The Influence of a Godly Woman! Proverbs 31:10-31

INTRODUCTION

This morning I want to recognize all of the mothers on Mother's Day, but I want to also recognize all the women who have been a mother in some shape, form, or fashion to children not their own. I have mixed feelings about Mother's Day and Father's Day. Not because I don't think parents should be celebrated, but I also recognize and remember that this holiday, like Father's day, maybe hard for those who can't be a mother or a father, or who came from a home where moms and dads weren't the best memories to remember. So as we celebrate Mother's today let us also be mindful that this may not be such a great day for others.

With that said I want us to look at "The Influence of a Godly Woman." I believe if it were not for women and the Holy Spirit of God, the Church over time would have disappeared because most of us have seen the faithfulness of women in the church, but not always the faithfulness of the men.

Billy Graham

Only God Himself fully appreciates the influence of a Christian mother in the molding of character in her children.

Billy Sunday

There is more power in a mother's hand than in a king's scepter.

TEXT

Proverbs 31:10-31

A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies. Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value. She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life. She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands. She is like the merchant ships, bringing her food from afar. She gets up while it is still dark; she provides food for her family and portions for her servant girls. She considers a field and buys it; out of her earnings she plants a vineyard. She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks. She sees that her trading is profitable, and her lamp does not go out at night.

In her hand she holds the distaff and grasps the spindle with her fingers. She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy. When it snows, she has no fear for her household; for all of them are clothed in scarlet. She makes coverings for her bed; she is clothed in fine linen and purple. Her husband is respected at the city gate, where he takes his seat among the elders of the land. She makes linen garments and sells them, and supplies the merchants with sashes. She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children arise and call her blessed: her husband also, and he praises her: "Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all." Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Give her the reward she has earned, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.¹

I. Respectable

Respect:

- 1. a feeling of deep admiration for someone elicited by their qualities or achievements.
 - (respects) polite greetings.
- 2. due regard for the feelings or rights of others.²

George Washington

My mother was the most beautiful woman I ever saw. All I am I owe to my mother. I attribute all my success in life to the moral, intellectual and physical education I received from her.

¹The Holy Bible: New International Version. (1984). (Pr 31:10–Ec). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

²Soanes, C., & Stevenson, A. (Eds.). (2004). *Concise Oxford English dictionary* (11th ed.). Oxford: Oxford University Press.

II. Responsible

Responsible - having an obligation to do something, or having control over or care for someone.

Hosea Ballou

Education commences at the mother's knee, and every word spoken within hearsay of little children tends toward the formation of character.

IV. Redeemed

Billy Sunday

I don't believe there are devils enough in hell to pull a boy out of the arms of a godly mother.

Dwight L. Moody

The impression that a praying mother leaves upon her children is life-long. Perhaps when you are dead and gone your prayer will be answered.

CONCLUSION

Charles H. Spurgeon

I cannot tell you how much I owe to the solemn word of my good mother.

Henry Ward Beecher

What a mother sings to the cradle goes all the way down to the coffin.