

English

Mrs. “Far Above Rubies”

“Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth is far above rubies.”

Proverbs 31:10 Amplified Version



Number 3 in the series “God’s Virtuous Woman”

As a new Christian with my eight-year-old marriage on the brink of divorce and after reading the portion of scripture in Proverbs 31:10-31, I cried out to God to help me get my eyes off of my husband, Richard, and his problems, and instead make me into a virtuous woman: a woman whose worth in God’s eyes and my husband’s eyes is *“far above rubies.”*

This scripture is a pattern for women who want to be godly women to follow, and to train their daughters to follow. We are also to train our sons to know what character qualities to look for in a wife. A virtuous woman, according to the original Hebrew language, is a disciplined woman, disciplined under the authority of God and His Word. She is a woman of strength.

Although the Bible says that women are the weaker vessel, we are to be made strong by God’s wisdom, grace and the fear of the Lord. A virtuous woman is one who has set her heart to obey God’s Word, regardless of the situations and circumstances which surround her. Proverbs 31:10 says, *“Who can find a virtuous wife?...”* The question mark in this verse tells us that they are hard to find. After reading the definition of *virtuous*, it is not surprising.

We are living in a time where women are trained by example to be independent. Instead of godly strength, many have accepted Satan’s counterfeit, and the church is full of women who are strong in the ways of the flesh, who are feminists and militant. Determined to get their own way, they will: use their own body to control and manipulate through pretending to be weak; or they manipulate by crying; or rejecting; or giving the cold shoulder treatment; or

nagging; or shouting; or blame-shifting. The list goes on and on.

But men do the same. There is not a man or woman alive who does not manipulate or control in some way or many ways, until they see the evil in this and repent of it.

How do I know all this? Because I know human nature and because before I became a believer I did these things. It was evil and brought destruction. Richard and I did this to each other. God’s amazing grace through obedience to His Word brought me to repentance, and it changed my life and marriage.

How does God value a virtuous woman? He says her worth is far above rubies. Rubies plural, not singular. One good ruby is very valuable. This talks of more than one ruby. God’s Word says, *“...her worth is far above rubies.”* In other words, she’s priceless. She is a great treasure to God, to her husband and children and to the church. I wanted my husband to value me as a priceless treasure. But in my stubborn, rebellious pride, I was a counterfeit, like today’s costume jewelry rubies which is easy to come by, inexpensive and of no value. As I submitted to His authority and to the authority of His Word, He has been making me into a godly, creative, priceless gem: a priceless ruby that brings glory to Him.

He has given me a new name. What is my new name? It is Mrs. Far Above Rubies. It is such a joy to know that my husband now values me and sees me as a treasure instead of a liability.

— Janice McBride

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