

Ideals of Womanhood

What God Thinks of Women



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Divine Viewpoint

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1. By comparison with man, how is woman described?

1 Peter 3:7, "Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the GRACE of life; that your prayers be not hindered."

The woman is the weaker vessel, empty, needing filling.

2. What are the particular graces of womanhood?

Genesis 24:16, "And the damsel was very fair to look upon, a virgin, neither had any man known her: and she went down to the well, and filled her pitcher, and came up."

Genesis 12:11, "And it came to pass, when he was come near to enter into Egypt, that he said unto Sarai his wife, Behold now, I know that thou art a fair woman to look upon."

Proverbs 11:16, "A gracious woman retaineth honour: and strong men retain riches."

1 Timothy 5:2, "The elder women as mothers; the younger as sisters, with all purity."

Titus 2:4-5, "That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the Word of God be not blasphemed."

3. How was womanly virtue and courage supremely manifest at the Cross?

A. Last at the cross.

Matthew 27:55-56, "And many women were there beholding afar off, which followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering unto Him: Among which was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joses, and the mother of Zebedee's children."

B. Last to leave the tomb.

Mark 15:47, "And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses beheld where he was laid."

C. First to return to the sepulchre.

Mark 16:1-2, "And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint Him. And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun."

4. In what way was a woman honored by the risen Christ?

Mark 16:9, "Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven devils."

5. What is one of the principle temptations to which woman, by her position is subject?

Isaiah 32:9-11, "Rise up, ye women that are at ease; hear my voice, ye careless daughters; give ear unto my speech. Many days and years shall ye be troubled, ye careless women: for the vintage shall fail, the gathering shall not come. Tremble, ye women that are at ease; be troubled, ye careless ones: strip you, and make you bare, and gird sackcloth upon your loins."

6. How futile is a life devoted only to pleasure?

1 Timothy 5:6, "But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth."

7.What will characterize the life of a true woman?

Proverbs 31:27, “She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness.”

8.In what direction is it natural for women’s thoughts to turn?

Jeremiah 2:32, “Can a maid forget her ornaments, or a bride her attire? yet my people have forgotten Me days without number.”

9.What, however, have the Scriptures to say concerning sinful vanity?

Proverbs 31:30, “Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.”

10.What should guide a woman in her choice of her dress and adornments?

1 Timothy 2:9, “In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array.”

She should wear well arranged apparel, with emphasis on the inner beauty.

11.What should she scrupulously avoid?

Vanity and ostentation.

1 Timothy 2:9, “In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array.”

1 Peter 3:3, “Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel.”

12.How little regard had the godly Israeli-tish women for their trinkets when the needs of the work of God were set before them?

Exodus 35:22, “And they came, both men and women, as many as were willing hearted, and brought bracelets, and earrings, and rings, and tablets, all jewels of gold: and every man that offered offered an offering of gold unto the LORD.”

13.What is far more precious in God’s sight than material adornments?

1 Peter 3:4, “But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.”

14.How may woman’s influence be mis-used?

Genesis 3:6, “And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.”

1 Kings 21:25, “But there was none like unto Ahab, which did sell himself to work wickedness in the sight of the LORD, whom Jezebel his wife stirred up.”

A. Women influence men to sin.

B. Lead them into idolatry

Nehemiah 13:26, “Did not Solomon king of Israel sin by these things? yet among many nations was there no king like him, who was beloved of his God, and God made him king over all Israel: nevertheless even him did outlandish women cause to sin.”

15.What is the object of the Bible’s counsel to women?

1 Timothy 5:7, “And these things give in charge, that they may be blameless.”

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