

Proverbs 31 Bride

If we look at Proverbs 31 we see that it's broken into 2 parts. The first 9 verses is advice to a young prince from his mother, to take heed of the sins that he would be tempted to and to do the duties of the place he was called to.

The last 22 verses is like a poetic insert giving men wisdom on what priceless qualities they should be looking for when choosing a wife. And to the women on what qualities and characteristics that Yahweh sees as a woman of virtue. Never the less it says in **Ephesians 5:25** "Husbands love your wives, even as Messiah also loved the congregation and gave Himself up on its behalf", therefore it's the responsibility of the husband to lead by example through love and completing the wife, while she strives towards the "Perfect Wife inspired by the spirit of Yahweh" scenario. **Jacob 2:17-18** "So also faith, if it does not have deeds, is dead being by itself, show me your faith apart from your deeds and I will show you my faith by my deeds", this can be said the same thing about love- So also **love**, if it does not have deeds, is dead being by itself, show me your **love** apart from your deeds and I will show you my **love** by my deeds". In most cases wherever there is a Jezebel, there's also an Ahab. A husband can't demand this from a wife when he's not showing love back and not stepping up to be the leader and example that she desperately needs.

What's also really interesting about the last 22 verses of this chapter is that every verse in the Hebrew starts with a different letter, starting with Aleph going all the way to Tav in order, completing the whole Hebrew alphabet except for the sofits. Also, throughout scripture Yahshua tells us that He is the beginning and the last, the Aleph and the Tav. Throughout His ministry He completed each of these characteristics perfectly and us being the bride of Messiah, we also need to express these character traits daily towards Him, each other and the rest of the congregation.

So now let's go through each verse and break it down.

31:1 The words (**speaking**) of king (**Melech**) Lemuel (**For or devoted to, Yahweh**), the burden (Massa) that his mother taught him

Who was King Lemuel? Some people believe that it could be Solomon, or according to the Jewish rendering the word for "Burden" in Hebrew means "Massa" which comes from the root Nasa meaning a bearing, or a carrying. It's believed that he was a king at Massa which would make him an Ishmaelite (Genesis 25:13-15), because that name of one of his sons. But since there's hardly any information about who he might be, we really can't know for sure.

Interesting enough his name means **a king for, or devoted to Yahweh**. So if those who make it to the first resurrection are considered Kings and Priests according to the order of Melchizedek, then how much more does this proverb apply to us in our lives daily.

31:3 The lust of the eyes and the powerful influence a woman can have on a man. Don't let your judgment be overpowered by the lusts of your flesh.

31:4-5 Wine and fermented drink can lead to drunkenness and addiction, thus creating poor judgment and forgetting the laws/judgments that have been setup by Yahweh. Affecting the poor, weak, those that don't know the truth and ones that look up to you.

Being a king according to the order of Melchizedek we have a higher standard to live by because our lives are a testimony to those in the world, thus in time potentially bearing fruit and bringing more sons to salvation. If we are addicted to alcohol, then all those around will be affected and maybe others outside the body will lose out on salvation because of our actions turning them away from the truth. **Proverbs 20:1** “Wine is a mocker, strong drink is noisy, and each on straying by it is not wise”.

31:6-7 (Psalms 104:15) “And wine cheers the heart of man; oil makes his face shine and bread sustains the heart of man”. According to history we know that strong drinks were mercifully given to condemned criminals to render them less sensible when dealing with torture and ultimately death. The reason behind this is alcohol depresses the central nervous system to help a person relax, forget the negative things in his life and feel warm with joy and contentment. If a person is bitter of soul, perishing or simply depressed about the daily stresses of life, wine in moderation can help the body relax. (**Ecclesiastes 10:19**) “Bread is made for laughter, and wine gladdens life; but sliver answers all things.” We see nothing wrong in scripture stating that it’s forbidden to drink alcohol, in fact just the opposite, but we do see drunkenness is strongly forbidden which can lead to more pain and misery in life.

31:8-9 The characteristics of Yahweh being the ultimate leader and laying down the example that all of us should follow; **Deut 10:18**. Being a leader gives the ability to speak up for those that are truly in need that may not have the opportunity to speak up for themselves. A king is only as good as the weakest person in their kingdom so it’s their responsibility to defend the poor and the weak.

I think in a way this can relate to us is, since Yahweh has chosen us to live in his set apart land and His eyes are on this land 24 hours a day 365 days a year, it’s our duty to bring prayers and petitions on behalf of the brethren around the world that are still stranded in their Diaspora. We have the ability to make a local call for those that are truly in need of His help, so in a way this makes us leaders and ambassadors on behalf of His Kingdom speaking up for the rest through prayer. Of course Yahweh still hears their prayers but nowhere else in the world is like His set apart land.

31:10 Aleph: Who can find a woman of virtue? Virtue meaning moral excellence; goodness; righteousness. **Romans 3:10** “According as it has been written, there is none righteous, not even one!” (**Paul quoting Ecclesiastes 7:20**) **For her value is far above jewels.** Showing how rare and priceless it is to find someone with that moral character, that whole dedication to Yahweh’s soon coming kingdom. No one is righteous except one, Yahweh, which doesn’t make our value far above jewels. But what makes a believer priceless is striving and overcoming daily, getting rid of all the impurities in our lives. Making white our wedding garments for our soon coming bride groom and sharing the hope that lies within us to others so that they too may race to obtain the prize. **Matthew 7:13-14** “For wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and many are the ones entering in through it. For narrow is the gate and constricted is the way that leads away into life, and few are the ones finding it.”

31:11 Bet: Isaiah 49:5 “And now says Yahweh who formed me from the womb to be His servant, to bring Jacob back to Him: Though Israel is not gathered, yet I am honored in the eye of Yahweh, and My Elohim is My strength.” He formed us from the womb to be His servant and called us out of the world, so therefore he trusts in us to carry out the purpose of man in this generation that we’re living. As servants of His and doing the work daily, sharing the Good News, bearing fruit,

helping the poor, the widow and the orphan, serving each other and loving our neighbors as ourselves. Then our work will not return to us void and He has no lack of gain. He loves us so much and through love brings trust.

31:12 Gimel: **Genesis 3:16**, a women's desire should be towards her husband, and as believers our desire should be towards Messiah. How do we do this, by living a life of holiness, trying to be more in the likeness of Yahweh, shedding more and more of our fleshly desires, worldly lusts and bad habits that we might have. Also, loving Yahweh with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength and giving reverence to the holiness of His name and respect that He deserves. Giving Him all the praise and worship as the creator of the universe and honoring Him in our lives by keeping his commandments. **Psalms 23:6** "Surely, goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of Yahweh for days without end" **Psalms 27:4** "One thing I've asked from Yahweh, it I will seek: my dwelling in the house of Yahweh all the days of my life, to behold the delight of Yahweh and to inquire in His sanctuary."

31:13 Dalet: "**She seeks wool and flax**, Wool of course comes from sheep and interestingly enough it has a higher temperature resistance than cotton and some other synthetic fibers. It mainly comes in a whitish color but can be found in others and is ideal for colder and wetter weather. Flax is a plant where linen comes from and is a more labor intensive task to produce clothing and other materials with. It's more expensive the wool and it's valued for its coolness and freshness in hot weather. So we have two types of materials here that can be used to make clothing,(of course other useful things around the house can be made from them) and if we think about it we have one that keeps you warm in the winter and the other to keep you cool in the summer. Israel only has two seasons, winter and summer and I think this is showing that the wife (bride) is working year round (a circular cycle) to keep her house well prepared for all conditions and seasons throughout the year. **Luke 12:40**, "**And you, then, be ready; for in that moment that you don't expect it, the Son of Man comes**". By clothing yourself with the armor of Yahweh, studying your bible daily, always ready to give an answer for the hope that lies within and daily showing the testimony of Yahshua living in you, is preparing in season for any situation that life throws at you. "**She works with her hands with delight**", through humility and fervency to serve she's not afraid to get her hands dirty. Working hard and living up to the calling that Yahweh has positioned you for.

Interesting side note; wool and flax are only materials made into something so producing something out of them would take a lot of hard, knowledgeable work.

31:14 Heh: **Hebrews 11:6** "But without faith it is impossible to please Yahweh. For it is right that the one drawing near to Yahweh should believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those that diligently seek him." The bride is one that diligently seeks the closeness of Yahweh, going and doing whatever is necessary to obtain it without compromising.

31:15 Vav: Why does she give meat to her house hold to start the day? Interesting enough meat is one of the higher sources of protein for the body. We need to consume protein everyday in our diets because it's one of the most important functions for building muscle. It also contributes to brain function, cell regeneration, healthier skin and hair and it is even responsible for increased immune system. Without it the body would cease to function. So here in this verse the wife is giving it to her house hold and servants to give them energy and strength to last throughout the day.

Song of Solomon 7:12 “Let us rise up early to the vineyards; let us see if the vine flowers and the blossom opens, and the pomegranates bud forth. There I will give my loves to you.” None of us can argue that some of the best study and real, heartfelt time with Yahweh is early in the morning. It’s one of the best ways to start the day because it’s giving us the strength and energy to make it through life’s trials and temptations that may come about throughout the day. It’s also giving us our daily scripture mediation to always be in state representing Yahweh’s Kingdom and letting our lives be a testimony of the example that Yahshua laid down for us. **Matthew 4:4** “Man shall not live by bread alone, but on every Word that proceeds out of the mouth of Yahweh.”

“And a portion to her maidens” John 13:16 “Truly, truly, I say to you, A slave is not greater than his Master, nor a messenger greater than the one sending him.” Everyone is equal in Yahweh’s eyes and the ability to fervently serve one another is truly precious in His sight.

31:16 Zayin: She examines life (field) closely, knows the price of sacrifice and what’s expected of her (The Way), and recognizes her spiritual gifts, knowing how to use them to bear fruit for Yahweh and bringing more sons to Salvation.

31:17 Chet: **Ephesians 6:10-13** “For the rest, my brothers, be made powerful in Yahweh and in the might of His strength. Put on all the armor of Yahweh for you to be able to stand against the strategies of the Devil. For our conflict is not with flesh and blood, but with principalities and with those in authority, and with the possessors of this dark world, and with the evil spirits that are beneath heaven. Because of this take up all of the whole armor of Yahweh that you may be able to resist the evil one, and being prepared you shall prevail.” Putting our full strength and trust in Yahweh and dressing with the full Armor of Yahweh and with the Fruits of the Spirit makes our lives and daily actions strong against the evil, glorifying Yahweh in all that we do.

31:18 Tet: Not a hypocrite, everything she says, does and believes, is also done herself. **Isaiah 29:13** “And Yahweh says, because this people draws near with its mouth and they honor Me with its lip; but its heart is far from me.”

“Her lamp is not put out by night” Luke 11:34-36 “Your eye is the lamp of your body. Therefore, when your eye is true, all your body will also be bright. But if it should be evil, your body will also be dark. Watch then that the light in you is not darkness. And if all your body is light and does not have any dark portion, it will be enlightened. All of it as a lamp by its flame enlightens you.” **Luke 12:35** “let your loins be girded about and the lamps burning.” She’s like one of the five virgins that had enough oil in there lamp to keep it burning, ready for when the bridge groom came back and not like one of the five foolish ones that had to go back into the world and buy oil, missing out on His coming.

31:19 Yod: Has many talents and gifts and knowledgeable in how to use them for the building up of the body of Yahshua. **Philippians 2:1-4** “So then, if there is any comfort in Messiah, if any consolation of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any mercies and compassions, complete ye my joy, by being in one accord, and one love, and one soul, and one mind. Doing nothing according to strife or self-glory, but in humility, let each regard his neighbor as better than himself; let no one be mindful only of his own things, but let each also be mindful of the things of his neighbor.”

31:20 Kaf: Doing Yahweh's work is a full time job in itself and on top of that we have our own daily duties that need to get done, but we should always have time to help the poor and the needy no matter what our situation is in life. [Matthew 25:34-46](#)

31:21-22 Lamed and Mem: [Psalm 23:4](#) "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil", has no reason to fear any worldly thing or circumstance because she's fully clothed in the blood of Yahshua which her strength and her refuge. Also the two colors mentioned in these verses, scarlet meaning blood, sacrifice, and purple meaning royalty, righteousness, are the same colors used in the tabernacle in the wilderness and it was also made up with fine linen which, here the woman (bride) is also clothing herself with. The word "Shesh" used here in the Hebrew for fine linen, literally means white, pure linen. ["Revelation 19:7-8](#) "Let us rejoice and let us exult and we will give glory to Him, because the marriage of the Lamb came, and His wife prepared herself. And it was given to her that she be clothed in fine linen, pure and bright; for the fine linen is the righteousness of the saints." We see that fine linen worn in the bible was a sign of righteousness and just a few examples of those who were clothed in it are; Joseph when he was appointed governor over Egypt. The holy garments the Levitical priests wore, including the ephod, tunic, breast pocket and turban. David when they were bringing the Ark into Jerusalem and Mordecai when he was being paraded around the city by Haman when he saved the king from being killed. We even see again in [Revelation 19:14](#) when the Armies of Heaven are following Yahshua on white horses to slay the evil, they are also wearing fine linen garments. So we can see the specialness and honor it is to be clothed in FINE linen garments. [Psalms 51:7; Daniel 7:9; Isaiah 1:18](#)

31:23 Nun: You can't have a proverbs 31 woman without a proverbs 31 man and since Yahshua being our bridegroom and us striving to be the bride, He's ultimately the proverbs 31 man laying down the example and setting the standard in life that we all need to follow. What's also interesting is that Yahshua is up in heaven sitting at the right hand of the Father with the 24 elders around, the four living creatures and the rest of the heavenly host [Rev 4:4](#).

31:24 Samech: The Hebrew word used here for fine linen "sadeen" literally means a full covering and is different from the word used in verse 22. So I think that this is saying that she's not selling the pure and righteous garments that she made for herself but merely making everyday, ordinary garments to sell and make a living. We know that the man, who doesn't work, doesn't eat [Proverbs 10:4](#) "He who works with a lazy hand becomes poor, but the hand of the hard worker makes him rich." But of course not in worldly riches [1st John 2:15-17](#) "Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the father is not in him, because all that which is in the world: the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but of the world. And the world is passing away, and its lust. But the one doing the will of Yahweh abides forever," but riches in the blessings of Yahweh. So she's in the world but not part of the world. [1st Colossians 3:17](#) "And everything, whatever you do in word, or in work, do all things in the name of our master Yahshua, giving thanks to Yahweh the Father through him." We've learned before that Flax is the plant where Linen comes from and that it's a very labor intensive task. So this is also showing that she's not only putting her quality time and hard work into pleasing herself but taking that same time and effort into delivering a quality product to those that are willing to pay, glorifying the Name of Yahshua in her work and not bringing about slander against His name.

“She delivers belts to the merchants,” interestingly enough if we look this phrase up in the Hebrew it literally means “she gives belts to the Canaanite”. The belt in the Armor of Yahweh is representing The Word of Truth “Gird your loins with the belt of truth” and the word Canaanite is an adjective for the word Zealous. So this can be rephrased saying “she’s giving **the word of truth to the zealous**”. So now we know that she’s among the world working, but not being a part of it and along the way she’s sharing the truth with those that are truly seeking it. Also, the Hebrew word “Natan” used for “delivers” in the verse means “to give.” So this is also showing that she’s **NOT** selling the word of truth but giving it to those who are seeking it.

31:25 Ayin: “She has no anxiety for the future because she is living a righteous life and can only have anticipation of her reward in the kingdom to come.” Anxiety meaning distress or uneasiness of mind caused by fear (doubt) of danger or misfortune. She’s not worried and has complete peace in knowing that He is and a rewarder of those who diligently seek him.

31:26 Peh: “The fear of Yahweh is the beginning of wisdom; and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding,” **Proverbs 9:10**. Glorifying Yahweh even with her words and not giving into frivolous chattering. Meditating on Yahweh’s Torah daily and not answering a fool according to his foolishness. **Proverbs 25:15** “In being slow to anger, a ruler is persuaded; and a soft tongue shatters the bone.” **Psalms 37:30** “The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, and his tongue speaks judgment.”

31:27 Tsadi: She’s alert and always on guard while keeping a close watch on her actions and making sure they’re coinciding with the Torah and the example that Yahshua laid down for us. **Proverbs 15:19** “The way of the lazy one is like a hedge of thorns, but the path of the righteousness is exalted.” The path of the righteousness is taking care of the poor, the widow and the orphan. Loving Yahweh with all your heart, mind, soul, strength and keeping the commandments that he set down for us. Knowing your spiritual gifts and using them to build up the body of Messiah and bringing more sons to salvation. By doing all this there’s no time for idleness in the bride’s life and when times come and it starts to sink in, all that needs to be done is pray to Yahweh and ask him what he has for you. He always comes through, always provides and His promises will not come back void. **Matthew 10:23** “In no way will you have finished all the cities of the House of Israel until the son of Man will come,” this right here proves to us that the work is unlimited and will continue to go on until the very end. Idleness basically means being lazy and there’s no room for laziness in our lives with all the work that needs to be done. It’s also one of the characteristics that will keep someone out of the kingdom. **Psalms 121:4** “Behold, he that keeps Israel will not slumber or sleep,” a characteristic of Yahweh and of the Bride of Messiah.

31:28 Quph: You reap what you sow and by expressing the characteristics of righteousness that are laid out in scripture, will bring many blessings. Yahshua being the husband is also giving praise to His bride for overcoming the world and keeping her garments clean and white.

31:29 Resh: There are many believers in this world and many positions needed to be filled in the Kingdom to come, but the ones called to be the bride of Messiah rise above them all. There’s no greater honor than to be chosen for the bride of Messiah.

31:30 Shin: It's not about doing things in the public eye to gain false flattery praises, but by doing everything humbly in the fear of Yahweh, glorifying the name of Yahshua in every aspect of life. Leading to a reward in the end, that's everlasting and far better than anything on this earth.

31:31 Tav: In the end you reap what you sow and are rewarded with the fruit you are bearing today and it will ultimately determine where you will be in eternity. **Revelation 22:12** "And behold I am coming soon and My reward is with Me, to give to each according to his work." **Psalms 9:14; Ezekiel 46**

So we see that Proverbs 31 is not only about the priceless characteristics of a woman of virtue but ultimately the priceless characteristics that Yahshua Messiah is looking for in a bride.