

“You Surpass Them All”

Proverbs 31:25-30

Mother’s Day

Happy Mother’s Day to all our women in the Zion Hill family. It is my prayer that you will feel love and appreciated on this day set aside to honor our mothers. Many of you are mothers and grandmothers, and some of you are mother figures in the lives of others. Thank you for your good and godly influence in the lives of others.

A sign seen in a supermarket wine section: “Don’t forget to buy a bottle for Mom for Mother’s Day. Remember, you’re the reason she drinks!”

Another sign: “Happy Mother’s Day to someone who did a great job raising her children and her husband.”

Mark Twain said: “My mother had a great deal of trouble with me, but I think she enjoyed it.”

My favorite sign: “Happy Mother’s Day to the one who believes I could do anything despite all evidence to the contrary.”

I thank God for my mother, and I thank God for my wife for being a terrific mother to our daughters. I am grateful for the women of Zion Hill who faithfully pray for and minister to others. I am thankful for the women of Zion Hill’s past who were faithful to pray for our church, present and future.

What is the ideal godly woman? A godly woman is a woman who has godly traits. It does not mean that she is perfect or without fault. It means that she strives to honor God in her life and her home. What does the scripture say about a godly woman? The writer of the last chapter of the Book of Proverbs talks about the godly woman, and says that her husband boasts: “*you surpass them all*” (v. 29), meaning that a godly woman surpasses all other women because of her character. Let’s look back at the scripture passage and see what the writer says about a godly woman.

- **A godly woman has godly character (vs. 25, 30b).** The writer says that a godly wife and mother has “*strength and honor*” as her clothing, meaning that she lives with confidence in God and honors Him in her actions. He says that she “*fears the Lord,*” meaning that she reveres God as her Creator and Father. She worships Him and obeys His commandments.
- **A godly woman is wise (v. 26).** The godly woman is wise because she seeks God’s counsel and obeys His commandments. Wisdom is using knowledge in a way that honors God. Loving instruction is given to her family, with this love and instruction coming from her relationship with God. Her strong, unconditional love for her family gives them confidence and encouragement for their day.

- **A godly woman is generous (v. 20).** The writer says that a godly woman's hands "*reach out to the poor,*" that "*she extends her hands to the needy.*" She is generous because God is generous. She is giving because God is giving. Generosity comes from a grateful heart, thankful for what God has given to us.
- **A godly woman is diligent in her work (v. 27).** She is not lazy or negligent in her work. The writer says that "*she draws on her strength and reveals that her arms are strong*" (v. 17). She sees that her family is cared for, and makes their lives productive because of her hard work. She receives praise from her family because of her diligence.
- **A godly woman is priceless (vs. 10, 30).** The writer says that a godly woman is "*far more precious than jewels.*" He says that a woman's charm and beauty are temporary ("*fleeting*"), but a woman who reveres God is praised and valued. She is trusted by her family, and respected by the community. She is truly priceless. She is valued, and should be honored.

How grateful I am for my godly wife, and for godly women who live out their faith in God. If you are a godly woman, continue in your faith, and keep up the good work. Continue to be a role model for other women and girls. If you are not a godly woman, seek to be a godly person. Turn to God and seek His forgiveness and His help.

Nurture your mind and soul with Scripture, and worship God in prayer. If you had a godly mother, thank the Lord for her. If you didn't or don't have a godly mother, pray for her if she is still living, and if she is deceased, then ask God to help you become a godly person. Give your life to Christ, and ask Him to make you a person who honors Him, and makes you wise, generous, diligent, and valuable. Thank God for godly mothers; for godly women!