 9:10) "*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.*" Fear will give you an audience with God to seek God's wisdom.
- 4) (Proverbs 8:13) "*The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.*" Fearing God will cause you to hate evil as God hates it.
- 5) (Proverbs 14:26) "*In the fear of the LORD is strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge.*" Fearing God will secure His protection for you.
- 6) (Proverbs 16:6) "*By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the LORD men depart from evil.*" Fearing God will keep you from evil.
- 7) (Proverbs 19:23) "*The fear of the LORD tendeth to life: and he that hath it shall abide satisfied; he shall not be visited with evil.*" Fearing God will bring contentment.
- 8) (Proverbs 22:4) "*By humility and the fear of the LORD are riches, and honour, and life.*" Fearing God will lead to

eternal benefits. These are general ways that the fear of God will change any Christian's life.

b. How does the fear of the Lord apply specifically to women?

- 1) How can you discover this? __ Look in the Bible!
- 2) If obeying God leads to fearing God, then obeying specific commands to women will help you fear the Lord.

c. Go through the Bible and make a list.

- 1) Study verses on a woman's **duties**.
 - a) (Titus 2:3-5) "*The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.*"
 - b) (1 Timothy 3:11) "*Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things.*"
 - c) (1 Corinthians 14:35) "*And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.*"
- 2) Study verses on gender **distinction**.
 - a) This is a very important subject, especially in the light of the recent vote in our country. The Merriam Webster Dictionary defines unisex as follows: "**the state or condition of not being distinguishable (as by hair or clothing) as to sex.**"
 - b) God created distinct genders that our wicked society is trying to blur. (Genesis 1:27) "*So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.*"
 - c) Sin is the cause. (Romans 1:26-27) "*For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.*"