

## The Virtuous Woman

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### Lesson 3

*The virtuous woman is one who has allowed the Lord to work His will in her life, causing her to grow up in him in all things unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. She is confident in His promise that the good work which He began in her, He will perform, (completely finish) it. She wanted to know him in a most intimate way desiring to please him in all things and His abundant grace has readied this virtuous woman to be His wife.*

### **Pro 31:17 She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengthened her arms.**

Girdeth- as a belt, armour. The girdle was sometimes made of leather, or a more valuable variety, was made of linen. **I Sam.25:13** David girded on his sword. Eph.6, Put on the whole armor of God, stand with your loins gird about with truth. As she has learned God's truth and believed it for herself, it has strengthened her. She believes the truth, walks in the truth, and talk's of the truth, for she is filled with the Spirit of truth. The Spirit of truth enables her to rightly divide the word of truth and gives her boldness to speak and stand in defense of the gospel.

**Psa 18:32 It is God that girdeth me with strength, and maketh my way perfect.**

**Psa 18:39 For thou hast girded me with strength unto the battle: thou hast subdued under me those that rose up against me.**

This word **strength** is used as: strong, power, might, mighty, boldness. She is strong in her Lord and the power of His might.

Through weakness she has found, then am I strong. For His strength is made perfect in her weakness. She believes His word that the very strength and power of God is in her. She doesn't just speak it, she lives it by faith every day. When she was cast down, discouraged, in despair, it was an opportunity for the Lord's very power of his resurrection to lift her up and empowered her to stand and then walk in his power enduring hardness as a good soldier. She stands in victory boasting in Him and him alone. Like Paul, she glories and takes pleasure in her infirmities because when she was weak, then is she strong. **Rev.3:9**, the full overcomer of the Philadelphia church, He writes, **for thou hast a little strength, and have kept my word.** The Lord's truth gives strength as she believes and is evidenced as she is steadfast, immoveable, standing against the wiles of the devil. The Apostle Paul's life in many scriptures gave testimony that he was girded with strength and the power of God. **2Cor. 4:8-16, 6:4-10**, perils upon perils! By God's enabling grace he endure hardness as a good soldier.

Another meaning of strength is might. **Might**- She is endued with power and might through the Holy Spirit. The battles and victories are all by his power and might! **2Sa 6:14** And David danced before the LORD with all his might; When the truth grips our hearts we too will dance before the Lord, be it in prayer, worship, song or literally dancing in the Spirit.

**The Lord Strengthens her arms.**

**Arm**,(Meaning)the arm (as stretched out), figuratively force: - arm, + help, mighty, power, shoulder, strength.

This woman finds the Lord strengthens her arms each day as her arms are raised to him submitting to his will. He has lifted her arms, they are not hanging down in discouragement or in defeat. She looks up, and knows her help cometh from the Lord, the strong rock that is higher than she. She reaches forth to Him as in **Phil. 3:13**, reaching forth unto those things which are before her, she presses toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus, her love.

He also gives her arms that are stretched out to God's precious children, to other saints and also to the sinner. Always open loving arms to embrace, to lift and comfort others. It's wonderful to have his arms around us and she is one that is ready to hug or embrace the other saints. Many times when a virtuous saint hugs you, you feel Jesus loving arms wrapped around you. **Son 2:6** His left hand is under my head, and his right hand doth embrace me. Jesus very life is manifested in and through her. Jesus is touch with the feelings of our infirmities and this very quality, he has developed in her. His very life in her has passion and compassion for others be it the body of Christ or the sinner that he loves and gave his life for.

**Eph 1:15** Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints. **Php. 1:27** Only let your conversation or manner of live, be as it becometh the gospel of Christ. **Php. 4:5** Let your moderation or gentleness, be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Another meaning for arm is **Force**- she able to lift others up and stand believing the Lord for them in prayer. He enables her to be a prayer warrior. Her arms are lifted in prayer as Moses lifted his arms up, Israel prevailed and when he was weary there were those that reached forth and held up his arms. **Eph 6:18**. Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints. **James 5:16** The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. **1Thess.** Pray without ceasing. She fights the good fight of faith. He has equipped her with the whole armor of God. **2Co 10:4** (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

**Shoulder**- bares one another's burden. Read, **Rom.15:1-3**.

**Gal 6:2** Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

The virtuous woman takes the burdens as the Lord lays on her heart and goes before the throne of grace and casts them upon the Lord. She believes the Lord and seeks his perfect will in these matters. Her confidence is in the Lord. Yes, He strengthens her in every way. This is the virtuous woman!

**Pro 31:18** She perceiveth that her merchandise is good: her candle goeth not out by night.

**Preceive**- means to taste. **Ps. 34:8** O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him. She has tasted the sweetness of her beloveds words, his words of love.

**Ps. 119:103** How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

**Son 2:3** As the apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among the sons. I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste.

Her merchandise is good. (pleasant, + pleaseth, pleasure, precious, prosperity ready, sweet, wealth, welfare, (be) well ([-favoured])).

This woman has found the truth to be this valuable merchandise, Christ himself, his words of truth. Her merchandise is good, a most valuable treasure. **2Co 4:7** **But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.** Jesus, the word, the truth, the life is what this merchandise is. She is rich beyond measure! What wealth

to know the truth! The very word of God. An heir of God and joint-heir is so be that we suffer together with Him. Blessed with ALL spiritual blessing in the heavens in Christ! Seated in the heavenlies!

**Her candle goeth not out by night.** Her candle or her testimony is a direct result of taking in His word, the truth. His word enlightens her, for He is the light.

**John 1:9** says Jesus is the true light, which lights every man that comes into the world. Many a dark time, many of a dark mile, his light in her causes the darkness to flee. She is a light and holds forth the words of life in this dark and perverse world.

**John 8:12** Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life. His word is a lamp unto her feet, and a light unto her path. He has enlightened her. **Psa 18:28** For thou wilt light my candle: the LORD my God will enlighten my darkness.

**His light** in her is a testimony to others, she doesn't hid it under a bushel she lets him shine in and through her. She ministers the truth, the true light to others and to those that are in darkness and allows the Holy Spirit to enlighten eyes. She knows **Psa. 119:130**, the entrance of his words gives light, it gives understanding unto the simple. **Mat 5:14-16** Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all them that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. The flax we spoke of last week, the inner part which was used to make linen, was also used as a wick for a lamp or a candle to be lit. Be full of the Holy Spirit, the oil, and your light will continually shine to others as she gives out the Lord's words of light to those that are in dark trials, in the dark mile. Christ in her can be that lighthouse to guide others along the way. The glory of God shines in and all around her. **Rev.21** The bride the Lambs wife, descending out of heaven from God, having the glory of God, and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone or diamond, clear as crystal.

**Pro 31:19 She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff.**

This woman is not idle or lazy. She is laying hold of what the Lord has for her, apprehending that with she is apprehended of.

She is walking in those foreordained good works her coming bridegroom has for her. This woman is fruitful as she abides in him and is not move away.

Paul warns against being idle. **1Ti 5:13** And withal they learn *to be* idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not. These are those that occupy themselves and walking in the flesh

**Weymouth translation puts it this way, 1Ti 5:13** And at the same time they also learn to be idle as they go round from house to house; and they are not only idle, but are gossips also and busybodies, speaking of things that ought not to be spoken of. This woman turns away from such things that she may please her husband, her beloved. She is occupied with him, and she is so in love with him she doesn't see or want to talk about anything but him. He has captivated her thoughts and actions which are all about Him. Her eyes are fixed upon her love.

**Distaff:** meaning,

The staff is a part of a spinning-wheel, to which a bunch of flax or wool is tied, and from which the thread is drawn out and twisted by the spindle. This process was a slow and tedious done

by the older mature woman which then would take this thread and weave it into the garments that she wore. She displays his righteousness. She is created in righteousness and true holiness. It's Christ in her. It's only by the Holy Spirit's directions and guidance that She weaves these marriage garments during her life time, the righteous acts laid up for her wedding day. She is spinning these throughout her days, making up her hope chest, if you will.

The meaning in the word *layeth*: to send forth, to spread, to sow, to stretch forth earnestly. She is doing this as she lays her hands to the spindle and distaff and these beautiful precious garments are produced.

**Psa 90:17** And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it. The word **work**, in the Hebrew, has the thought of **poem, needlework, and workmanship**. We are his workmanship. I'll say more about this in vs. 22.

When constructing the tabernacle in the wilderness, the Lord gave Moses explicit instructions the wise hearted as to how to build and how to make all the coverings, and garments, ect.

**Exo.35:25** And all the women that were wise hearted did spin with their hands, and brought that which they had spun, *both* of blue, and of purple, *and* of scarlet, and of fine linen.

**Blue** speaks of heaven, we are seated in the heavens with Christ. She takes her place in the heaven and is seated with him. She is not of this world, her citizenship is in heaven.

**Purple** speaks of royalty, she is of the royal line, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, he hath made us kings and priests unto God and His father. She knows who she is in Christ and her conversation and manner of life indicates this.

**Scarlet** speaks of Jesus blood that was shed for us, that washed us from all sin. Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow. It is all because of the blood of Christ, it all points back to the cross and she glories in the cross.

Fine Linen, notice, this thread will make up the fine linen garment which we read in Rev. 19:8 For the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

Yes, His wife hath made herself ready. With great anticipation and excitement this woman readies herself for her wedding day. All by his enabling and grace.

**Pro 31:20** **She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy.**

She is mindful of others after considering Jesus 1<sup>st</sup>. Her love for him includes his whole body. As she is totally given over to him and his will, she is used as a vessel of honor that is filled and led by the Spirit and thereby that adds to the usefulness of her Husband. She is filled and overflowing with his divine love. He so loved, he gave.

She seeketh not her own but others. She's not occupied with self and her needs, but others.

She helps the poor and needy but not in material only but the poor in spirit. Peter said silver and gold have I none but such as I have give I you. Many are discouraged and in despair and she remembers the times she was and received comfort of the Lord through others and is able to comfort those with the comfort by which she was comforted. As the Spirit leads and gives utterance, she ministers the word of God that comforts and refreshes their spirit, His word that builds up and encourages others as they believe it for themselves. She gives a cold cup of water to those that are needing a cold cup of water. **Isa 50:4** The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: (faint, exhausted) **Pro 16:24** Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to

the bones. God's love pours out of her for its His love covers a multitude of sins. She covers others nakedness. **Gal 6:1** Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

**Eccl. 4:10** if one falls, one will lift up his fellow.

**Gal 6:2** Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. She prays and lifts others up to the Lord.

She stretches her hand by giving God's words that build up and edify to those that have fallen down. There is no criticism on her tongue. For she has experienced many falls, many failures herself and many times her beloved picked her up when she failed and fell but she found underneath were his everlasting arms. He stretched his hand out to her and lifted her out of the mire. She knows He is full of grace and a love that never changes. He is forever faithful, He is longsuffering, nothing can separate us from his love. She remembered, I was a bond slave in the land of Egypt and the her Lord delivered her.

**Deu 5:15** And remember that thou was a servant in the land of Egypt, and that the LORD thy God brought thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm. Yes with confidence, she boast of him and his abundant grace that is upon her.

Her Lord enables her to bear one another's burdens and so fulfills the law of Christ. Gal 6:2.

As the Lord has given her this gift of grace, she distributes to the necessity of the saints. She has a willing heart and is a cheerful giver. She finds it is more blessed to give than receive. Read

**Acts 20:35. Read 2Cor. 9:6-8, 11-15**

She is given to hospitality. She condescends to men of low estate.

She is not weary in well doing for her strength is not of herself, she proclaims, I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me. He works in her to will and to do of His good pleasure.

Whatsoever he telleth me to do by his grace, I will do it and do it heartily as unto him. She has learned to wait on the Lord. Have His mind in all things led by the Holy Spirit. Gal 6:10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith. Heb 13:16 But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

She washes others feet in giving out his words of truth and always in love. All that this woman does, she does it unto him. In Titus 2, the mature women, are admonished by Paul, that their behavior is as becometh holiness, teachers of good things. **Matt. 25:35-40** When you did it to the least of my brethren, you did it to me

**Pro 31:21** She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household *are* clothed with scarlet.

She is not afraid, she is not give a spirit of fear but of power, of love, and sound mind. **1Jn 4:18**

There is no fear in love; but **perfect love** casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. Her is confidence is in her Lord. Her speech is not, what if, but He will keep me and my household.

She's without fear, without hesitation, she says, **IT IS WELL.** She is a woman that knows how to believe God for herself and her household during the times of the storms of life and there are many, but she is full of faith. She knows whom she has believed and she believes all things, not some things, but all things work together for good! The snow speaks of the storms of life that come her way, it speaks of adversities that come. Oh, but she knows and has experienced that the great snow storms provided the abundance of water that cause the roots of faith to go deeper in his word, to go down deep which causes growth, stability and fruit. Oh yes, she

believes all things work together for good in her life and others. Every storm and every adversity is an opportunity for her Beloved to show himself strong and faithful on her behalf. Every adversity is His opportunity to show His faithfulness and glory! He has enabled her to sing and praise him and to spread her wings and fly like the snow bunting bird does during the times of snow. Time and time again, the Lord has come in and encouraged her, she has heard him say, stand still and see the salvation of the Lord, be still and know I am God. I am in control. I'm on the Throne!! The Lord has lifted a standard against the enemy that would try to consume her and her household. Her beloved keeps them well protected. He has made known to her that he has covered her before and behind. She has let His peace that passes understanding keep (guard with a garrison) her heart and mind. **Read 2Kings 6:12-17.** The virtuous woman knows she is well protected. **Psa 118:6** The LORD *is* on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me? If God be for us, who can be against us.

**Her household is clothed with scarlet.** Scarlet speaks of the blood of Christ and that is where her faith and security are, In the blood of the Lamb of God.

**Eph 1:7** In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Yes the blood covers her and her household He is her salvation. **Ps.27:1**The LORD *is* my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD *is* the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Think of Rahab, she followed the spies instructions and hung the scarlet thread out of the window of her house, her house was covered by the blood of Christ when destruction came and destroyed everything and everyone in Jericho. They did not touch her house and all that was in there was safe, she and her household. Think of the the blood on the lintel and on the door posts of the children of Israel's houses and death passed over them, they were safe because of the blood. He has redeemed her by the blood of the Lamb. Remember last week, we spoke of Paul and Silas and the Jailer. Acts 16:30-32 He asked, "What must I do to be saved? And they answered, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, **and thy house.** And they spoke unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. They were cleansed and covered by the blood of the Lamb. She is confident in the precious blood of the Lamb and is safe forever more. No, she is not afraid! There is no fear when faith in the blood of the Lamb reigns, only peace and love. In his hands and safe forever more.

**Pro 31:22 She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing *is* silk and purple.**

Let us remember the thread that is made from the wool and flax which speaks of his righteousness in vs.13. This wise hearted women by faith would lay her hand by faith to the spinning wheel and would spin under the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit, these threads to make the finest most valuable royal wedding garments. His wife hath made herself ready. She is his workmanship and as she lets him work in and through her, she produces these most exquisite costly garments, for he has provided her with the very best, the finest material for her to be clothed in when she sees him. This can only be done by the direction and leading of the Holy Spirit. **Webster's definition: TAP'ESTRY,** A kind of woven hangings of wool (righteousness) and silk, a very costly material, often enriched with gold (deity) and silver (redemption).

A tapestry is made up of many colors which the master weaver weaves. S.O.S 7 says it this way, the work of the hands of a cunning workman. In her life, each day there is a work, a making of a beautiful tapestry. She has many times felt her life wasn't amounting to very much, it all

looked like it was a mess as her eyes were on herself and her trials. She saw the threads sticking out everywhere and the knots and it made no sense, no beauty at all. The pricks of the needle moving in and out were painful which caused pain and much suffering. Then He quickens her and sets her eyes on Him and reminds her that these are light afflictions, trials more precious than gold, these are changing her from glory to glory. He reminds her, Thou art fair my love, there is no spot in thee, thou has ravished my heart. For great grace and faith is upon her and she continues to submit and to let and allow workings of the Holy Spirit to ready her to meet her bridegroom face to face.

**Her clothing is silk and purple.** **Silk**- costly and expensive. A costly price was paid for our sins, Jesus own life God's only begotten Son. Paul counted it loss and suffered the loss of all things that he may win him. **Purple**- royalty. Heirs of the living God and joint heirs is so be we suffer with him. He hath made us kings and priests unto God. We are born of royalty.

Esther was brought to the custody of Hegai, the keeper of the women (he is a type of the Holy Spirit) and Esther pleased him and he gave all she needed to prepare her to meet the King.

There were 12 months of preparation, 6 months with oil of myrrh and 6 months with sweet odors. The myrrh symbolizes suffering which is necessary to rule and reign as Christ bride. As she yielded and allowed the sufferings, then the sweet odors are manifested. This is all a part of our preparation to please our Bridegroom.

The time came when Esther was to meet the King. All that she allowed Hegai to do, readied her for that day. When the King saw this beautiful woman, he called for her and brought her in to his chambers and he chose her to be his bride above all others. She obtained grace and favor in his sight far more than all the other virgins. She was clothed in the finest most expensive royal apparel. He set the royal crown on her head and she became the Queen. Yes, she was exalted in due time as she allowed Hegai to lead and direct her in preparing her to meet the King.

Bridle saints stay filled with the Holy Spirit, they are led, walk in the Spirit. The Holy Spirit, the cunning workman today, works in yielded saints, and beautifies them.

**Psa 45:9** Kings' daughters *were* among thy honorable women: upon thy right hand did stand the queen in gold of Ophir. Vs.11 So shall the king greatly desire thy beauty: for he is thy Lord; Vs.:13-14 The king's daughter is all glorious within: her clothing is of wrought gold. She shall be brought unto the king in raiment of needlework: A precious sister pointed out to me that this word needlework is found in 8 verses of the bible, 8 being the # for the bride. Eph. 2:10 We are his workmanship created in Christ Jesus.

The word **Workmanship** means: G4161 poie<sup>-</sup>ma, poy<sup>-</sup>ay-mah (From G4160; to make or to do), a product, that is, fabric (literally or figuratively): - thing that is made, workmanship.

One day his work in this chosen woman he has called will be done. One day the beautiful tapestry that he wove in our lives of royal and devine colors will be turned around and He in the ages to come will show the beautiful glorious work, the raiment of fine needlework that she allowed him to do in her, For she allowed him to work a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. Oh what a day that will be, the days of all days. He will put her, his queen, his bride on display and say, **This is she whom I have loved, this is the joy that was set before me, this is my workmanship, my masterpiece, this is my Beloved! This is my Wife!!**