THE WISDOM OF PROVERBS

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Proverbs 31

Ephesians 5:15-21 **15 Therefore be c** men but as wise, because the days but understand w not get drunk with filled with the Spi psalms and hymns making melody wi giving thanks for a Jesus Christ to Go

not as unwise of your time, do not be foolish, rd is. 18 And do sipation, but be he another in singing and Lord; 20 always e of our Lord **21** and be subject

to one another in the fear of Christ.

- Proverbs 31
 - Same picture, different lens
- Which do you see?
- Two pictures God wants us to see here
 - Proverbs 31 is the picture of one particular woman.
 The ideal, earthly bride.
 - The spiritual bride of Christ, The Church

Revelation 19: 7-8

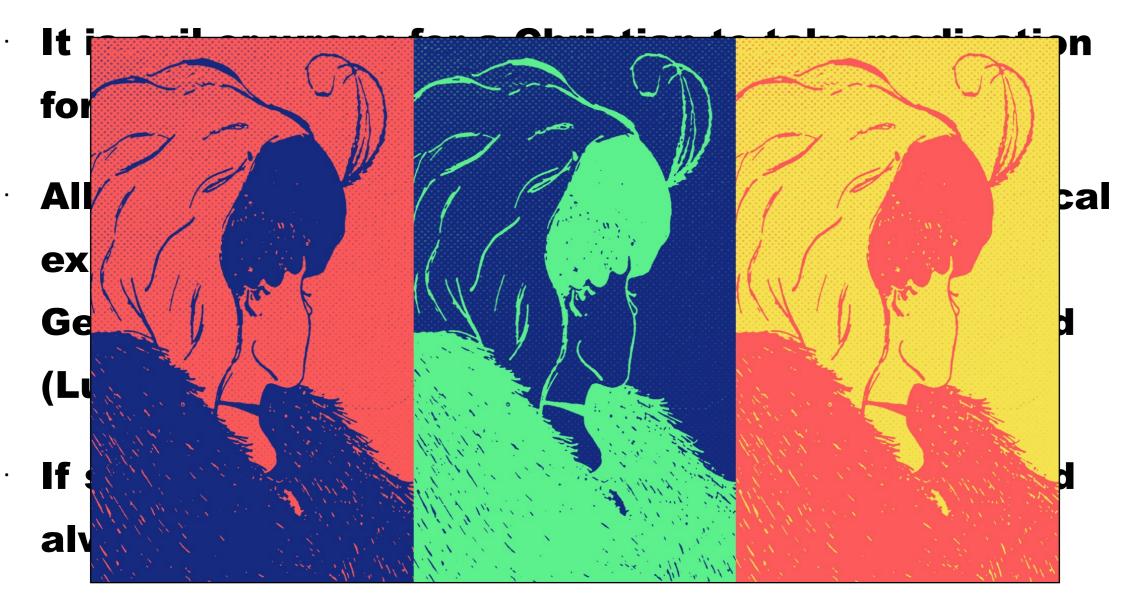
7 Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready." 8 It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

Ephesians 5: 22-27

22 Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. 24 But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything. 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, 26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

What I Am Not Saying

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Illness of any kind, whether mental or physical, is a sign of a lack of faith or sin.

Proverbs 31 is the perfect picture of the relationship between a married man and woman and I believe between Christ (the perfect king) and His bride the church.

Proverbs 31 does not start with a woman. It starts with a King.

The wisdom is from a mother to a son.

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Proverbs 31:3-9

3 Do not give your strength to women, Or your ways to that which destroys kings. 4 It is not for kings, O Lemuel, It is not for kings to drink wine, Or for rulers to desire strong drink, 5 For they will drink and forget what is decreed, And pervert the rights of all the afflicted. 6 Give strong drink to him who is perishing, And wine to him whose life is bitter. 7 Let him drink and forget his poverty And remember his trouble no more. 8 **Open your mouth for the mute, For the rights of all the** unfortunate. 9 Open your mouth, judge righteously, And defend the rights of the afflicted and needy.

• A Good King:

Is not overcome by wealth, women, or wine.

Proverbs 2:5-11

5 Then you will discern the fear of the LORD And discover the knowledge of God. 6 For the LORD gives wisdom; From His mouth *come* knowledge and understanding. 7 He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; *He is* a shield to those who walk in integrity, 8 Guarding the paths of justice, And He preserves the way of His godly ones. 9 Then you will discern righteousness and justice And equity and every good course. 10 For wisdom will enter your heart And knowledge will be pleasant to your soul; 11 Discretion will guard you, Understanding will watch over you,

- Gives speech to the mute
- Defends the rights of the needy.
- Judges righteously.

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• She is who she is because of who her King is.

Colossians 2:20

20 If you have died with Christ to the elementary principles of the world, why, as if you were living in the world, do you submit yourself to decrees, such as, Her life and her actions reflect those of her King.

• She is trustworthy v.11

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Luke 8:11-15

11 "Now the parable is this: the seed is the word of God. 12 Those beside the road are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their heart, so that they will not believe and be saved. 13 Those on the rocky soil are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no firm root; they believe for a while, and in time of temptation fall away. 14 The seed which fell among the thorns, these are the ones who have heard, and as they go on their way they are choked with worries and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to maturity.

15 But the seed in the good soil, these are the ones who have heard the word in an honest and good heart, and hold it fast, and bear fruit with perseverance.

• She keeps her lamp shining v.18

Matthew 5:16

16 Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

• She is a faithful steward v.15-20

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Definition of Steward -: a person whose job is to serve meals and take care of passengers on a train, airplane, or ship. : someone who protects or is responsible for money, property, etc. : a person whose job is to manage the land and property of another person.

Matthew 24:45-46

45 "Who then is the faithful and sensible slave whom his master put in charge of his household to give them their food at the proper time? 46 Blessed is that slave whom his master finds so doing when he comes. • She bears fruit v.16

John 15:5 5 I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.

• She extends help to the poor and needy v.20

James 1:27 27 Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Act 4: 34-35

34 For there was not a needy person among them, for all who were owners of land or houses would sell them and bring the proceeds of the sales 35 and lay them at the apostles' feet, and they would be distributed to each as any had need. • She is wise v. 26

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James 1:5 5 But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him

• She is clothed in the armor of strength v. 25

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Ephesians 6: 10-12

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. • She is not idle v. 27

2 Thessalonians 3:10-12

10 For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either. 11 For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies. 12 Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread.

• She is blessed v. 28

 Adam Clarke Commentary - "They are taught the fear of the lord, and obedience to his testimonies; therefore they call her blessed. So they are of a decent, orderly, respectable, religious behavior."

Adam Clarke Commentary - "Her husband is so satisfied with her conduct towards himself, his household, his business, and their children, that he praiseth her. He shows himself sensible of her excellence, and encourages her, in her work, by the commendations he bestows."

She fears Yahweh v.30

Proverbs 9:10

10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,

And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.