

Proverbs Series

Lesson #029

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Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbible.org

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Prov. 14:12, “There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.”

Proverbs

Guide for Skillful Living

DEATH

LIFE

**The Woman of Valor
Proverbs 31:10–31**

- I. Introduction: Her value, 10–12**
 - A. Valued, though unfortunately rare, 10**
 - B. Her value to her husband and family, 11–12**

- II. The industriousness of the valorous woman, 13–27**
 - A. Her creative and valued labor, 13–19**
 - B. Her blessing to those around, 20–27**

- III. Praise for the valorous woman, 28–31**
 - A. By her family, 28–29**
 - B. By all, 30–31**

**Prov. 31:10, “Who can find a virtuous wife?
For her worth is far above rubies.**

**Prov. 31:11, “The heart of her husband safely
trusts her;
So he will have no lack of gain.**

**Prov. 31:12, “She does him good and not evil
All the days of her life.”**

**Prov. 31:10, “Who can find a virtuous wife?
For her worth is far above rubies.”**

חַיִּיל *chayil*

comm masc sing abs

**“valiant, courageous, valor, virtue,
strength, wealth”**

Prov. 31:10, “Who can find a virtuous wife?
For her worth is far above rubies.”

חַיִּיל *chayil*

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“valiant, courageous,
valor, virtue, strength,
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פְּנִינִים *p^enînm*

corals (e.g., Job
28:18; Lam. 4:7)

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בטח *batach*

**qal perf 3 masc sing
“to trust, to rely upon,
to have confidence in”**

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So he will have no lack of gain.”

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qal perf 3 masc sing
“to trust, to rely upon,
to have confidence in”

שָׁלַל *shalal*

masc sing
abs
spoil

**Prov. 31:12, “She does him good and not evil
All the days of her life.”**

**Prov. 31:13, “She seeks wool and flax,
And willingly works with her hands.**

**Prov. 31:14, “She is like the merchant ships,
She brings her food from afar.**

**Prov. 31:15, “She also rises while it is yet night,
And provides food for her household,
And a portion for her maidservants.”**

**A Her palms (*kappêha*) work the raw textiles
v. 13**

B She trades (*sḥr*) to enrich the table v. 14

**C She arises at night (*laylâ*) to seek
“prey” v. 15**

**A' She invests in a vineyard from the earning of
her palms (*kappêha*) v. 16**

**B' She gains strength from her trading
sḥr) vv. 17–18a**

**C' Her lamp does not go out at night
(*laylâ*) v. 18b**

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And willingly works with her hands.”**

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לֶחֶם *lechem*

**comm masc sing constr
bread, food, Lehem**

**Prov. 31:15, “She also rises while it is yet night,
And provides food for her household,
And a portion for her maidservants.”**

טֶרֶף teref

Noun comm masc sing abs

prey

**Prov. 31:16, “She considers a field and buys it;
From her profits she plants a vineyard.**

**Prov. 31:17, “She girds herself with strength,
And strengthens her arms.**

**Prov. 31:18, “She perceives that her
merchandise is good, And her lamp does not
go out by night.”**

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זָמַם *zamam*

qal perf 3 fem sing

to purpose, plan, to strategize

**Prov. 31:17, “She girds herself with strength,
And strengthens her arms.”**

**Prov. 31:18, “She perceives that her merchandise is good,
And her lamp does not go out by night.”**

**טעם *t'm* qal perf 3 fem sing
to taste, to enjoy the fruits of one's labor**

**Prov. 31:19, “She stretches out her hands to the distaff,
And her hand holds the spindle.”**

**Prov. 31:20, “She extends her hand to the poor,
Yes, she reaches out her hands to the needy.**

**Prov. 31:21, “She is not afraid of snow for her
household, For all her household is clothed with scarlet.**

**Prov. 31:22, “She makes tapestry for herself; Her
clothing is fine linen and purple.**

**Prov. 31:23, “Her husband is known in the gates, When
he sits among the elders of the land.**

**Prov. 31:24, “She makes linen garments and sells them,
And supplies sashes for the merchants.**

**Prov. 31:25, “Strength and honor are her clothing; She
shall rejoice in time to come.**

**Prov. 31:26, “She opens her mouth with wisdom, And on
her tongue is the law of kindness.**

**Prov. 31:27, “She watches over the ways of her
household, And does not eat the bread of idleness.”**

A Spreads palms to the poor v. 20

B No fear of snow v. 21a

C Household clothed in scarlet v. 21b

D She makes (*ʿas^eta*) coverlets and clothing for herself v. 22

X Husband respected at the gate v. 23

D She makes (*āś^etâ*) garments and sashes for merchants v. 24

C' Wife clothed with strength and dignity v. 25a

B' Laughs at the future v. 25b

A' Opens mouth with wisdom, looking after her household vv. 26–27

- A Spreads palms to the poor v. 20**
- B No fear of snow v. 21a**
- C Household clothed in scarlet v. 21b**
 - D She makes (*ʿas^eta*) coverlets and clothing for herself v. 22**
 - X Husband respected at the gate v. 23**
 - D' She makes (*ʿāś^etâ*) garments and sashes for merchants v. 24**
- C' Wife clothed with strength and dignity v. 25a**
- B' Laughs at the future v. 25b**
- A' Opens mouth with wisdom, looking after her household vv. 26–27**

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**Prov. 31:27, “She watches over the ways of her household,
And does not eat the bread of idleness.”**

**Prov. 31:28, “Her children rise up and call her
blessed;
Her husband also, and he praises her:**

**Prov. 31:29, “ ‘Many daughters have done well,
But you excel them all.’ ”**

**Prov. 31:30, “Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing,
But a woman who fears the LORD, she shall be praised.**

**Prov. 31:31, “Give her of the fruit of her hands,
And let her own works praise her in the gates.”**