

V. WHAT A WOMEN OF WORTH LOOKS LIKE: Ruth 2

Q. What does a woman of worth look like? What does a lady look like who is precious in God's sight, a lady who is bought and mastered by the Lord Jesus Christ and what He says in His scriptures?

BIG IDEA: What a worthy woman looks like.

Ruth is a woman of worth

Ruth 3:11 "And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you all that you ask, for all my fellow townsmen know that you are a worthy woman."

- **Proverbs 12:4** "An excellent wife (*woman*) is the crown of her husband, but she who brings shame is like rottenness in his bones."
(virtuous, worthy, strong, mighty, valiant)
- **Proverbs 31:10** "An excellent wife (*woman*) who can find? She is far more precious than jewels."

I. A woman of worth does her duty and trusts in the providence of God (v. 1-3)

Ruth 2:1-3 "1 Now Naomi had a relative of her husband's, a worthy man of the clan of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz. 2 And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain after him in whose sight I shall find favor." And she said to her, "Go, my daughter." 3 So she set out and went and gleaned in the field after the reapers, and she happened to come to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the clan of Elimelech."

- **A woman of worth says what Joab does in 2 Samuel 10:12** "Be of good courage, and let us be courageous for our people. . .and may the Lord do what seems good to him."

II. A woman of worth is reverent (v. 4-7a)

Ruth 2:4-7a "4 And behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem. And he said to the reapers, "The Lord be with you!" And they answered, "The Lord bless you." 5 Then Boaz said to his young man who was in charge of the reapers, "Whose young woman is this?" 6 And the servant who was in charge of the reapers answered, "She is the young Moabite woman, who came back with

Naomi from the country of Moab. **7a** She said, 'Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves after the reapers.'"

- Reverence means feeling or showing profound respect or honor.
- The opposite of being reverent is to be disrespectful or profane or entitled.
- **Titus 2:3a** "Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior"
- **In 1 Peter 3:2 the apostle says women are to be about,** "respectful and pure conduct."

III. A woman of worth is a hard worker (v. 7b)

Ruth 2:7b "So she came, and she has continued from early morning until now, except for a short rest."

- **SINGLE (YET UNMARRIED OR WIDOWS): Romans 16:1-2** "1 I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a servant of the church at Cenchreae, 2 that you may welcome her in the Lord in a way worthy of the saints, and help her in whatever she may need from you, for she has been a patron of many and of myself as well."
- **MARRIED: Titus 2:4-5** "4 [Married women are to] love their husbands and children, 5 to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled."
- **LISTEN TO THE HARDWORKING WOMAN PORTRAYED IN PROVERBS 31:**
- **Proverbs 31:13-31**
 - 13** She seeks wool and flax,
and works with willing hands.
 - 14** She is like the ships of the merchant;
she brings her food from afar.
 - 15** She rises while it is yet night
and provides food for her household
and portions for her maidens.
 - 16** She considers a field and buys it;
with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.
 - 17** She dresses herself with strength
and makes her arms strong.
 - 18** She perceives that her merchandise is profitable.
Her lamp does not go out at night.
 - 19** She puts her hands to the distaff,
and her hands hold the spindle. . .
 - 21** She is not afraid of snow for her household,

for all her household are clothed in scarlet. . .
24 She makes linen garments and sells them;
she delivers sashes to the merchant.
25 Strength and dignity are her clothing,
and she laughs at the time to come. . .
27 She looks well to the ways of her household
and does not eat the bread of idleness. . .
29 "Many women have done excellently,
but you surpass them all."
30 Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain,
but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.
31 Give her of the fruit of her hands,
and let her works praise her in the gates.

IV. A woman of worth is grateful to be protected and provided for (v. 8-10, 14-16)

Ruth 2:8-10, 14-16 "8 Then Boaz said to Ruth, "Now, listen, my daughter, do not go to glean in another field or leave this one, but keep close to my young women. 9 Let your eyes be on the field that they are reaping, and go after them. Have I not charged the young men not to touch you? And when you are thirsty, go to the vessels and drink what the young men have drawn." 10 Then she fell on her face, bowing to the ground, and said to him, "Why have I found favor in your eyes, that you should take notice of me, since I am a foreigner?" . . . 14 And at mealtime Boaz said to her, "Come here and eat some bread and dip your morsel in the wine." So she sat beside the reapers, and he passed to her roasted grain. And she ate until she was satisfied, and she had some left over. 15 When she rose to glean, Boaz instructed his young men, saying, "Let her glean even among the sheaves, and do not reproach her. 16 And also pull out some from the bundles for her and leave it for her to glean, and do not rebuke her."

–

V. A woman of worth adorns herself with faith and holiness (v. 11)

Ruth 2:11 "But Boaz answered her, "All that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told to me, and how you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people that you did not know before."

- **1 Peter 3:3-4** "3 Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear— 4 but

let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious."

- **Proverbs 31:25** "Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come."
- **Proverbs 31:29-30** "29 Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all. 30 Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised."

VI. A woman of worth is committed to self/less love (v. 11a, 17-18)

Ruth 2:11a, 17-18 "11a But Boaz answered her, 'All that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told to me' . . . 17 So she gleaned in the field until evening. Then she beat out what she had gleaned, and it was about an ephah of barley. 18 And she took it up and went into the city. Her mother-in-law saw what she had gleaned. She also brought out and gave her what food she had left over after being satisfied."

- **THOMAS GOODWIN:** "Self-love is king in unregenerate hearts."
Oh but selfless love for others is king of the hearts and hands of those who have been redeemed by the Lord Jesus Christ!
- **Proverbs 31:20** "She opens her hand to the poor and reaches out her hands to the needy."

VII. A woman of worth is devoted to the LORD above all (v. 11b)

Ruth 2:11b "and how you left your father and mother"

- **Matthew 10:34-37** "34 "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. 35 For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. 36 And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. 37 Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me."

VIII. A woman of worth follows the LORD wherever he leads (v. 11c)

Ruth 2:11c "and your native land"

- **Matthew 10:38-39** "38 And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. 39 Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."

IX. A woman of worth embraces the LORD's people (v. 11d)

Ruth 2:11d "and came to a people that you did not know before."

- **Mark 10:29-30** "29 Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, 30 who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life."

X. A women of worth perseveres in good works (v. 19-23)

Ruth 2:19-23 "19 And her mother-in-law said to her, 'Where did you glean today? And where have you worked? Blessed be the man who took notice of you!' So she told her mother-in-law with whom she had worked and said, 'The man's name with whom I worked today is Boaz.' 20 And Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, 'May he be blessed by the Lord, whose kindness has not forsaken the living or the dead!' Naomi also said to her, 'The man is a close relative of ours, one of our redeemers.' 21 And Ruth the Moabite said, "Besides, he said to me, 'You shall keep close by my young men until they have finished all my harvest.'" 22 And Naomi said to Ruth, her daughter-in-law, 'It is good, my daughter, that you go out with his young women, lest in another field you be assaulted.' 23 So she kept close to the young women of Boaz, gleaning until the end of the barley and wheat harvests. And she lived with her mother-in-law."

- **1 Timothy 2:9-10** "9 women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, 10 but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works."

FINALLY,

XI. A woman of worth takes refuge under the wings of the LORD (v. 12-13)

Ruth 2:12-13 "12 'The Lord repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge!' 13 Then she said, 'I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, for you have comforted me and spoken kindly to your servant, though I am not one of your servants.'"

-
- "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" **Revelation 5:12**

BIBLICAL WOMANHOOD: Titus 2:3-5

Titus 2:3-5 "3 Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, 4 and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, 5 to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled."

I. HOW ARE WOMEN TO BEHAVE?

I)

Titus 2:3a "Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior,"

- .

II)

Titus 2:3b "not slanderers"

- .

III)

Titus 2:3c "or slaves to much wine."

- .

IV)

Titus 2:3d "They are to teach what is good,"

- .

V)

Titus 2:4a "and so train the young women"

- .

VI)

Titus 2:4b "train the young women to love their husbands"

- .

VII)

Titus 2:4c "train the young women to love their...children,"

- .

VIII)

Titus 2:5a "to be self-controlled,"

- .

IX)

Titus 2:5b "pure,"

- .

X)

Titus 2:5c "working at home,"

- .

XI)

Titus 2:5d "kind,"

- .

XII)

Titus 2:5e "and submissive to their own husbands,"

- .

II. WHY ARE WOMEN TO BEHAVE IN THESE CERTAIN WAYS?

I)

Titus 2:5f "that the word of God may not be reviled."

- .

WHAT AN EXCELLENT WIFE LOOKS LIKE: Proverbs 31:10-31

Proverbs 31:10-31

10 An excellent wife who can find?

She is far more precious than jewels.

11 The heart of her husband trusts in her,
and he will have no lack of gain.

12 She does him good, and not harm,
all the days of her life.

13 She seeks wool and flax,
and works with willing hands.

14 She is like the ships of the merchant;
she brings her food from afar.

15 She rises while it is yet night
and provides food for her household
and portions for her maidens.

16 She considers a field and buys it;
with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.

17 She dresses herself with strength
and makes her arms strong.

18 She perceives that her merchandise is profitable.
Her lamp does not go out at night.

19 She puts her hands to the distaff,

and her hands hold the spindle.

20 She opens her hand to the poor

and reaches out her hands to the needy.

21 She is not afraid of snow for her household,

for all her household are clothed in scarlet.

22 She makes bed coverings for herself;

her clothing is fine linen and purple.

23 Her husband is known in the gates

when he sits among the elders of the land.

24 She makes linen garments and sells them;

she delivers sashes to the merchant. . .

26 She opens her mouth with wisdom,

and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.

27 She looks well to the ways of her household

and does not eat the bread of idleness.

28 Her children rise up and call her blessed;

her husband also, and he praises her:

29 "Many women have done excellently,

but you surpass them all."

30 Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain,

but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

31 Give her of the fruit of her hands,

and let her works praise her in the gates.

WHAT A HOLY WOMAN WHO HOPES IN GOD LOOKS LIKE: 1 Peter 3:1-7

1 Peter 3:1-7 "1 Likewise, wives, be subject to your own husbands, so that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by the conduct of their wives, 2 when they see your respectful and pure conduct.

3 Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear— 4 but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious. 5 For this is how the holy women who hoped in God used to adorn themselves, by submitting to their own husbands, 6 as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord. And you are her children, if you do good and do not fear anything that is frightening.

7 Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered."

WHAT A GODLY WOMAN LOOKS LIKE: 1 Timothy 2:9-15

1 Timothy 2:9-15 "9 likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, 10 but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works. 11 Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. 12 I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. 13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve; 14 and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. 15 Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control."

WHAT IS FITTING FOR A MARRIED WOMAN: Colossians 3:18, Ephesians 5:22-24, 32-33

Colossians 3:18 "Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord." **Ephesians 5:22-24, 32-33** 22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. 24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. . . 32 This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. 33 However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

THE FALL OF WOMAN: Genesis 3

Genesis 3:16 "To the woman he said,
'I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing;
in pain you shall bring forth children.
Your desire shall be contrary to your husband,
but he shall rule over you.'"