# E THE WISE & THE WITLES



## SERMON-TEXT DEVOTIONAL

NORTHVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH

### TEXT || PROVERBS 31



#### A NOBLE KING: Read Proverbs 31:2-9

This week we will look at the final chapter of the book of Proverbs. We will start with a mother's (Queen's) advice to her royal son.

 The queen begins by admonishing her son to show restraint towards women (obsession with sex) and drinking. She finishes by calling him to care for the poor. Read the story of David and Bathsheba (2 Samuel 11). How does a lack of restraint lead to injustice and folly?

Pray in Adoration / Confession / Supplication



#### HER VALUE: Read Proverbs 31:10-12

Proverbs 31:10-31 is a popular passage about a valiant wife. It brings the book of Proverbs to its conclusion and gives a final picture on what wisdom looks like. Today we will look at the first section (10-12).

- The wife of noble character is invaluable (v 10). Compare this to Proverbs 3:14-15. Do you think this proverb is supposed to help us simply understand wisdom or is it trying to show us the value of a good wife? or both?
- One of the greatest things the noble wife offers her husband is her faithfulness; his heart trusts her (v 11). What is so valuable about trust? Are you a trustworthy spouse?
- Lifetime guarantees or warranties are hard to come by, yet a noble wife brings good and not harm to all the days of her life (v 12). God's promises come with a guarantee, whether it be in this life or the next, why do we so easily trust in the things of this world that can't provide the guarantee that God does?

Pray in Adoration / Confession / Supplication



#### HER ACTIVITIES: Read Proverbs 31:13-27

This next section highlights the activities of the wife of noble character and emphasizes her work ethic. Let's consider the final three verses of this section.

- Consistently throughout Proverbs the wise have been labeled as those who work hard (vv 13-18). This noble wife is no different. Do you see this trait at work in your own life?
- This passage says that she can laugh at the days to come and is not afraid of uncertainty (vv 19-25). Are you wise like this woman or are you more prone to worry?
- To watch over something implies that she is proactive, this is seen in her refusal to eat the bread of idleness (vv 26-27). We, as Christians, are encouraged to be a people who test the messages we receive from the world and our culture (Romans 12:2). Would you say you are proactive in your discipleship or are you idle?

#### Pray in Adoration / Confession / Supplication

L THE WISE & THE WITLE



## SERMON-TEXT DEVOTIONAL

NORTHVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH

TEXT || PROVERBS 31



#### HER PRAISE: Read Proverbs 31:28-31

#### This final section teaches us what is to be praised and what is not.

- Amongst her family (husband and kids) she is well thought of and seen as a blessing (vv 28-29). How can you live wisely in a way that makes you a blessing to your family? Make a list for yourself.
- We live in a world that praises people for beauty and charm, not for living a life that fears the Lord (v 30). Verse 30 suggests the opposite. What are some things that our world praises that the Bible would teach us are not worthy of praise?
- We are to celebrate what is truly beautiful in the eyes of God, namely a life lived in the fear of Lord (v 31).
  Who can you praise (encourage) this week for living in a way that reflects the fear of the Lord? Reach out to them and let them know.

Pray in Adoration / Confession / Supplication



#### SEEKING WISDOM: Read Proverbs 1:7

This marks the end of our time in the book of Proverbs. Let's finish our time by reflecting on where wisdom begins.

- Why is it wise to fear the Lord?
- Where is God calling you to fear him in your life, what patterns, attitudes or habits need to come into conformity with his word? List them and pray about each thing.
- What is your biggest takeaway from our time together in the book of proverbs?

#### Pray in Adoration / Confession / Supplication