

## SEEK THE PRICELESS JEWELS OF LIFE – [Prov 31](#)

[Prov 31:10](#) “Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies.”

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Even before the fall of man we find precious stones mentioned in the garden of Eden ([Gen 2:12](#)) , ”And the gold of that land is good: there is bdellium and the onyx stone.” Early in history man began to exercise his ingenuity on precious stones to be used for personal ornaments and adornment.

Some of the jewelry of ancient Egypt we find buried in their tombs and we admire their great art and skill. Almost all nations in the past have evolved their own form of jewelry and costly stones, but modern man has reached the highest peak of development with a vast number of different forms and designs.

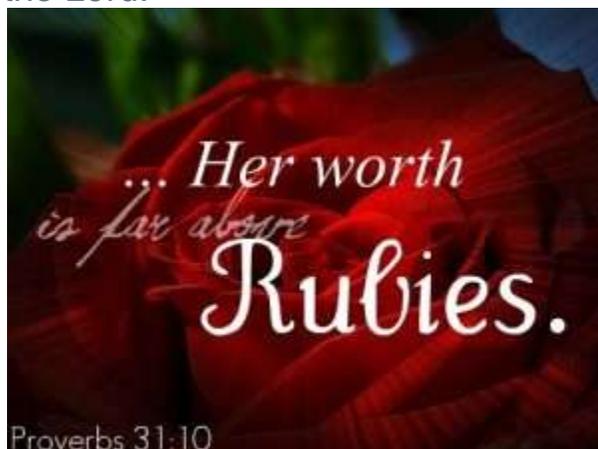
Good gems are always very valuable and highly desirable. Who knows how many robberies and murders have been committed for a few of these precious stones?

But they all have a price, usually very high. It is because of man’s warped sense of values that the wise author of our text places something far, far above the worth of jewels and rare stones. Let us hear his wisdom.

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### 1. SUCH IS A VIRTUOUS WIFE

“Who can find a virtuous woman?” Does that mean she is as rare as a precious stone and is practically impossible to find? Not at all. There is no perfect woman, but, thank the Lord, there are many who fit the description and have the qualifications mentioned in this chapter. Even precious stones can be found if you know where to look for them and how to recognize them. This virtuous wife is described in verse 30 as “a woman that feareth the Lord.”



From the ten commandments of God she has learned to know her sins and acknowledgers and confesses them. She further knows that the Lord promised to send the Messiah or Savior into the world to pay for all sins. She puts her trust and faith in the Redeemer who would save her and all mankind. This is the “woman that feareth the Lord.” Such a wife shows her gratitude to the Lord for His salvation by her good works as the fruits of faith. Many of these virtues are listed in this same chapter and we shall select a few to show the luster of this most precious gem.

She is trustworthy (v,11),”The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her.” How wonderful to have someone in whom we can place full confidence. Could we put the same trust in cold, dead jewels?

This priceless gem, who fears, loves, and trusts in the Lord, is industrious. In verse 27 we read, “She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness.” In fact, much of this chapter is used to portray her zeal and industry.

Out of the heart of this woman, this wife, this mother, this child of God flow, words of wisdom and kindness. “She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness,” v26. Who can ever forget the love and kindness of a pious wife and mother?

She is charitable and kind to the helpless and needy outside the circle of her family. Her love knows no bounds. (v20) “She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy.” Her light shines before men and they can see her good works and deeds. What charitable institution has no woman’s helping hand, where is there an orphanage without the support of our Christian sisters, where is there a work of love to be done without the feminine touch?

“Who can find a virtuous woman?” They are priceless. The Bible tells us of many such women: Sarah, Rebekah, Ruth, Hannah, the mother of Jesus, the women who served Jesus in His ministry, Mary and Martha, Priscilla, Lois, Eunice, just to mention a few.

“Her price is far above rubies.” Happy is the man who has such a mate. The only thing “not good” in the perfect garden of Eden was that man should be alone.

However a solitary woman does not make up a family. A pious family is also one of the priceless jewels of life.

## 2. SUCH IS A PIOUS FAMILY

This chapter forcefully implies that the husband is also one “that feareth the Lord.” It is assumed as self-evident by the author of Proverbs, since he is writing for the children of Israel, who made the Bible their guide in life and were God-fearing people. Of the husband we read in v28 “Her children

arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her," An unbelieving husband would see no special virtue in a religious wife. He would condescendingly ascribe it to superstition or some other woman's silly beliefs. But a man who is of the same mind and heart as his wife will realize that her greatest virtue lies in her piety and devotion to the Lord. Such a man, then, is also invaluable, and his "price is far above rubies." How reassuring to have God-fearing men and husbands as the heads of the family. These men labor industriously to support the family and care for all their needs.

They see to it that the children are trained in the "nurture and admonition of the Lord." These are the men who build our churches, take an active part in mission work, and give of their labor to further the Kingdom of God. Happy the family and church with men such as these.

What effect will a God-loving husband and wife have upon their children? Again we refer to v28, "Her children arise up, and call her blessed." It is unthinkable that parents who are washed in the blood of the Savior would withhold that knowledge and blessing from their children. The children will recognize the wonderful gifts of the Lord which they have in their pious parents and will call them "blessed." How precious the home where children are also children of God.

Diamonds, sapphires, opals, rubies, pearls,—how attractive they are in their sparkling beauty, but they lose some of their luster when we think of other things of far, far greater value. The foundation of the government and civilization and law and order is built upon the family.

And pious families are the foundation of the Christian church. Should not the home of our text be a model for us to follow? The care and preservation of our home and family should be of far greater concern to us than the amassing of earthly goods and property.

Is it not significant to us that Jesus performed His first miracle at a wedding in Cana? Surely He put His blessing and approval on all homes where He is the invited guest. At Cana He revealed Himself as the Son of God and the Redeemer of the world. Twice blessed the family where He dwells in the heart of every member by faith.

Father and mother and the children will all die, be buried, and perhaps soon forgotten. What, then, is the real aim and purpose of a pious family, what are the lasting benefits? The true goal of a family which trusts in Jesus as the only Savior is simply this, that each and every member of that family stand on the right hand of Christ on the last day and enter with Him into the eternal family of God. Such is the goal of a pious family, such is the purpose of the Church, and such should be the guiding thought of life itself.

This is the priceless jewel of life which we should seek and retain. These are the everlasting values of life.

AMEN.

PRAYER. O Lord Jesus, we ask Thee to bless the families of our churches with Thy gracious presence as Thou didst at the wedding at Cana. May our parents feel their responsibilities toward their children and train them to walk in Thy fear and love. Help our children to grow up in a manner pleasing to Thee, so that the future church on earth will be zealous to serve Thee. Forgive all our sins, dear Savior, and help us where we have been remiss in our duties, and keep up with Thee in faith until the great day when we shall see Thee face to face. AMEN.