

Wisdom Comes From Fearing God

"Charm and grace are deceptive and beauty is vain [because it is not lasting], but a woman who reverently and worshipfully fears the Lord, she shall be praised." Proverbs 31:30 Amplified



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This is the key verse to this whole portion of scripture; it's also the source of this lady's power and strength. She reverently and worshipfully feared the Lord. Over the years, many people have wondered how this lady could live such a godly life. The answer is clear in verse 30. Again, "...*she reverently and worshipfully fears the Lord...*" She had one purpose and goal in life and that was to walk in total obedience to God daily, so that her life and her family would bring glory to God. In time, beauty will fade, but the power of joy, peace and wisdom that comes as a result of our daily surrendering our lives to Jesus Christ never fades.

As a new believer, I wanted my life to glorify Jesus. My life and marriage were disasters. It was nothing like the life of the Proverbs 31 woman. I spent years working hard to make myself look good on the outside, and I had a good measure of success. However, on the inside I was bruised, battered and broken. I was full of bitterness and anger, so I cried out to God to help me follow the example of the Proverbs 31 woman. I asked God for wisdom to know where and how to start the changes I needed to make in my life. God, by His amazing grace, was faithful to answer me through His Word.

Proverbs 9:10 (KJV) reads, "*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.*" I saw that this lined up with Proverbs 31:30. All this woman's wisdom to lead a godly life came from the fear of the Lord. Proverbs 1:7

(KJV) reads, "*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.*" All my life I tried to do things my way, to figure everything out with my intellect. Beloved, my way did not work. I needed godly knowledge and wisdom for every situation in my life.

Proverbs 3:7 (NAS) reads, "*Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and turn away from evil.*" God and His mercy showed me the self-righteous pride in my heart and the evil of trying to live my life to please myself. As I daily read the Bible and prayed, the Holy Spirit filled my heart with a reverent and a worshipful fear of God. He also gave me His wisdom and power to transform my life and my marriage.

Richard and I were married in 1968 and trusted Christ as our Savior in 1976. We have a good marriage now. It's a result of daily reading and obeying God's Word and the reverent and worshipful fear of the Lord with God's amazing grace. It's such a joy to daily surrender our lives to the lordship of Jesus Christ. Can I ask you, have you done that? Do you do that? If not, I encourage you to do it; it will transform your life and your home.

— Janice McBride

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