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**KEEPERS AT HOME**  
**By Walter E. Isenhour**

Pentecostal Publishing Company  
Louisville, Kentucky

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**INTRODUCTION**

The title of this book, "Keepers At Home," is suggested by the Apostle Paul in his epistle to Titus, second chapter and fifth verse. For a long time I have felt that a book ought to be written on this subject, hence this little volume. Read it carefully, prayerfully and treasure up its truths in your heart, then endeavor to build and maintain good homes. Especially do we appeal to the motherhood of our nation to be noble, godly "keepers at home." Your responsibility is indeed great

No nation is better than the individual homes of which it is composed. In fact each and every home is a part of some nation, or some country. The wealth of a nation cannot be estimated so much from the standpoint of its silver and gold, fields and forests, but from that of its people, and the homes in which they live and spend their lives. A rich nation materially, with bad homes, bad people, criminal and dangerous, who reject God and the Holy Bible, certainly is not a desirable country in which to live.

However, a country that may be less rich in natural resources, but blessed with godly, righteous, peaceful people, whose homes are scenes of Christian love, a family altar, kindness and gentleness, and all that goes to make life good and great and noble and sublime, certainly is a desirable place to live. This ought to be true of every country and nation. But sad to say, it isn't.

Please read this little book to the family circle and heed its truths. Lend it to your neighbors, or better still, get them to buy a copy of their own. Pray that it may prove a great blessing to hundreds and thousands of homes, thus enriching the lives and souls of many people.

Following this introduction we are giving you three poems of our own composition. May God bless them to your good and His glory, and likewise bless each of the twelve chapters. If by writing this book we can make better homes and better citizens, better Christians and better churches, or win precious souls unto our blessed Lord, we shall feel that our effort is not in vain. May every wife and mother, girl and woman who read the pages of this book go forth to become real "keepers at home," or be inspired to build, and help build, beautiful, wonderful, lovely Christian homes. Amen.

Walter E. Isenhour  
Hiddenite, N. C.

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### CHARACTER THAT IS A GEM

The character that is a gem  
Is never had by chance;  
It must be made within the realm  
Of laws fixed in advance;  
And of these laws we wish to speak  
Which bring men to their goal,  
Where they are great and good and meek,  
With noble heart and soul.

The law and principle of truth  
Must be observed by all,  
From childhood through the days of youth  
That we may never fall;  
And then the right must be pursued  
And honesty possessed;  
The life with love must be endued,  
And faults must be confessed.

The mind must think on noble things,  
The soul be filled with grace;  
We must forget the many stings  
That would becloud the face,  
And look to God in humble prayer,  
Be kind and pure and good;  
For others we must always care,  
And stand where saints have stood.

The way of sin must be refused  
And habits must be clean;  
The morals must not be abused,  
And nothing low and mean

Must be allowed to dwell within,  
Nor reign where God must stay,  
If with our character we win  
A Crown of Life some day.

The character that is a gem  
Is better far to own  
Than all the wealth of ev'ry realm,  
Or fame, or crown, or throne;  
For all that's good and fine and grand  
Goes into such a soul,  
And when at Heaven's throne we stand  
'Twill be the highest goal.

#### THE BUSY WIFE

It's wash the dishes, cook the meals,  
And make the beds each day;  
It's listen as some child reveals  
Its troubles while at play;  
It's feed the hungry little tots  
And soothe their aches and pains;  
It's put them in their little cots,  
Or keep their clothes from stains.

It's sweep and sew and patch and mend,  
And wash and scrub the floors;  
It's be a neighbor -- good to lend  
And do a lot of chores;  
It's help the husband manage well  
To save a lot of bills;  
It's smile when she would like to tell  
Of troubles, sorrows, ills.

It's help the children off to school  
And fix their lunch for noon;  
It's practice well the Golden Rule,  
And keep her soul in tune  
To do these things from day to day  
The same things o'er and o'er  
And then with patience she must pray  
To reach the heav'nly shore.

It's work and toil till late at night  
And rise at early morn;  
It's keep her soul and spirit bright

That home she may adorn;  
It's be a mother and a wife  
That's saintly, kind and good;  
It's live a noble, helpful life  
For home and neighborhood.

God bless the queenly wife always  
And keep her full of grace,  
So when she ends her earthly stay  
In Heav'n she'll have a place  
With saints and angels sweet and fair  
On God's eternal shore,  
Where there will never be a care,  
Nor troubles any more.

#### IF I COULD PAINT AS ARTISTS DO

If I could paint as artists do  
Who have a mighty skill,  
I'd like to paint a masterpiece  
And give the world a thrill.  
I'd paint the picture of a girl  
Like noble men admire --  
A natural woman like God makes  
Without the world's attire.

She wouldn't have a cigarette  
Stuck in between her lips;  
She wouldn't drink her beer nor dopes,  
Nor take her liquor tips.  
She wouldn't be a movie star,  
Nor idler on the street;  
She would indeed demand respect  
From all whom she should meet.

Her hair, you know, would be full-length  
No ugly, boyish bob;  
She wouldn't be a powder-puff,  
Her lips no paint would daub.  
She wouldn't be the flapper sort  
With virtue thrown away;  
She wouldn't be a butterfly  
A simple flirt and gay.

I'd picture her in neat apparel  
With honor on her brow;

Her face would be an index to  
Her character somehow;  
And she would show the world around  
That womanhood is grand,  
When lived upon the highest plane  
That God for her has planned.

She'd be a lifter to the world  
And leader in the right;  
She'd stand for all that's pure and good,  
And all that's wrong she'd fight,  
Until the world around would say:  
"Thank God for womankind,  
Who points us to the royal way  
Where gems of life we find!"

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Chapter 1  
THE INFLUENCE OF AGED WOMEN

"The aged women likewise, that they be in behavior as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things." --Titus 2:3

Aged women wield a powerful influence, either for right or wrong, for good or evil. God only knows how far-reaching their influence goes. Only eternity can fully reveal it. We realize that it is felt on earth, and will be felt in heaven or hell. In other words, the influence of aged women counts for three worlds, namely, this world, the heavenly world and the world of outer darkness and despair, or the place of eternal despair. Then how careful ought aged women live in order to wield the best influence possible!

The Apostle Paul, writing to Titus, exhorts him to "speak the things which become sound doctrine." He reveals here the pastoral work of a true minister. We notice that he first starts with the aged men. However, since we are writing to women we cannot enlarge on the exhortation to men just here, more than to give you Paul's words, after which follow the words of our text. Paul tells Titus to "speak the things which become sound doctrine: that the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience. The aged women likewise, that they be in behavior as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things."

We hope sometime to take up this exhortation to aged men and write some messages from it. In fact a book along this line would be very timely. We have just mentioned the powerful influence of aged women, and the same could be said of men. We know that aged men, who have lived out the greater part of life on earth, leave an influence across the years, and will leave it across the centuries. It counts for good or evil, for the uplift of the world or its downfall, for salvation or damnation, for heaven or hell. Absolutely.

But back to our text, since we have given a passing notice to the context. The aged women are to be "in behavior as becometh holiness." Now show me a holiness fighting woman and I'll show you one who is going absolutely contrary to this text and to God's holy Word in general. Yet there are women, both young and old, who despise holiness. Instead of living as "becometh holiness," they live to the very opposite. Maybe many of them even profess to be Christians, yet

they live ungodly. Instead of living a life of holiness they live worldly. They are proud, dress in the styles of the world, which certainly do not belong to godliness, and neither become the sinful. They gossip instead of pray. They read the newspapers, and even cheap, sorry, degrading literature, instead of the Holy Bible. They delight far more in the temporal things of life than the spiritual. They do not encourage the young women to live godly, but discourage them both by their speech and their influence. How deplorable! By living unholy lives they lead others to live in like manner.

God says that the aged women are to be "in behavior as becometh holiness." How wonderful such lives! They are beautiful and ennobling. Nothing becomes an aged woman, or even a girl or young woman, more than holiness. They don't need the world's paint, cosmetics, rings, jewelry, frills and adulterous styles to make them beautiful. God's holiness in their hearts, minds, souls, spirits and lives gives them beauty that the world can't possibly impart. Not only that, but it enables them to wield a powerful influence for the salvation of mankind. They lead others into lives of godliness and holiness. They uplift mankind rather than pull down. How beautiful, how wonderful the character and life of a woman who is pure and holy in heart and soul! It makes her outer life beautiful. She wears a sunny smile, prays mighty prayers that bring God's blessings upon herself and others, speaks a clean, ennobling language, and naturally leads in the way of righteousness. She points womankind, even men, to Christ and the beautiful way heavenward. Her influence counts for God and humanity in a marvelous way. Now the aged women are to be "in behavior as becometh holiness," that they may teach the young women some wonderful, wonderful lessons which we shall discuss later on. Young women beholding the holy lives of the elderly would be greatly influenced by the same. They would see what God has done for them and would hunger and thirst for godliness. Amen.

"Not false accusers." To be a false accuser is to be deeply affected by the devil. False accusation certainly is a great evil. An aged woman thus affected has the spirit of Satan, and unless she repents, obtains forgiveness of her false accusations, and has such a spirit eradicated, she will not only lose her own soul, but may be the means of other souls being lost. False accusers among all people possess an evil spirit, and this does much harm. How far from God is an aged woman-or anyone as for that matter-who is a false accuser! Her life curses a community instead of blessing it. What an ugly principle and trait of character and life! It is cursed to live by and fearful to die by.

The aged women are not to be false accusers. That is to be out of their line of experience, their line of living. Such a spirit belongs to the world, the flesh and the devil, and certainly not to a Christian. What is more beautiful than elderly women who possess the spirit of Christ, therefore reveal it in standing for the truth that makes humanity free, and that uplifts the girls and young women of a community? An aged woman with the spirit of Christ filling her inner life certainly is far from false accusation. She hates such a spirit and practice. Her desire is to bless her country, and not falsely accuse her fellowmen. Instead of falsely accusing the young women about her, she prays for them, gives them the best of advice, helps them with their problems and temptations, and shows them the better way of life. In time of test and trial, disappointment, heartache and trouble, they go to her for help. She is a friend to them, a real sister and a blessed mother. She takes them into her confidence, shields and protects them. If one is guilty of some sin she doesn't go out and spread the report, but takes the guilty, and maybe fallen girl, into her confidence, prays -with her,

weeps over her, loves her, confides in her and points her to Jesus for salvation. She not only wins a soul to Christ, but helps save a life that may become useful and beautiful. Amen.

Then aged women are not to be "given to much wine." Adam Clarke, in commenting on this Scripture, says: "Not enslaved by much wine, not habitual drunkards or tipplers. Habit is a species of slavery . . . It is likely, therefore, that it was customary among the elderly women, both Greeks and Romans, to drink much wine; and because it was inconsistent with moderation which the Gospel requires, the apostle forbids it."

Perhaps in the apostolic days it was permissible for the aged women to take a little wine, but not so with the young women. I believe a custom at one time, which might not be a sin, can become a sin later on as people become more enlightened. In olden times a man could have more than one wife, seemingly, and not be guilty in the sight of God. Not so today. I believe an aged woman who is a total abstainer from all wines wields a far better influence for God and the church, for the salvation and preservation of young women, and even young men, than one who takes a little wine. We realize there is no harm in partaking of pure grape juice before it becomes fermented, and that might have been the kind used for sacramental purposes. Aged women are to set a good example before young women. They are to lead from drunkenness instead of leading to it. They are to be wonderful in temperance if they are to be wonderful in their influence.

O, the drinking and drunkenness among women today! It is fearful. We do not know how many aged women are drinking; perhaps not many; but girls are in the teen age, and on into the twenties and thirties. A country and nation of drunken women will absolutely bring destruction. They degrade, demoralize, curse and damn. a country and nation more than drunken men, it seems to me. When women become beer drinkers, wine and liquor drinkers, watch the manhood of the nation fall. It is pitiful; it is exceedingly deplorable. Never has the United States seen so much drinking among women as today, and never has the nation been so low in morals that we know anything about.

Then the aged women are to be "teachers of good things." That covers a vast scope. Women flourish in their womanhood, hearts, souls, spirits, lives and characters on good things. They become noble, beautiful, wonderful and sublime on good things. Their lives and influence are bright and shining lights to the world of mankind. They uplift and elevate men. We believe the destiny of a country hangs almost heavier upon women than men. Look how Eve influenced Adam in the Garden of Eden. How the young women of today need to be taught good things by the aged women! There are so many lessons that saintly aged women could teach the younger. They have come over many more miles of life's journey than young girls and women, therefore could tell them of the dangers, and warn them of the destructive pitfalls of the devil, and could tell them of the better, higher, nobler, holier things of life. They could help the younger with their problems, and give them a helping hand in times of temptation, test and trial that would mean more than language can tell. Truly it is so.

How wonderful to teach good things! It will not only count in the life of the individual, but it indeed counts in the life of a nation.



Susannah Wesley taught good things and gave to the world John and Charles who have wielded a powerful influence over millions of people for their salvation. We are thinking of a woman today who taught good things and her two sons-the only children she had-became powerful preachers of the Gospel.

The mother who teaches good things to her children will rejoice in their manhood and womanhood, success and wonderful accomplishments in other days. Her daughters are likely to be ladies, beautiful in character, clean and pure in life, that grace their homes, bless their husbands, bless their church, uplift their country and honor and glorify God. Her sons are likely to go forth and make their mark in the world for humanity and for God. The influence she also wields over her neighbors and their children will lift and bless them. Young women will be noble in virtue, strong in character and powerful in influence for good because of the mother's good teachings and fine examples. "Teachers of good things." That means more than to be the wife of a king like Jezebel who was very wicked. She wielded a powerful influence, but it cursed the nations then, and has cursed the world for over two thousand years, yes, nearly three thousand. Suppose she had been a teacher of good things, can you imagine how different it would have been? Few women of all ages have had a more powerful influence over womankind than Jezebel. So far as I know she was the first to paint her face and thus disfigure herself. Today she has millions of followers in this respect.

But to teach good things should be the aim and plan of every aged woman, and even that of the younger. They will never, never regret it. Their home and country will call them blessed, and God will crown them with the saints of centuries. The good they will do will live after them. When they hear the Master say, "Well done," then will they rejoice forevermore. Amen.

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## Chapter 2 NOBLE CHARACTERISTIC OF YOUNG WOMEN

"That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children." -- Titus 2:4

This text applies to young married women. The Apostle Paul instructed Titus to instruct the aged women to instruct the young women. You see that good instructions are to be handed down from one to another. Of course Paul was inspired of God to write Titus, and Titus was to show aged men and women their duty, and then they were to so live in godliness and holiness that they could teach the youth, and then the youth were to practice it out in their lives. Truth is handed down; good advice is handed down; and all good things come down from above. There is always a head authority for everything good. There is likewise a head authority for everything bad. God is the head authority for all that is good, while the devil is head authority for all that is bad. God is above; the devil is beneath. If people do not take the good that comes from above they will take the evil, the bad, the cursed, the wicked, the damnable that comes from beneath.

Young married women have a great responsibility, and a wonderful opportunity for good. Or, if they serve the devil, he will give them opportunities to do evil, blight their own lives, wreck

their own souls, ruin their homes, wreck, ruin and defeat their husbands, and send their children forth as criminals, or with defeat written in their very hearts and doom hanging over their souls. If every young married woman today would live godly before her husband and children, it is unknown what a tremendous change for the best would take place in homes, churches, communities, states, and even nations.

Aged women are to teach young women to be sober. Does this mean that young women might be intemperate, or even drunken, if they are not taught sobriety? We take it for granted that it does. Therefore the elderly women are to be an example of godly living to the young. St. Jerome, taking it for granted that drunkenness and impurity are closely related, or connected, asks this serious question: "How can an elderly woman teach young women chastity, when, if the young woman should imitate the drunkenness of the nation, it would be impossible for her to be chaste?"

No doubt thousands of married young women in America today are absolutely intemperate. They drink beer, wine and liquor and become drunken. The same is also true of thousands of single young women, or girls. It is a shame, a scandal and a disgrace. Every girl, every young woman, every wife and mother, every aged woman, ought to be teetotalers. They shouldn't touch beer, wine and liquor, or anything that would intoxicate them. Not only that, but they should use every ounce of their influence against such. If they would we could have prohibition again at its best as a nation, and this would spread to other nations. Drunken women will curse any nation. They will eventually wreck it, unless a mighty reformation takes place.

What a wonderful trait, principle and characteristic in the life of any and all young women to be sober! Yes, all ages of womankind. Drunkenness becomes no woman, no girl. It is sickening and highly disgusting to see women drinking beer, wine and liquor, thus wrecking their bodies, their virtue, their morals, their lives and souls. Aged women are to teach them better. Not only does this duty and responsibility fall upon the aged women, but it falls upon every minister of the Gospel and every Christian. However, aged women seem to have the key to the situation more especially in their hands, in their power. O the beauty of absolute sobriety in a young woman, and in all womankind! It uplifts and elevates men and nations.

Then aged women are to teach young women to love their husbands. This is indeed important. Perhaps young married women sometimes, and maybe oftentimes, are tempted to pay undue attention to other married men, or to single young men. Such will wreck and ruin any home, if indulged in. When we take the marriage vow we promise to keep true to each other so long as we live. That means the man is to be true to his wife and she is to be true to him. No one else is to come between us. Adam Clarke says that "the duties recommended in this and the following verses are so plain as to need no comment; and so absolutely necessary to the character of a wife, that no one deserves the name who does not live in the practice of them."

When a young couple marries and starts out to make a home of their own there should be mutual love between them. This is the only way to have a peaceful, happy, pleasant, sunny, lovely, ideal home. If this is lacking, then all the beauty, elegance and luxury of the home means little. It cannot be enjoyed. The young wife is to love her husband the best of any man in the world; and the young husband is to love his wife the best of any woman in the world. As they walk hand in hand, joined heart to heart, sharing each other's love, kindness, gentleness, helpfulness and sympathy;

also sharing each other's tests and trials, temptations and shortcomings, failures and mistakes, sorrows, heartaches and disappointments, praying each for the other, loving and serving God, and attending regularly Divine services, what could make life happier and home sweeter? As long as this continues, and that should be to the end of life, husband and wife will be happy.

However, when either the husband or wife, or both, become careless about the marriage vow, and begin to pay undue attention to someone else, then sorrow and heartache begins. Many a husband has wrecked his home and his life by failing to stand true to his wife; and many a wife has wrecked her home and her life by failing to stand true to her husband. I know of nothing that would make one's heart ache so much as an untrue, unfaithful husband, or an untrue, unfaithful wife. No doubt it has brought gray hairs and wrinkles to many a man and woman long before the proper time, and brought many a dear one to an untimely death. How sad, how pitiful, how deplorable!

Young husbands, love your wives; young wives, love your husbands. This is God's plan. If you have married for any other reason than true love, then you have married wrong. Money won't make you happy; education won't make you happy; beauty won't make you happy; fame won't make you happy. Only true love will make you happy and bind your hearts and lives together as you journey through this world. If you have married for any other reason than true love, then repent before God, get forgiveness, and let Him shed His wonderful love abroad in your heart, and this will enable you to love as you should your life companion.

How sad to see young husbands getting divorces from their wives, and how sad to see young wives getting divorces from their husbands! We know in such cases (and they are all over the land now) that life is practically wrecked. When one makes a failure in marriage it ruins the average life. It keeps one from life's best, highest, holiest and most sublime. It hinders the average man or woman from making a great success, from reaching a sublime height, from gaining a wonderful and worthwhile goal, and from making a mark in life that shall live on and on to bless the world. When a young couple join hands in the holy estate of matrimony, it should be that they likewise join hearts. Nothing should separate them but death. They pledge their faith and lives each to the other on just such grounds.

Young women, love your husbands. This is God's plan, God's will. They may not always please you, but love them, pray for them, have patience with them, bear with them. If your husband is not a Christian you should so live before him, and so pray, until you win him to Christ. Don't "fly off the handle" at everything unpleasant, or lose your temper and say hard things to him, and eventually separate, get a divorce and marry another. Stick to him as long as possible.

The young women are likewise to love their children. One of the most beautiful sights on earth is to see a young mother rightly devoted to her husband and children. She is indeed "a queen in calico," or a queen in gingham, or a queen in any decent kind of dress. She is a queen in the kitchen as she prepares the meals; a queen as she makes the beds and washes the dishes. She graces her home and family. The husband says she is the best wife on earth and the children say she is the best mother on earth. They are devoted to her and she is devoted to them. She loves her children so much that she would not set a wrong example before them for any price. She prays with them, teaches them and guards their lives and souls as a true mother should. To her they are the sweetest children in all the world, although she loves her neighbor's children too. Her life indeed

counts for her children. They follow her teachings. As the years go by they go forth in life to make their mark in the world and rise up to call their mother blessed. They never forget her. Her instructions follow them through life, and wherever they go, even to the uttermost parts of the earth, and help to safeguard their lives and souls. They remember that sweet, sainted, noble mother with all tenderness and the highest respect. To them she is the most ideal mother in all the world. When she dies they feel that heaven is her home, therefore highly resolve to meet her there some sweet day. Amen.

What a wonderful thing is a mother's love! It is more to be desired and appreciated than silver and gold, diamonds and pearls, rubies and gems. The child who has a godly mother to love him, watch over, care for and protect him is indeed very fortunate. This is better than riches, luxury and ease without a mother's pure, sweet love. Many dear children never know what a mother's love is, their mothers being worldly, proud, and high society butterflies. Others know not a mother's love because they are left orphans, or motherless, in childhood. Other mothers forsake their children in order to escape the responsibility of rearing them. Others know little of a mother's real love because she doesn't possess it in her heart. Still others know little of a mother's tender love because she places them in the hands of the servant girl while she gads about, attending the movies and the dance and places of worldly and wicked amusements along other lines. The servant girl becomes a "mammy" to them, but the mother bestows her affection on the evil pleasures of the world, or maybe upon somebody else beside her husband and children. Such is the case over the nation today.

"No fortune or fame can ever compare  
To a mother's love or a mother's prayer,  
And of all God's gifts there isn't another  
So precious and wonderful as a mother."

Among the many beautiful, wonderful poems which I have read through the years and admired, the following appeals to me and touches a tender cord in my heart, because it is so homelike. and so much like the mothers that have graced many of our childhood homes:

#### ARE ALL THE CHILDREN IN?

I think ofttimes as the night draws nigh  
Of an old house on the hill;  
Of a yard all wide, and blossom-starred,  
Where the children played at will.

And when the night at last came down,  
Hushing the merry din,  
Mother would look all around and ask,  
"Are all the children in?"

'Tis many and many a year since then,  
And the old house on the hill  
No longer echoes to childish feet,

And the yard is still, so still.

But I see it all as the shadows creep,  
And though many the years have been  
Since I can hear my mother ask,  
"Are all the children in?"

I wonder if, when the shadows fall,  
On the last short earthly day,  
When we say good-bye to the world outside,  
All tired with our childish play;

When we meet the Lover of boys and girls,  
Who died to save them from all sin,  
Will we hear Him ask, as mother did,  
"Are all the children in?"

-- Selected

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### Chapter 3 YOUNG WOMEN AND DISCRETION

In the fifth verse of the second chapter of Titus the aged women are to teach young women "to be discreet." What does it mean to be discreet? Let's see what definition Webster gives, or how he defines the word: "Possessed of discernment, especially in avoiding error or evil, and in the adaptation of means to an end; prudent; judicious; cautious." Then discretion means the "quality of being discreet; wise conduct and management; cautious discernment, especially as to matters of propriety and self-control; prudence; discrimination."

A young woman who measures up to these qualities in mind, heart, soul, spirit and life certainly rises above the degrading principles of sin and wickedness. Her life is one of nobility, beauty, usefulness and sublimity. She sets examples before her husband, children and neighbors that are worthy of emulation. They know her life is hid with Christ in God. She possesses the Spirit of our Lord, and this enables her to discern between the evil and the good, and to avoid evil, error, and anything and all things that would mislead her. She likewise shields her husband and children from the evils and errors, sins and wickedness that they are environed with. At least she warns and cautions them against such, and shows them the higher, better, holier and more beautiful and worthwhile things of life.

The discreet woman is possessed with the spirit and ability to adopt "means to an end," and of course this means that which will bring her and the family to a good end. She avoids the means that would injure her life, character, soul and influence, and that would likewise injure her family and those about her. She must realize that what she takes into her life will have its effect through the years, and will bring her to a good end, only as the means are good. She knows the

good will work out right, while the bad will work out wrong. She realizes that the good is means to a good end, but the bad is means to a bad end. Therefore she takes into her very soul the good and rejects the bad. She is discreet. Those who know her realize that she is a woman of great and commendable discretion.

Her discretion includes prudence. She is careful about her conduct, her influence, her aims, plans and purposes. She guards her tongue, her temper, and her dress. She is decent in dress, upright in manners, and is careful to lead others right. She is mild in temper, gentle, kind and loving. She uses economy in the home, seeing that nothing is wasted, and that she lives within her income. Extravagance is far from her. She is not stingy by any means, as there is a vast difference in stinginess and economy. Rather she is blessedly liberal, yet she is cautious to see that money is not foolishly and uselessly expended; that food and clothing is not wasted, and that anything usable is not cast into the rubbish heap and carried away as refuse. Perhaps she is a faithful tither. In fact every woman should be a tither, and especially every Christian woman. God always blesses the tither. Not only should women tithe their means faithfully, but men should do likewise. This is God's financial plan for our lives. It always works. Praise the Lord.

The discreet woman is likewise judicious. She is governed by sound judgment. She is wise. The devil can't lead her into snares, traps and pitfalls that he leads the sinful, wicked, worldly into. She prays for wisdom, for sound judgment, and God gives it unto her. She helps her husband with his problems, and helps him in his decisions, his plans, aims and purposes. She uses her good judgment in the home, in the church, in the community, and when she passes on anything it is right. The enemy can't "pull the wool over her eyes" as he does the woman who only lives in sin and serves the world and the flesh. To God be the praise and the glory. What a blessed thing for a wife and mother to be sound in her judgment, and when she passes on anything for it to be in reason and within the will of God! If sometimes she errs it is an exception, and is of the head and not the heart. God overrules in all such and brings good out of it.

The discreet woman is cautious as to how she lives, who she keeps company with, where she goes, what she says, and what she does along life's journey. She helps her husband and children also to be cautious. We might say, too, that the unmarried woman who is discreet (and every one should be) uses much caution as she journeys through the years. She is cautious as to her company, as to her courtship and companionship, as to her character and virtue. her conduct and influence. She is cautious about everything that pertains to noble and beautiful womanhood. She regards her character far above riches and the trifling evils, pleasures, amusements and destructive sins of the world. To her upright, clean, pure womanhood is a "pearl of great price." She would not sell her virtue, character and pure womanhood for all the gold and silver, rubies, diamonds, jewels and pearls in the world. Sin is not for sale at any price. That's womanhood at its best. This is what makes a woman a real lady in the sight of both God and man. Men respect her, admire her, love and appreciate her out of hearts that are godly, which likewise make them Christian gentlemen.

The discreet woman conducts herself wisely. Life to her is real and earnest. It is noble and sublime. Her deportment is such that men "take knowledge of her that she has been with Jesus." She is wise in the way she takes through life; wise in what she accepts into her heart, soul and life; wise in rejecting the evil, demoralizing, degrading and destructive; wise as to her associates, wise

in her decisions, wise in turning away from whatever she knows to be wrong, and that would injure her health, her morals, her character and virtue; wise in whom she courts and marries; wise in making an ideal home, and in helping her husband overcome the evils, sin and wickedness of the world, and in living a beautiful, commendable Christian life; wise in rearing and training and educating her children. When she realizes a lack of wisdom along some line, or in solving some problem, she goes to God in earnest, sincere prayer, realizing that if any lack wisdom, they should ask of God. She anchors to this Scripture, as well as many other promises: "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." (James 1:5).

The discreet woman possesses great self-control. She can't be led away and stray like silly women. She anchors her life to God, to Christ, the mighty "Rock of Ages." When others are losing their temper, she stands calm, mild, quiet, composed and serene. When her neighbors speak evil of her, or "bless her out," she holds her nerve, keeps sweet, and is as calm as a May morning. She returns good for evil. With the apostle Paul she can say, "Being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we suffer it: being defamed, we intreat." (1 Cor. 4:12, 13). She continually looks unto Jesus, "who, when He was reviled, reviled not again; when He suffered, He threatened not; but committed Himself to Him that judgeth righteously." (1 Peter 2:23).

When other women "go to pieces," speak rashly, falsely accuse her, or her neighbors, or their husbands, or act foolishly on the spur of the moment, or at leisure, she reveals beautiful, wonderful, godly, righteous self-control. She is a heroine. She realizes that "he that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city." (Prov. 16:32). The best people know her as a woman of great discretion. Even the ungodly and wicked, or the evil-minded, know that she possesses something that is beyond and far above sin; something that is heavenly; something that the world didn't give and cannot take away. Hallelujah! How beautiful, commendable, marvelous and wonderful is thorough self-control! Only deeply spiritual people possess it. The life must be hidden with Christ in God before this pearl and treasure of the heart and soul can be owned. It costs to own it, but it is worth a thousand times what it costs. Every person needs it, but only the few can claim it as their own.

To be a discreet woman is a wonderful height to reach in life. It is more to be desired than education, fame, honor and earthly glory without it. The woman of great discretion certainly out-rises, out-shines, and far, far out-distances the ungodly, wicked movie star, the actress, the social adulteress, or the popular worldly flapper, or the highly-painted, worldly-dressed, nudely-dressed flirt who is bent on pleasure, money, or attracting the lustful eyes of men. Such women are a curse to the country instead of a blessing. They are home-wreckers, peace-destroyers, life-wreckers and soul-destroyers. Whereas, the woman of beautiful discretion and a pure character is a blessing to mankind and an honor and glory to Almighty God. Amen.

Dear women, be discreet. Let this mark your pathway as you go through life. You will never have cause to regret it. When others have wrecked themselves in evil, sin and wickedness; when they eke out a mere existence, accomplishing nothing, nothing good, great, commendable and worthwhile; when they are gone and forgotten, you will be living on, bringing sunshine and happiness into your home, into the homes of others, and pointing souls to Christ for salvation and leading pilgrims heavenward. You will be happy, knowing that you are in fellowship with God

and His people, and that you are traveling to a City "which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God." Amen. Live for God daily, hourly, and at all times, and then you will be making the world better. Life to you will be sweet, sunny and happy. By so living you shall not live in vain. When you come to "cross the bar" you can say with the great apostle Paul, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day." (2 Tim. 4:7, 8).

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#### Chapter 4 YOUNG WOMEN AND CHASTITY

Our text in Titus 2:5, says that the aged women are to teach the young women to be chaste. This is one of the greatest lessons that can be taught a young girl, a young wife and mother. What does it mean to be chaste? Again, for the definition of the word, we turn to Webster's Dictionary: "Pure from unlawful sexual intercourse; virtuous; continent. Pure in thought and act; innocent; modest. In literature and art, free from barbarisms or vulgarisms; correct; refined; simple."

No doubt today multitudes of young girls, and even married women, are guilty before God and man of adultery and fornication. They are far from chastity. They have failed to guard their characters. Many of them simply sell their bodies and souls to the devil. Men of like passions know they are for sale, therefore go forth to blight, curse and damn womankind. Many a man today who ought to be a father to young girls and women, protecting and warning them of the sneaks and libertines that seek to drag them down to the lowest and vilest levels in life, robbing them of their womanhood, character and very souls, are libertines themselves. It is a shame and a scandal. Such men curse womanhood, curse their country, rob heaven of precious souls and help to populate hell.

Aged women, and women of great and noble character, good citizens, fathers, mothers, ministers of the Gospel, and all Christians, should sound the danger alarm to young girls, young women, young wives and mothers that they be not entrapped, ensnared, hounded and run down by men and boys who seek to rob them of their womanhood, virtue and character. There is great danger lurking along the pathway of young womanhood today, as we have scarcely realized before, and the alarm should be sounded in their ears, hearts and very souls.

God's plan and will for womankind is that she be chaste. She is to keep herself clean from the opposite sex. She is to keep herself pure. Of course the devil seeks to wreck, ruin, blight and damn every woman possible, and he has his agents out to carry on the dirty work. Men are making money by wrecking womanhood. Women, themselves, are making money by wrecking girls, young women, wives and mothers. Take the modern dance today participated in by both men and women. It wrecks manhood and womanhood. Women help to wreck women by getting them to indulge in the adulterous dance. The moving pictures today in the theaters of the nation are absolute character wreckers. Multitudes of girls attend, look on the ungodly, adulterous, suggestive, passion-arousing scenes, then fall a ready and easy prey to the boys and men who sit by their side gazing on such wicked scenes.



Beer, liquor, wine, dope, social card games, night rides, road houses, and various dens and dives of the devil are nothing less than character-wreckers, life-destroyers and soul-destroyers to our young girls and women, also to our boys and young men, and even older women and men. Multitudes of men and women today are out to make money at the price and sacrifice of manhood and womanhood. Tens of thousands, and maybe literally millions of girls and young women today have sold out their womanhood and virtue. No wonder America has become so adulterous, so ungodly and wicked, with crime filling the land. No wonder the world is soaked in blood. When men and women by multiplied millions turn from God, and turn unto all kinds of sin and wickedness, and especially the sin of drunkenness and adultery, which always go together, then God turns away and lets awful, awful calamities come. War, famine and pestilence follow.

Perhaps there has never been a time in the history of America that venereal disease has so cursed the nation. It is a great problem that confronts the doctors and hospitals. Multitudes of our soldiers are affected with it. Young girls and women who ought to be noble and mighty in chastity; who should be pure and upright in character; who should reveal to the world the beauty and sublimity of priceless womanhood, are cursed with this disease. They have sold out their womanhood to the passions of men, to the devil, and as a consequence are physical, moral, spiritual wrecks, some of whom are mental wrecks. Alas, Alas! Somebody has failed somewhere, or this would not be. No doubt many aged women have failed to teach the girls and young women against such.

The chaste woman is always virtuous. She has moral excellence. She is upright, righteous and pure. Virtue is applied especially to women. This should characterize every woman. It is for her, especially in Bible lands. And as a church we should spread the Gospel to all nations so women bound by the fetters of heathenism, oppression, superstition and slavery might have the privilege of living virtuous, godly, holy lives.

Virtue is a jewel that every woman can and should possess. Whatever would rob her of virtue should be hated and shunned. Any pathway that would lead from virtue should be avoided. Habits that are undermining, which would be injurious to body, soul, spirit and virtue should never be formed. Virtue beautifies the life. No outward adorning is so becoming to womanhood as virtue. Real virtue is a soul treasure that is worth more than great earthly treasures. Even the poorest can possess it, since it is not purchased with silver and gold, nor any earthly material.

The chaste woman is temperate and moderate. She exercises restraint that enables her to refrain from any and all indulgences that might injure her character.

The chaste woman is pure in thought. She has the mind of Christ. Her thoughts run along the line of godliness, uprightness, righteousness and holiness. She prays, reads and studies the Bible, thinks of her soul and the souls of her fellowmen, lends a helping hand to others, and like the blessed Master, goes about doing good. She thinks and acts in accord to the will of God.

Innocency also characterizes the chaste woman. Whatever may be the sin and wickedness of others, the guilt and shame, she has a clear conscience in innocency. Praise the Lord. How wonderful, marvelous, glorious and worthwhile is innocency! It is worth all that it takes to possess it, and a thousand times more. One can be happy in her innocency, while another can be miserable

in her guilt. No doubt a guilty conscience and soul has caused multitudes of people to commit the fearful crime of suicide. O woman, realize how beautiful, commendable, honorable and glorious is innocence!

Again, the chaste woman is modest. Modesty is likewise a jewel that adorns the life far more than finger rings, ear bobs, wrist bands, painted cheeks and lips, painted finger nails, silks and satins, laces and frills, high heel shoes and short dresses. Amen. The chaste woman is too modest to expose her body to the eyes of lustful men. She is too modest to be a flapper, a dancer, and a social gazing stock. She is too modest to dress in slacks and look like a man-woman. That is about half man and half woman. She is too modest to dress in a man's pants and shirt, then go out to be gazed upon. She is too modest to put on a bathing suit and go in a swimming pool with men who look upon her with lustful eyes and adulterous hearts. Absolutely. She is too modest to expose her body to the eyes of the public at a basketball game, clothed in a suit that half protects her body, or half covers her body. She is too modest to use profane language, tell filthy jokes, indulge in questionable games and run with the devil's crowd. They may talk about her, make fun of her, scorn and scoff at her, but she will be living and blessing her country, honoring and glorifying God, shining in the beauty of noble and sublime womanhood, happy in the worship and service of Almighty God, when they are dead and forgotten, and maybe agonizing in a devil's hell.

Then virtue in a woman's life, or chastity, takes in her literature and art. She chooses the best of books and literature with which to keep company, and upon which to feed her mind, heart, soul and spirit, and upon which to build her life. You don't see her hanging around the trashy news stands, nor buying dime novels, nor cheap and worthless love stories, nor ungodly, life-wrecking, character-destroying, soul-damning sex books and literature. She knows such books and literature will defeat her in life rather than enable her to reach a great and sublime height; that such unsound, unwholesome reading matter will damn her, soul and body, and keep her out of heaven. Therefore she rejects it, but seeks for the best she can find which will bless her life, her home, and enable her to reach life's best, and in the meantime bless her fellowmen.

The chaste woman is likewise careful about the art she chooses. You don't find hanging on her walls the pictures of women half nude, nor pictures that are calculated to arouse the passions of men, or cause impure thoughts to linger in the mind. The art of her home is free from barbarisms and vulgarisms. She selects beautiful, clean, uplifting, ennobling and inspiring art. You will see hanging on her walls fine, Scriptural mottoes, beautiful landscapes, flowers, historical buildings, scenes of the hills and mountains, pictures of good, noble, great men and women, etc.

The chaste woman is refined, yet simple. She may not be highly educated, but in her inner life are all the graces that it takes to make a refined, noble woman. True refinement is from the heart, soul and spirit. This manifests itself in the outer life. This is what she possesses. It wasn't bought with money, as its price is far beyond the value of money. It wasn't bought with jewels, for it is much more precious than jewels. True and real refinement comes from a higher source than the earthly. It is from God. It is heavenly.

The refined, chaste woman is simple. She never "puts on airs." She doesn't appear to the world what she isn't. There is no hypocrisy about her. She doesn't whitewash a sordid, questionable, unsound, counterfeit life. She is what she is by the wonderful grace of God. She

simply lives and walks as a Christian lady. It becomes her. She graces her home, her church, her country.

### SHE HAD A PEARL

She had a pearl -- not from the sea,  
But from God's grandest, highest throne  
A pearl that's priceless, yet it's free,  
If you desire the pearl to own.  
It is a good and noble name,  
A character without a spot,  
Worth more than wealth and earthly fame,  
And things that people prize a lot.

You cannot buy this charming pearl  
With silver, riches, gems and gold,  
Although the humblest, poorest girl  
Can make it hers fore'er to hold,  
If she but lives a noble life,  
Both clean and pure through God's rich grace,  
Apart from sin and worldly strife,  
And whatsoever would disgrace.

This pearl of beauty and true worth  
Should be the treasure of each soul,  
For nothing so enriches earth  
While ages come and ages roll;  
For womanhood, in all its charm,  
Helps stay the awful pow'rs of sin,  
And is to man a mighty arm  
That helps him in life's race to win.

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### Chapter 5 KEEPERS AT HOME

Not only are young women to be sober, love their husbands, love their children, be discreet and chaste, but they are to be "keepers at home." (Titus 2:5). This is a great duty and responsibility. God enjoins it upon them, and it is to be taken soberly, honestly and sincerely.

In the margin of our Bible we read that "keepers at home" means "diligent at home." That is the meaning the translators and commentators place upon it at least. What a wonderful thing to be a diligent home keeper! This is woman's realm. Here it is that she manifests her character, womanhood, ladyhood, wifehood, motherhood, beauty, loveliness, strength, power, influence, Christianity, usefulness, greatness and nobility.

Somehow I doubt very seriously if God ever intended for women to have much to do with politics and the affairs of Government. It seems to me that this belongs to men, unless there may be exceptional cases. The chief business of a woman should be to make a good, ideal Christian home. This is great. It requires the very best that a woman possesses, or may possess. It is a job that even isn't entrusted to angels. She may have the unseen presence of angels about her, but they do not cook the meals, wash the dishes, make the beds, sweep the floors, dust the rooms, read the Bible, lead the prayers, give birth to the children, nurse and rear them, feed and clothe them, teach and train them. This belongs to the wife and mother. Angels may guard her, help to strengthen, sustain and uphold her, while God gives her love, patience and the wonderful heart of a devoted wife and mother, which is heavenly and beautifully sublime. Amen and hallelujah!

We are not advancing the thought here that a woman has to stay at home all the time and work like a slave. Not at all. No husband should make a slave of his wife. Whoever does treats her unjustly. Husbands are to love their wives, treat them with all kindness, and provide for them and the children. There should be mutual love between husband and wife. They should understand each other, hold up the hands of each other, share each other's tests and trials, ups and downs, discouragements and encouragements, crosses and burdens. They ought to go hand in hand, be joined heart to heart, equally sharing their joys and sorrows, hardships and success, failures and victories.

There may come times when the husband will have to assume the responsibilities of the wife, as health and strength won't permit her to carry on as usual; and there may come times when the wife will have to likewise assume the responsibilities of the husband, as he may become disabled in body or mind to carry on. We realize this happens. However, each have their realms of life in which to work, and each is a different realm; yet so closely joined together that there should be no friction, but blessed peace and harmony existing between them all along life's journey. If, however, the enemy should endeavor very strongly to bring a division between them they should resort to prayer and let God settle it. When He makes settlement of troubles, and harmonizes differences, it is always done right. Difficulties and differences that cannot be settled on the feet can be settled on the knees. Glory to God. He is the blessed harmonizer.

If the time comes when the wife has to earn the bread in the home, or help to earn it, then there is no dishonor on her part. There is likewise no dishonor on the part of the husband if he is disabled, or has had some setback or misfortune happen unto him, though he has done his best. If the time comes when the wife cannot carry on in the home as is needful and important, even after she has done her best, and the husband has to take hold, there is no dishonor on the part of the wife. She has nothing to regret. Love and peace, harmony and understanding still exist between them.

Not every woman is a good housekeeper and home keeper. Many are not. They had rather earn money than keep house and be a home builder. Many are untidy, and do not keep things clean as they should. They let dirt accumulate and spoil the looks of the house, and usually it hurts the spirit of the home. Many gad about while the servant girl has to assume the place of the mother. This never makes a good home, because the servant girl cannot take a mother's place. Nobody can take that place, unless in emergency, and then it is but a substitute. Only a mother can fill a mother's place.

Many women are not good housekeepers and home builders for the simple reason that they are not interested, or they are too lazy. Others lack health and strength because they do not keep the house as tidy as it should be. However, the real, true wife and mother can be a wonderful home keeper in spirit, love, gentleness, kindness, sweetness, prayerfulness and godliness, even if she is physically disabled. Circumstances alter cases. Her life will count for things worth while.

No doubt tens of thousands of women neglect home, and fail to make it lovely, peaceful, happy, beautiful and attractive because they are out seeking pleasure, running to the wicked theaters, dances, social parties, etc. Home to them is merely a place to stay. Perhaps there is trouble existing between them and their husbands. Instead of having a happy home they have a miserable place of abode. They may have a costly house and it well furnished, and they may have plenty of money, and may be educated, and may dress in the latest fashions, but there is trouble between them. They don't enjoy their property. Life to them is miserable. We believe this is true with many. The wife is a poor home builder. Maybe she has absolutely wrecked the home by her worldliness, pride, extravagance, hatefulness, sourness, unkindness, and lack of love for her husband and children. Maybe she has let somebody else come between her and her husband. Maybe he is to blame himself. It happens all over the land.

O, the need of ideal "keepers at home" today! This nation is suffering, suffering, suffering untold misery for the lack of good home keepers and home builders. Crime is sweeping the land as a consequence. Millions of boys and girls are simply going wild and wrecking themselves physically, morally and spiritually as a consequence. Tens of thousands of children don't know what a real mother is today, nor the love and tender care of a mother, because the one who gave them birth doesn't love them, doesn't care for them, but neglects them and leaves them to the mercy of a cold world. Poor, pitiful, neglected children! How they need the love and care and help of somebody! Will you give them your love and a helping hand? Maybe you will be saving some wonderful life that will bless the world by so doing. Perhaps you will be saving a soul from hell and hiding a multitude of sins. You may save much crime and be doing a deed that God will bless you for in this world and the next.

What a wonderful thing to be a good keeper at home! Perhaps from your home will go forth boys and girls that will be bright and shining lights to the world. As you rear and train them right, live godly, prayerfully and uprightly before them, they will follow your example. They will never forget how you read to them the blessed old Bible; how you prayed for them; how you advised and taught them; how you sacrificed and maybe suffered for them; how you labored and toiled for them; how you took them to Sunday school, to preaching, to prayer meeting and to revivals of religion. They won't forget how you led them to the Lord Jesus Christ, and how your Savior, Redeemer, Sanctifier and Keeper has kept them across the years of life. Your very principles of life will be instilled into them. Your honesty, your sweetness, your saintliness, your influence will follow them through life, and maybe to the uttermost parts of the earth. From your home may go a mighty preacher of the Gospel; a great missionary; a Christian doctor, or teacher, or poet, or editor, or banker, or business man, or some of the purest, holiest, loveliest girls that ever blessed the world. They may make good wives and saintly mothers. They may rear wonderful families and give to the world some of the best and greatest men and women of the centuries.

Young women, wives, mothers, girls, keep the love and grace of God in your hearts as you travel through life. Keep yourselves free from the cursed, defiling, wrecking evils and sins of the world. Watch your footsteps as you journey. "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good." (Rom. 12:21). God wants you to be saints, but the devil wants you to be demons. Which will you be? To whom do you yield your lives? It is up to you.

I know a mother who was such a good keeper at home that three of her sons were made preachers of the Gospel. One of them has won many people to God, and has trained boys and girls for the ministry who are going out to help save a lost world. What a great work! That sainted mother has been gone from this world a number of years, but her influence lives on in the lives of her sons to bless mankind. Surely it paid her to live for God in the home and keep it well. No doubt when the sheaves are all brought in through her life and influence there will be many. She sleeps with the departed, but her work lives after her, and her sons rise up and call her blessed. She was a very poor woman here, but she is rich in heavenly grace and glory.

Surely there is no place on earth that equals a sweet, happy, peaceful, Christian home. It is the nearest akin to heaven of anything I can think of. Then, is it not honorable and glorious to be the wife and mother and chief builder of such a home? Is it a small, insignificant matter to be the queen that reigns over such a home? No, it is great and sublimely wonderful. If you are the keeper of a home like this you are fortunate. You have more than wealth, fame and earthly glory. You have more than all the popularity the world could heap upon you. You help to move the world toward God, whereas, those who live in evil, though they are popular in the eyes of the world, help to move the world away from God. It is great to so live, labor and toil that one may lift humanity upon a higher plane of life. To be a good keeper at home does this for the family and for the country.

It is nice to have a beautiful house to live in, but remember the house is not the home. A mansion may be nothing more than a house, while a log cabin, or a poor little cottage, may be a happy home. A house is made of wood, brick, stone and mortar, or some other lifeless substance; but a home is made of loving hearts, kind words, sweet smiles, shining faces, good deeds, family prayer, the Holy Bible, good literature, and Christ in the souls of those who dwell there. Amen.

A good keeper at home guards the family, as much as possible, like the shepherd guards his sheep. She doesn't allow cards, beer, wine, liquor, trashy literature, bad company, etc., to come into it. She doesn't allow cursing, vulgarity, nor profanity to be practiced in the home. She stands against all that is wrong, and uses her utmost influence to prevent it from entering the home, while she stands for all that is right and welcomes it into the home.

A good wife and mother takes great interest in the family. She loves her husband, cooks and prepares his meals, sews and mends for him, prays for and encourages him. She realizes that he is "the bread winner," therefore helps him with his bills. She uses economy. She doesn't throw out more with a spoon than he can scoop in with a shovel. She keeps the children clean; or doesn't allow them to go filthy and nasty. She delights to give them the best showing in life possible. Her chief desire is to lead them to Christ and help them live the life of a Christian. She is greatly interested in their education, their environment, their preparation for life, their avocation, or the place they shall fill, and their success. Is this of little importance? Does she merely eke out an

existence as a housekeeper? No, a thousand times, No. She is a home builder and the molders of character. She is a nation builder. Ah, more, she is a Heaven builder, as she wins souls to God who shall honor and glorify His holy and matchless name forever in the home of the soul. Then, dear woman, be the best housekeeper and home builder possible. It pays for time and eternity.

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## Chapter 6 YOUNG WOMEN AND GOODNESS

Goodness is greatness -- O tell it to those  
Who are striving their places to fill,  
And be to the world a beautiful light  
Like a city that is set on a hill!

Many there are who are striving today  
To achieve for themselves greatest fame;  
But little they think and know of the truth  
That it's found in a noble, good name.

And back of the name is an upright life  
Of honesty and goodness and love  
That blesses mankind the wide world round  
Like the sunshine from heaven above.

Goodness is greatly -- O tell it to those  
Who desire to be helpful and great;  
For these are the folks we're needing today  
Who will give us a blessed estate!

In Titus 2:5 we find that elderly women are to teach the young women to be good. In fact this duty and responsibility is upon fathers, mothers, ministers and teachers everywhere, though it seems to be more especially required of the aged women.

What is more beautiful, desirable and commendable in a home, a church, a community and a country than good girls and young women? They are worth more by far than gold mines, silver mines and diamond fields. They are by far more valuable than beautiful houses, fertile fields, rich forests, oil wells, fine school buildings and costly church edifices. They are a country's real wealth, along with boys and men of like character and caliber. If we can have good girls and young women in a country we can have good men. It seems to me that good womanhood elevates a country more than good manhood, if any difference. On the other hand I believe bad women degrade a country worse than bad men. A country doesn't rise higher than its womanhood.

If the women of a country drink beer, liquor and wine; smoke cigarettes, play cards and gamble for silk hose and cut glass; attend the corrupt theaters and indulge in the adulterous dance, and give themselves over to go after the flesh, the world and devil, then that country fast declines

in morality and spirituality. In fact it sinks to the lowest depths, as the men of that country sink likewise. While, of course, there are always those among women and men who stem the tide of immorality, sin and wickedness and live for God.

Here is a Bible picture of beautiful womanhood sublime wifehood and godly motherhood:

"Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life. She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands. She is like the merchant's ships she bringeth her food from afar. She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens. She considereth a field, and buyeth it: with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard. She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms. She perceiveth that her merchandise is good: her candle goeth not out by night. She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands holdeth the distaff. She stretcheth out her hands to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy. She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household are clothed with scarlet. She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing is silk and purple. Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land. She maketh fine linen, and selleth it; and delivereth girdles unto the merchant. Strength and honor are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come. She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness. She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up, and call her blessed, her husband also, and he praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all. Favor is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised. Give her the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates." (Prov. 31:10-31).

A godly woman holds this great and wonderful truth before her as she travels through life, which is recorded in the above quotation. She likewise keeps before her mind's eye, and treasured in her very heart and soul, the following beautiful and profound truth: "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches; and loving favor rather than silver and gold." (Prov. 22:1). She wouldn't part from her good name, her clean, pure, noble, sublime character, for the riches of the earth. She knows that life's greatest pearl, jewel and gem is a good name and a spotless character. This cannot be bought with money, nor vast earthly riches and resources, therefore she places it above riches. The world knows that she is not for sale. She would suffer death before she would sell her body, her virtue, her womanhood, her soul, her good name and character to the devil for riches, or for pleasure, or anything he might offer her. Thank God, and praise His name, for the lives of godly, holy women. O that we had millions more of them!

We fear that the vast majority of women today do not lay great value upon their characters. Too many have submitted to the degrading, demoralizing powers of sin and wickedness, and have sold themselves out for money, for popularity, at the sacrifice of character, virtue and womanhood, and for underminmg, ruinous and destructive pleasures. Alas, it is a startling truth!

Let me give you some quotations from Andrew Stewart. He says, "America's number one disgrace -- drunken women! Indeed, if it be true that 'God could not be everywhere, so He made mothers,' it is very likely true that 'the devil could not be everywhere, so he made mothers drunk.' The nation's press is crammed with the sickening stories of young mothers leaving their youngsters



cold and hungry and naked, while they dine and flirt and drink with habitués of nearby tavern hell-holes. None the less deplorable is the ladies on the loose -- free of husbands and moral scruples. The other night -- as happens almost any night in the nation's night club -- a blonde and brunette battled like wildcats because the brunette had exchanged smiles with the blond's escort. Both young ladies were engaged to unsuspecting and perhaps trusting service men.

"Incidents such as these have become commonplace. As to the country rides, the wave of war-time pressures and prosperities, women alcoholics have created a disturbing sociological trend. Arrests of women for intoxication are mounting to new records.

"In a number of cases it is found the facts have been kept from the press and the public by friendly neighbors seeking to shield their sisters' sin . . . Before the war, the press reports, it was estimated that one woman in eight indulged to some extent, in liquor. Now the estimate is one in six. The F.B.I. reports the number of women arrested for drunkenness in the first six months of 1944 was more than five times the number arrested in the entire year of 1932. This is all cause for alarm if it were limited in its effect to the home front. But these antics of 'modern women' have heartrending repercussions all around the world. . . . No heavier, no costlier, losses have been, or can be, suffered by our nation in this war than the loss of all that is decent and fine and noble in the characters of mothers and sweethearts and sisters. No knife cuts so deep and sharp as the sight of mother, or sweetheart, or sister, sipping liquor. Decent living service men and civilians would far rather face the firing squad than see the beauty of womanhood so debased.

"It is a bold challenge to Christian forces of the world to check the spread of drinking among women. God knows drunken men are enough of a smear on a nation's character. A man without religion and high standards and decency is to be pitied, but a woman so bankrupt is a horror above all things.

"Women in a Christian civilization are to be respected and honored. Men have set women on high pedestals. May God grant them strength and courage and virtue to maintain their exalted, time-honored position. It will be their greatest contribution to postwar reconstruction, both temporal and spiritual."

#### WHEN THE DEVIL GIVES YOU HONEY

When the devil gives you honey,  
Don't forget the bitter gall,  
Though you think it's mighty funny  
As he rolls you pleasure's ball  
Gives you beer and wine and liquor,  
And the movies filled with lust,  
Making virtue's light to flicker  
As your spirit trails the dust.

When the devil gives you roses,  
Don't forget the prickly thorn;  
For where sin and wrong reposes

Sighs and heartaches will be born;  
Yes, within the sweets of evil  
There are always bitter pills,  
And like some destructive weevil  
They will bring you many ills.

As you go the way of pleasure  
Offered by the devil's hand,  
Though you think you've found the treasure  
That's the sweetest of the land,  
Just remember sin's misleading,  
It will always bring remorse;  
Then while God and right are pleading,  
Seize what conscience can endorse.

When the devil gives you honey  
You may know it is a bait  
That will take you from the sunny  
To the dark domains of fate;  
Then resist the dreadful tempter  
Who would take you down to hell;  
Flee to Christ, the great Exempter,  
That in heaven you may dwell.

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## Chapter 7 OBEDIENT WOMEN

According to Titus 2:5, young women are to be "obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed." In fact all women are to have an obedient spirit toward their husbands, especially if they have godly husbands. There should be such mutual love, affection, unity, peace and harmony between husbands and wives that the devil could not bring in friction that would separate them, or start strife that would disrupt the home.

No woman should want to "lord it over her husband." That is boss and rule him, order him about, thus showing that she "wears the pants," and that he must be her slave, obey orders, or take the consequences. This is not the way to have joy, peace and satisfaction in the home. Rather it disrupts a home. It makes home very disagreeable.

On the other hand no husband should be a tyrant over his wife. Such a spirit is of the devil and not of God. Husbands are to love their wives. Here is Paul's advice: "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them." (Col. 3:16, 19). No husband can hold bitterness in his heart toward his wife and be right with God.

Here are further instructions Paul gives to wives and husbands: "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church; and he is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: for we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh." (Eph 5:22-31).

We now turn to First Peter, third chapter, and read what he has to say: "Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; while they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or putting on of apparel; 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. For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement. Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honor unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered." (1 Peter 3:1-7).

We see by these Scriptural quotations that the wife is to be in subjection unto her husband. Adam Clarke comments thus on this great requirement of the wife toward her husband: "Consider that your husband is, by God's appointment, the head and ruler of the house; do not, therefore, attempt to usurp his government; for even though he obey not the Word -- is not a believer in the Christian doctrine, his rule is not thereby impaired; for Christianity never alters civil relations: and your affectionate, obedient conduct will be the most likely means of convincing him of the truth of the doctrine which you have received."

Then Clarke says to the husband: "Give your wife, by no species of unkind carriage, excuse for delinquency. How can a man expect his wife to be faithful to him, if he is unfaithful to her? -- and vice versa. Use your superior strength and experience in her behalf, and thus honoring her by becoming her protector and support. Honor signifies maintenance as well as respect. Provide for the wife."

Then wives are to be "obedient unto their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed." No husband wants a wife who is disagreeable, contentious, hard to please, and will not take advice. Neither does a husband want a wife who is a "gad about." Good keepers at home are not continually strolling and roving. They have something to do that is better. Adam Clarke says again: "A woman who spends much time in visiting, must neglect her family. The idleness, dirtiness, impudence, and profligacy of the children will soon show how deeply criminal the mother was in rejecting the Apostle's advice." Instead of keepers of the house, or keepers at home,

many neglect the home. Good wives are not only keepers of the house, but they are workers at home; not only staying in the house and keeping it, but working in the home. Clarke further says, "A woman may keep the house very wisely, and yet do little in it for the support or comfort of the family."

Disobedient wives are never good keepers at home. Of course if a wife has a husband who is a vile sinner and he advises her to do wrong things, or endeavors to lead her wrong, then she is not to follow. If to obey him would mean disobedience to God, then obey God. However, the wife that is disobedient unto a good husband is pursuing the wrong course.

Why are wives to be obedient unto their own husbands? Because God says so in His holy Word. Home cannot be happy, peaceful, sunny and pleasant with a disobedient wife in it. Children won't obey their parents if the wife and mother disobeys her husband, fusses at him, quarrels with him, and lives in strife with him. Wives are to obey their husbands in order to have an ideal home; a home that is a haven of rest and filled with the presence of God.

Above all, however, women are to be obedient unto their own husbands, "that the word of God be not blasphemed." Says Adam Clarke: "The enemies of the Gospel are quick-eyed to spy out imperfections in its professors; and, if they find women professing Christianity living an irreligious life, they will not fail to decry the Christian doctrine on this account: 'Behold your boasted religion! it professes to reform all things, and its very professors are no better than others! Our heathenism is as good as your Christianity. These are cutting reproaches; and much they will have to answer for who give cause for these blasphemies.'"

Perhaps there is no one who wields such an influence over a husband for good as a godly, prayerful, obedient, loving, gentle, patient, Christian wife. He confides in her. He trusts her. He knows she has been with Jesus; that she lives daily in communion with God; that her life is above reproach; that she walks in the pathway of holiness; that her character is spotless, and that she is vitally interested in his life and soul, and in the lives and souls of the children and those who live around them.

The obedient, loving, patient, godly wife convinces the onlookers and gainsayers that there is reality in the religion she professes; that Christianity is a wonderful fact instead of a farce; that she has a part of heaven in her soul, and that she is traveling to a city "whose builder and maker is God." She brings sunshine into her home instead of shadows; Christ instead of the devil; heaven instead of hell. Christ lives, rules and reigns in her heart, soul and life, and her husband and children share in the wonderful benefits.

Not only that, but the community in which an obedient, godly wife and mother lives also shares in the benefits. She wins souls, thereby hiding a multitude of sins, and perhaps saving much crime. She loves the right and hates the wrong. She is vitally interested in the church, the Sabbath school, the prayer meeting, the revival, the moral and spiritual uplift of boys and girls, men and women. Such a woman is a great blessing to any community.

The blessed Word of God is never blasphemed through an obedient, godly, holy wife. She loves the Bible, reads and heeds its wonderful teachings, and makes it the textbook of her life. You

don't find upon her tables and dressers, or in her bookcase, or on her shelves, trashy, sorry books and literature. You don't find in her home cards and gambling devices. The pictures on her walls are not of a low, base, adulterous nature. Never. She keeps her home as one who realizes that she is its queen, its maker and builder, and as one that shall render an account of the home unto God. She keeps it clean, both temporally and spiritually, or as much as possible. She clears her skirts before God. She obeys God, obeys her husband in all that is right, and makes her home a haven of rest, and as much like heaven as possible.

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## Chapter 8 WOMEN AND CHARACTER

In a previous chapter we spoke of the character of women, but we feel that it would be well to devote an entire chapter to this important and vital subject. The masses of womankind, we believe, do not give the thought, time and attention to this subject they should, therefore do not value character as they should. We see this manifested by the careless way they live, act, dress, conduct themselves, and by the ruinous habits they form.

The beauty of a woman is her character when it is found in the way of godliness and righteousness. No woman can reach a greater height than to have a character that is spotless before God, because it must be made by His marvelous grace. His approval is upon it.

However, on the other side of life, there is nothing much more deplorable than to see a woman with a wrecked, ruined character. Her virtue is gone, her womanhood is thrown away, her beauty of life is blighted, her ladyhood is withered, and her soul is ready for damnation. Her only hope is in seeking God through deep repentance that her soul may be redeemed, her life saved for future usefulness, and a character made that will enable her to shine as God intended. How sad it blighted womanhood! It is more than the loss of wealth, honor and earthly glory. How a nation suffers, suffers, suffers when her womanhood declines and reaches a low level! o dear girl, dear woman, cherish your character far more highly than you would a pearl, a jewel, a gem, or even great fame and riches!

Here is a sad, true story followed by a poem that should warn many a girl and woman never to give her life, body, soul and character to the devil, because he will, sooner or later, work havoc. Such is his diabolical business.

In the early part of the American war, one dark Saturday morning, in the dead of winter, there died at the Commercial Hospital, Cincinnati, a young woman, over whose head only two-and-twenty summers had passed. She had once been possessed of an enviable share of beauty; had been, as she herself said, "flattered and sought for the charms of her face," but alas! upon her fair brow had long been written that pitiable word -- unfortunate! Once the pride of respectable parentage her first wrong step was the small beginning of the same old story over again, which has been the life history of thousands. Highly educated and accomplished in manner, she might have shown in the best of society. But the evil hour that proved her ruin was but the door from

childhood; and having spent a young life in disgrace and shame, the poor friendless one died the melancholy death of a broken hearted outcast.

Among her personal effects was found, in manuscript, the poem entitled "Beautiful Snow," which was immediately carried to Enos B. Reed, a gentleman of culture and literary tastes, who at that time was editor of the National Union. In the columns of that paper, on the morning following the girl's death, the poem appeared for the first time. When the paper containing the poem came out on Sunday morning, the body of the victim had not yet received burial. The attention of Thomas Buchanan Reed, one of the first American poets, was soon directed to the newly published lines, who was so taken with their stirring pathos, that he immediately followed the corpse to its final resting place.

Such are the plain facts concerning her whose "Beautiful Snow" will be long regarded as one of the brightest gems in American literature.

#### BEAUTIFUL SNOW

Oh, the snow, the beautiful snow,  
Filling the sky and earth below,  
Over the housetops, over the street,  
Over the heads of people you meet;  
Dancing -- Flirting -- Skimming along;  
Beautiful snow! It can do no wrong;  
Flying to kiss a fair lady's cheek,  
Clinging to lips in frolicsome freak:  
Beautiful snow from heaven above,  
Pure as an angel, gentle as love!

Oh, the snow, the beautiful snow,  
How the flakes gather and laugh as they go  
Whirling about in maddening fun;  
Playing with children, as they run,  
Chasing -- Laughing -- Hurrying by,  
It lights on the face and it sparkles the eye:  
And the dogs with a bark and a bound  
Snap at the crystals as they eddy around;  
The town is alive and its heart is aglow  
To welcome the coming of beautiful snow!

How wild the crowd goes swaying along,  
Hailing each other with humor and song;  
How the gay sleighs like meteors flash by,  
Bright for a moment, then lost to the eye;  
Ringing-Swinging-Dashing they go  
Over the crest of the beautiful snow;  
Snow so pure when it falls from the sky,

As to make one regret to see it lie  
To be trampled and tracked by thousands of feet,  
Till it blends with the filth in the horrible street!

Once I was pure as the snow, but I fell,  
Fell like the snow flakes from heaven to hell:  
Fell to be trampled as filth in the street,  
Fell to be scoffed, to be spit on and beat;  
Pleading -- Cursing -- Dreading to die,  
Selling my soul to whoever would buy;  
Dealing in shame for a morsel of bread,  
Hating the living and fearing the dead.  
Merciful God! have I fallen so low?  
And yet I was once like the beautiful snow.

Once I was fair as the beautiful snow,  
With an eye like a crystal, a heart like its glow;  
Once I was loved for my innocent grace --  
Flattered and sought for the charms of my face!  
Fathers -- Mothers -- Sisters -- all,  
God and myself I have lost by my fall;  
The veriest wretch that goes shivering by,  
Will make a wide sweep lest I wander too nigh.

How strange it should be that this beautiful snow  
Should fall on a sinner with nowhere to go!  
How strange it should be when the night comes again,  
If the snow and the ice struck my desperate brain  
Fainting -- Freezing -- Dying -- alone,  
Too wicked for prayer, too weak for a moan  
To be heard in the streets of the crazy town,  
Gone mad in the Joy of snow coming down;

To be and to die in my terrible woe,  
With a bed and a shroud of the beautiful snow.  
Helpless and foul as the trampled snow,  
Sinner, despair not! Christ stoopeth low  
To rescue the soul that is lost in sin,  
And raise it to life and enjoyment again,  
Groaning -- Bleeding -- Dying -- for thee,  
The Crucified hung on the cursed tree!  
His accents of mercy fall soft on thy ear,  
"Is there mercy for me? Will He heed my weak prayer?"  
O God! in the stream that for sinners did flow  
Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

O the pathos of this beautiful poem! If there is a tender cord in one's heart, surely this would touch it. This is the language of a fallen, downcast, down-trodden, despairing soul. Maybe the compassionate, loving Savior, who came to seek and to save the lost, heard the penitent, humble cry and wail of this poor soul and snatched it as a brand from the eternal burning.

The pathos of this poem, giving vent to a wrecked, ruined, fallen life and soul, showing the deep regret of such a condition, and such a course as that she had pursued, should make every man abhor anything that would rob a girl, a woman, of her virtue and priceless character, and set about to protect her instead of rob her of this jewel. O woman, don't yield your character and soul to the devil of lust for any price that may be offered! Value your character far above anything the devil has. Place it much higher than education, culture, popularity, position, fame, and all the earthly glory that could be heaped upon you at the sacrifice of character and a good name.

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## Chapter 9 THE IDEAL GIRL

In writing this book, "Keepers At Home," I feel that it would be very timely to devote an entire chapter to girls. We realize that the girls of today will be the women of tomorrow. It is only a few years from girlhood to womanhood. What the girl is, the woman is apt to be. That is to say, what comes into girlhood will be retained in womanhood. Maybe not in every instance, but generally so. If the girl builds, or begins her life, upon a firm foundation, the woman has a firm foundation upon which to stand. If, however, the girl begins her life on a poor foundation, the woman will have a poor foundation upon which to stand, and upon which to finish her life's course, unless a great change takes place. This may be possible, but why start wrong? In childhood and early life is the time to start right. Why waste precious years of time by giving them to the devil who seeks the defeat and destruction of every life and soul? Remember, dear girl, what you take into girlhood will be with you in womanhood.

I wish to give you a quotation from Charles S. Medbury in regard to the Ideal Girl. He says, "She is radiantly happy in her girlhood, satisfied to be a girl, and content to leave the things of womanhood to the years of womanhood. Reveling in the sweet and simple, the exuberant joys of youth, she affects none of the distasteful mannerisms of the sophisticated, (adulterated and perverted), and is not ashamed to be of those who are 'experts in good and innocents in evils.'

"Humbly conscious of the rare beauty that God has wrapped up in maidenhood, she cares for her body in ways that give her strength and glow of health and, in neatness of person and daintiness of dress, commands the deference of those who sense the significance of things that are appropriate and the real glory of life that is pure.

"She has in her soul deference (respect) for her parents and delights to honor them and, like Jewish maidens of long ago, 'rises up before the silvered head.' She has friends and gladly pays the cost of real friendship, being trustworthy to the core. She plays, and plays hard, but has an undercurrent of sober purpose, and chooses for her intimates those whose laughter has back of it a clean mind that only rest in play, while cherishing plans for big, joyous tasks of life.



"She reads and studies widely so that her conversation is as easy in exalted realms as in the rollicking realms of youthful life. She knows that there is no short course to wisdom and realizes that the discerning can quickly detect, one who has only skimmed the surface of things, 'attending feasts of language and stealing the scraps.'

"She is wholesome in her thinking about the really big things of a woman's life -- the love lines of faith and service. She scorns false modesty and lives in the open, fearless, thinking no evil. She hopes to have a sacred home of her own some day, and is perfectly free to say so, but she holds her affections as only to be won by some knightly character. She will gladly walk the years alone rather than walk with one whose mind and heart are not attuned to her own standards of personal worth, service and reverence.

"In her dreams of a possible home she senses clearly the obligations of home life, and prepares herself to meet them. She plans to reign in her home through the mastery of duties involved. It is her thought to be a courageous co-worker in the building of the home. And because home life possibly may not come to her, she prepares herself also, in mind and heart and hand, not for self-support alone, but for such life expressions as will enrich all who know her and will open to her and to the uplift of her presence the doors of a thousand households.

"She honors God. Without this she withholds from the world that which she alone can give in such abounding measure. The Lord Himself must depend upon her, and boys and men would be lost indeed without this treasure-gift from girlhood. She is about the most beautiful thing alive, and where her gracious queenliness leads, all bow down to do her honor. Let no fads or fancies or false philosophies of life deny us of what this ideal girl, and she alone, can give us."

The truly ideal girl must, of necessity, be a Christian. It takes Christ in the life to make it good, great, noble, ideal and worthwhile. Without Him we are all on the road to final failure and eternal defeat. Jesus said, "Without me ye can do nothing." (John 15:5). Paul said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." (Phil. 4:13). No girl can meet the foes of girlhood and womanhood and successfully overcome them without Christ in her inmost soul and life. She must be a Christian if she would live nobly, conduct herself wisely, be clean and pure in heart, and reveal to the world what beautiful girlhood and sublime womanhood really and truly is.

The ideal girl is obedient unto God and her parents. This is one of the crowning beauties that she carries with her everywhere. It is a noble principle. With it she goes forth to success; without it she goes forth to defeat. Many a girl has defeated her life by her disobedience. To disobey parents and God in girlhood is to lay a weak foundation for womanhood. If millions of girls could realize this many of them would take Christ into their lives, obey Him, and then obey parents, especially godly parents.

The ideal girl is truthful. You can depend upon her word. She would suffer before she would tell a lie. She builds upon truth. Truth is a part of her. She tells the truth, acts the truth, lives the truth. Upon this wonderful foundation she builds her life and character.

The ideal girl is kind. She heeds this great advice from Paul: "Be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." (Eph. 4:32). She is kind to father, mother, brother, sister, playmate, classmate, friends, neighbors and enemies. Kindness is a part of her very nature and makeup. People know her as a girl of kindness. She is beautiful in her kindness. The rich and the poor, the educated and the uneducated, the high and the low-in fact, all who know her appreciated and admire her for her kindness.

The ideal girl is clean. Clean inwardly and clean outwardly. Clean in her thoughts, her language, her conduct. She is clean in mind, heart, soul and spirit. She is clean with her work. She keeps her clothes clean, and never goes dirty and filthy and slouchy. She washes the dishes clean, sweeps the floors clean, and keeps the house clean in general. She keeps her books clean at school, her papers, etc. She knows that cleanliness is next to godliness. In fact, it is a great part of godliness. Success in life depends quite a bit upon cleanness in early life. As a boy in school I well remember the students who went with dirty faces, dirty hands, kept their books dirty, and dressed dirty, never seemed to do much good. So far as I know none of them ever made a great success in life. Dirt helped to defeat them. Dirt on the outside reveals the fact that there is something lacking on the inside.

The ideal girl is never lazy. She realizes that laziness isn't right, and never makes for success. She works honestly, and does her work well. She never slights her work in order to "get by with it" sooner. She is a lively, wide-awake, up-and-doing girl. Her hands are not accustomed to idleness, neither is her brain. She takes hold of the household duties and saves her mother many a tiresome step and hour of hard work. Then at school she works hard in order to learn her lessons and master her books. Later on, when she is employed, she works honestly at her job. She desires to earn her money and to make something for her employer. This goes with her through life.

The ideal girl has a heart of love toward parents, brothers, sisters and everybody. She hates no one. There is no bitterness in her heart even toward those who may be her enemies. She knows that hatred is of the devil, and will help to defeat one's life, and at last send the soul into outer darkness without God. She loves God supremely. She loves the Bible, and loves all that is good, clean, righteous and holy. This characterizes her life. Then out of her heart of love she is good to everybody. Good to home folks, friends, acquaintances, neighbors, strangers and enemies.

The ideal girl is liberal. Selfishness and stinginess is far from her. She shows that liberality is of God, but selfishness and stinginess are of the devil. She gives freely of her possessions to others. She delights to give to God's cause. She helps support the church with her means. As she grows up, and grows into womanhood, she cultivates liberality. If she has the light on tithing she measures up to it, giving one-tenth, or more, of her earnings to the cause of God. God always honors her financially so she will have something to give. He blesses her materially. She stays out of debt, or always pays out if she goes in debt. She never skips her bills. All who deal with her know that she is absolutely honest.

There are many other things we could say about the ideal girl, but we conclude by saying that she is studious and never wastes her time. If she plays, -- and this is necessary to her health, -- she doesn't spend too much time at this. She reads and studies the very best books and literature she can find. In fact, she cultivates a taste for the very best in literature. She grows up as a student,

and she goes through life as a student. She is especially a student of the Bible, and this follows her through life.

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## Chapter 10 WOMEN AND HABITS

Habits make or mar life. This is true of both men and women. Life is made up largely of habits, either good or bad.

How beautiful, commendable, honorable and glorious is womanhood that is built up of good habits, or based upon good habits! They commend her to mankind as a jewel. She shines among men as one that is "created a little lower than the angels, and crowned with glory and honor." She wins the respect of all who know her. She speaks a clean language, although she may not always use her grammar properly. Her speech is free from slang, profanity, vulgarity and blasphemy. You never hear her taking the name of God in vain, nor gossiping, nor lying, nor circulating evil reports on her neighbors. She realizes such a habit would defeat her spiritually, and would hurt her morally.

The godly woman watches her habits lest the enemy should cause her to err and lose out in her soul. She guards her temper and tongue, walks straight, thinks on God and His goodness, and the things that are uplifting. She takes Paul's advice: "Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." (Phil. 4: 8). This characterizes her life.

The godly woman guards her appetite lest she become enslaved by some evil, abnormal, sinful habit. She beholds the habits that enslave others, therefore guards her life against such, by the help and grace of God. She realizes with the poet:

"Bad habits gather by unseen degrees,  
As brooks make rivers and rivers run to seas."

Then she highly and strongly resolves that none of these shall curse and blight her life, injure her health, and shorten her days on earth. She builds into her womanhood, character, principle, heart, mind, soul, spirit and life the best of habits. She knows that the happiness of the home, the virtue of her sons and daughters, and their future success or failure, depend principally upon her conduct, habits, instructions, teachings and prayers. Her life is lived out in the lives of her children. Maybe not always, but largely, and perhaps principally.

She realizes that it is a great thing to be a "joyful mother of children," bringing them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. She knows that some day they will make their mark in the world. She feels that she may be rearing a great and noble teacher, minister, poet, inventor, scientist, writer, missionary, or a godly, righteous farmer, or housewife, to bless the life of

another. She knows that she has a solemn charge to keep as a wife and mother, therefore desires to do her best. Now this characterizes a woman of good, godly habits.

However, let's think on the opposite side. We realize that multitudes of women are injured in body, hurt in morals and spiritually dead because of bad habits. Many today are tremendously handicapped because of some evil habit that is clinging to them, or they are holding to. They are hindered in accomplishing something good, great and worthwhile. Many are in poor health because some evil habit has hurt them through the years. Some are hindered in performing their household duties as a consequence. Many cannot pray unto God for His blessings to be poured upon them and their loved ones because bad habits stand between them and God. We are sorry to say it, but nevertheless it is a fact, multitudes of girls and women today are adulterers. This curses and blights their lives and will send their souls to hell. Many are cursed with disease that adultery breeds. How awful! How deplorable that womankind will fall so low beneath the power of the devil, and let such a habit curse and blight their lives, wreck and ruin them, and keep them from life's goal!

Let's take the habit of beer and liquor drinking, and the dope habit, among women and think of it for a minute. We are conscious this is simply degrading and demoralizing multitudes of the "fair sex" today. It is blighting womanhood throughout the nation, and also in other nations. It bids fair to wreck nations unless a mighty check is made. O that the women of great character -- women of God -- would wage a mighty warfare against this damnable traffic as never before! With them they will have the very best men of the world. We need some more Carrie Nations to stir the nation against the most cursed and damnable traffic on earth, and the greatest crime breeder. All noble women abstain from beer, liquor, wine and dope, and take their stand against such. Amen.

Now let's consider women and the tobacco question. No woman should use tobacco in any form whatsoever. It is not only injurious to her health, but it never builds her up in character and womanhood. It never blesses her spiritually. It is against her physically, morally, mentally and spiritually. It never beautifies and elevates womanhood. It never becomes a woman to smoke, dip or chew. In fact, it is highly disgusting. It is unbecoming to women.

A mother that uses tobacco in any way sets a poor example before her children in this particular. She need not be surprised if some of them make cigarette fiends. One of the most disgusting sights on earth is to see a cigarette-smoking mother, or a beer-drinking, liquor-drinking, doping mother.

Nicotine in tobacco is said to be the most deadly poison known to man except prussic acid. Naturally as women take this deadly poison into their systems it injures them physically and spiritually, and oftentimes hurts them mentally and morally. God never intended any human being to use tobacco. It is out of the line of nature. The tobacco habit is abnormal. It is literally injuring millions of people and killing them. O that women would take their stand against this ungodly, nasty, filthy habit!

A FRIENDLY CIGARETTE

I'm just a friendly cigarette --

Don't be afraid of me;  
Why all the advertisers say  
I'm harmless as can be'  
They tell you that I'm your "best friend;"  
(I like that cunning lie);  
And say, "You'll walk a mile" for me,  
Because I "satisfy."

So come on, girlie, be a sport!  
Why longer hesitate?  
With me between your pretty lips,  
You'll be quite up-to-date.  
You may not like me right at first,  
But very soon, my pet,  
You'll find you just can't get along  
Without a cigarette.

You've smoked one package, so I know  
I've nothing now to fear;  
When once I get a grip on girls,  
They're mine for life, my dear!  
Your freedom you began to lose  
The very day we met,  
When I convinced you it was smart  
To smoke a cigarette.

The color's fading from your cheeks,  
Your finger tips are stained;  
And now you'd like to give me up,  
But, sister, you are chained!  
You even took a drink last night --  
I thought you would ere long,  
For those whom I enslave soon lose  
Their sense of right and wrong.

Year after year I've fettered you,  
And led you blindly on,  
Till now you're just a bunch of nerves,  
With looks and health both gone.  
You're pale and thin, and have a cough,  
The doctor says "TB";  
He says you can't expect to live  
Much longer -- thanks to me.

But it's too late to worry now;  
When you became my slave,

You should have known the chances were  
You'd fill an early grave.  
And now that I have done my part  
To send your soul to hell,  
I'll leave you with my partner,  
Death He'll come for you, Farewell!

-- Elizabeth Hassell

In concluding this message I wish to say that many women fall into the habit of fussing, quarreling, grumbling, nagging and growling at their husbands and children. This is indeed a very bad and unpleasant habit. It irritates the entire family, destroys the peace of the home, and makes home a little hell on earth instead of a blessed "haven of rest." Home should be the sweetest, most heavenly place in all the world; but when a wife and mother is highly irritable, and grumbles and growls, fusses and quarrels continually, then the peace, happiness and enjoyment of the home is gone. The same is largely true of the husband and father also. Either one can bless the home or curse it; make the home or mar it. However, this is more especially true of the wife and mother. How necessary for a wife and mother to be gentle, patient, kind, meek, lovely, pleasant, prayerful, peaceful, godly and Christlike! Then it can usually be said, "Home, Sweet Home; there is no place like Home."

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## Chapter 11 WOMEN AND DRESS

"Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; 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." -- 1 Peter 3:3, 4.

The Bible is so written that it covers every phase of life. Those who know little, or nothing, of God's holy Word might think that it has nothing to say concerning the dress question, or that which we wear with which to decorate and ornament the body; but it does. This is especially true in regard to the dress and ornamentation of women. This may be because of the fact that women are more inclined to dote on dress, and the manner of their hair, painting and powdering, and wearing beads, ear bobs and loads of jewelry than men. We find that the dress question had to be dealt with in olden times, in the apostolic days, and it has to be dealt with today.

Moses gave direction in his day thus: "The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the Lord thy God." (Deut. 22:5). Although Moses gave this advice and command about 1451 B. C., yet it is violated all over the land today, especially by women. One of the most common sights today is to see women dressed in men's clothing. Moses said it was an abomination unto God. What does abomination mean? Webster defines it thus: "The act or feeling of one who abominates; extreme aversion. That which is abominable; a hateful or shameful thing."

Now Moses said that for a woman to wear a man's garment, or clothes, or for a man to wear a woman's clothes, is an abomination unto God; and Webster says that which is an abomination is "a hateful or shameful thing." If you take exception to what I am saying here, don't blame me. Blame Moses for writing this Scripture, and blame Webster for his definition of abomination. However, you won't escape the responsibility that is upon you by doing so, or the fact that God must have a settlement with you. To say the very best of it, we all realize that it looks bad to see a woman with a man's breeches on; and it certainly doesn't look womanly and ladylike to see a girl, or woman, wearing slacks. She looks "slack" all right. She looks slack in her dress, slack in her walk, slack in her manners, slack in her womanhood, girlhood and motherhood. Many who wear men's breeches and slacks are slack in their conduct, slack in their morals, slack in their character, slack in their spirituality. Whoever named "slacks" named them well. What does slack mean? Webster says it means, "Loose, weak, not holding fast. Not using due diligence or care; not earnest or eager; remiss," etc. Men's clothing and slacks don't become any girl or woman. Absolutely.

The modern dress, or undress, of women certainly deserves more than a passing word. There ought to be something done about it. Every conscientious, godly, righteous, virtuous, upright, pure, noble Christian woman, wife and mother should take a stand against the modern nudity of womankind. We are undoubtedly living in one of the most adulterous ages of the world's history, and the nudity of women and girls by millions is one of the main causes of it, if not the main cause. When a girl or woman appears before men half clad we realize that it takes nothing short of the grace of God for men to keep their thoughts in line with godliness, or in harmony with God. The vast majority of men, no doubt, commit mental adultery with such girls and women. When a girl or woman is dressed half nude, thus exposing her body to the eyes of men, she is absolutely throwing a temptation in their way, which is all unnecessary. "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: but I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart." (Matt. 5:27, 28). It is' a serious thing for women to absolutely tempt men with their nudity, and a serious thing for men to look on women to lust after them. We are dealing with plain facts. However, it is no plainer than God makes it in His holy Word.

Women are to "adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with braided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; but (which becometh women professing holiness) with good works." (1 Tim. 2:9, 10). What is it to be modest? The word means, "Restrained within due limits of propriety; not presumptuous or obtrusive. Observing the proprieties of the sex; free from undue familiarity, indecency, or lewdness." Then for a woman to adorn or clothe herself in modest apparel would surely mean clothes sufficient to protect the body, both from the lustful eyes of men and from the weather. When a woman exposes her chest, her arms and legs to the eyes of men, and even to inclement weather, she is not modestly and sufficiently clad. We believe thousands of nice, virtuous, upright women today are simply attired like the harlot. Because it is fashionable to half clothe the body, leaving the arms, chest and legs exposed, even good women "follow suit." They want to keep up with the styles and fashions, even at the sacrifice of a good conscience, or a good Christian experience. There should be a vast difference in the manner of clothing a Christian wears than that of a sinner. If Christians dress nude like the sinful world, keep company with sinners continually, mix and mingle with them, act like them, talk

like them, and go to the same places of evil and sinful amusements they do, etc., how can they convince the non-professor of Christianity that there is anything better than they have? Christians are to come out from the world and be separate.

"Shamefacedness," I think, means modesty, and then having a face that would blush at immodesty. Clarke says, "This would lead them to avoid everything unbecoming or meretricious in the mode or fashion of their dress." Then women, and especially those professing godliness or holiness, are not to unreasonably tamper with their hair, nor deck themselves in gold, or pearls, or costly array. In fact I believe God would have women wear long hair. "If a woman has long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering." (1 Cor. 11:15). The boyish bob of women today certainly looks masculine. And to have the hair scorched, or tampered with at the beauty parlors, belongs to the world and not to the church, or to Christians. So when a woman decks, bobs, curls and adorns her hair, wears costly jewelry and pearls, or costly array, or dresses in the nude fashions of the day, you may know that she is far from godliness and holiness. Her dress is to attract the eyes of the world and not to please God. She represents the god of fashions and not the God of salvation and holiness.

What is to be the real adorning of women anyhow? In the first place let me ask what is NOT to be their adorning? Our text answers this question: "Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel." Then what is to be her real, true adorning? Let the text again answer: "Let it be the hidden man of the heart, (purity of 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." O how we need millions of women today who are thus adorned in the grace of God!

"The hidden man of the heart" means the inner man, or soul, with the whole system of affections and passions. When a woman's soul is pure, and her heart and affections set upon God, with a passion for souls, in the meantime loving her husband and proving to be true and faithful unto him, and faithful unto her children, if she is married and is a mother, this adorns her life. She doesn't need to adorn herself outwardly in order to appear beautiful. Her inward grace, purity, holiness, godliness and love adorns her outer life. It beautifies her. She knows how to dress. That is not a question that confuses her. Her dress is simple Nothing gaudy, showy, extravagant or questionable about it. She is modest in her dress, reasonable, and yet not droll and slouchy. Of course she doesn't dress to gain the applause of the world, but she dresses to please God and wield a good Christian influence. The church and community knows her as a woman of God and not of fashions and fads. No god of fashions has any power over her. She has died out to the world, but is spiritually alive and active. God has beautified her with meekness and quietness, and yet she has a wonderful testimony for God, and also praises Him continually. How beautiful is such womanhood! It shines in the home, the church and community more than all gods of fashion. Hallelujah!

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"The king's daughter is all glorious within; her clothing is of wrought gold." -- Psalm 45:13

Dr. Adam Clarke, the great Bible commentator, says of this verse: "This, in some sense, may be spoken of Solomon's bride, or the daughter of the king of Egypt; and then the expression may refer either to the cultivation of her mind, or the ornaments and splendor of her palace . . . Her palace, and her person, are decorated in the very highest state of elegance and magnificence. Spiritually, the king's daughter may mean the Christian church, filled with the mind that was in Christ, and adorned with the graces of the Holy Spirit, while the whole of its outward conduct is pure and holy, ornamented with the works of faith and love, and always bringing forth the fruits of the Spirit."

The great and outstanding thought and fact to me in this text is that of being "glorious within." If this was true of a king's daughter, why can't it be true of any man's daughter? A girl, a woman, doesn't have to be the daughter of a king to be "glorious within." She can be the daughter of a farmer, a mechanic, a blacksmith, a teacher, a preacher, or any common day laborer, and be glorious in her inner and outer life. This is an absolute fact. However, in order to be glorious within she must have Christ in her life, her soul, her spirit. She must be Christlike. She must be clean, womanly, ladylike, virtuous, upright and pure. This is possible for the daughters of the land. God would have it so, and womankind should make it so, by the grace of God. Nothing is more beautiful, ennobling, uplifting, attractive, commendable, praiseworthy, worthwhile, desirable, honorable and glorious on earth than godly, pure, holy womanhood.

In my opinion we are facing the most serious and alarming conditions morally and spiritually in American history. It is a known fact that the vast majority of girls and women today are without Christ. As a consequence, multitudes of them smoke cigarettes, which is very injurious to their health and weakening to their morals and spirituality. Multitudes drink beer, wine and liquor, dance and use profane language, and keep the company of young men of like habits and character. The girls of our land today flock to the theaters and look upon the most indecent, obscene, adulterous, suggestive pictures that are put upon the screen, and seem to take special delight in such. They read the most sordid, unwholesome, suggestive and ungodly literature that they can find at the news stands and book stores. They glory in filthy sex literature. They dress in the latest fashions of the day, which is absolutely an abomination in the sight of God, we sincerely believe. They paint and disfigure their faces, lips and finger nails until one almost wonders if the heathen in the jungles of Africa could beat it.

Not only that, but women are making themselves masculine by wearing men's apparel throughout the land. It never, NEVER becomes a woman to put on breeches and go out among men. It certainly doesn't look right. It never elevates her in the sight of men. She is out of her place. In Deuteronomy 22:5 we have this statement, which was a command God gave to Moses for the children of Israel: "The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are an abomination unto the Lord thy God." A woman doesn't look right even in "slacks." She looks "slack" sure enough. It is not elevating in the sight of God's people.

One reason that our courts are being filled with divorce cases today is because women have tremendously lowered the standards of womanhood. They have sold out their purity of

womanhood and virtue to the libertines, and to adulterous men, and after marriage they find that they are miserable, as they do not love each other. Then a divorce case ensues, a home is 'ruined, and lives are wrecked. When people marry for true love they almost always live together until parted by death.

Dr. Roy L. Smith, editor of the Methodist Christian Advocate, and one of America's leading writers, has this to say in one of his editorials: "A certain highly respected business man and his wife made a trip to the city in connection with a defense contract. While there they went over to a night club for dinner. The stench of liquor filled the air, and the raucous voices of the diners rang out over the strains of the jive band. The entertainment was furnished by two or three girls who danced almost completely nude. The whole program was lewd to a disgusting degree, but the patrons were recruited in a very large part from among the people who prided themselves on being 'respectable.' ... If our sons have gone out to defend the land they love, and suffer wounds, disability and death in doing so, we who stay at home must maintain the land in decency, even if that, too, calls for wounds."

No nation rises higher than its womanhood. Don't forget this. The women of America almost hold the destiny of the nation in their hands. As they sink into wickedness, so men sink. As they rise in righteousness and holiness, so men rise, and so a nation rises.

No woman is "glorious within" who smokes cigarettes, drinks beer, wine and liquor, dresses almost nude, paints and disfigures her face, reads a low class of books, magazines and literature, attends the ungodly, corrupt, wicked movies, dances, frolics and flirts with other women's husbands, or even with single men of like character; who is proud, worldly, evil and ungodly; who wants plenty of men and money; who throws her character to the four winds of the earth and goes forth to live like the devil wants her to. Even if her face is beautiful, her ungodly, wicked conduct is such that she appears ugly to those who love God and cherish the higher, nobler, grander, more sublime things of life. If the inner life of a woman is godly, righteous, clean, virtuous, pure and holy, so will her outer life be. If her inner life is evil, adulterous, disobedient unto God, worldly and wicked, so will her outer life be. The outer life portrays the inner life.

It is true that a remnant of womankind today is "glorious within," but they are far in the minority. However, we indeed appreciate them. Their lives are worth more to men and nations than gold and silver, gems, rubies, pearls, diamonds and jewels. May God richly bless each and every one of them and add to their number. O, that we had millions of them in this fair land of ours! The nation would not be in the dreadful, deplorable condition physically, mentally, morally, spiritually and financially that it is today if we had them. Thousands of our young men would have mothers, wives and sweethearts praying for them; whereas, multitudes of their mothers, wives and sweethearts are frolicking with the devil and his crowd while they are shedding their life's blood on far-flung battlefields, or will be unless the nations turn unto God. May God wake us up. We sometimes say, "God give us men!" Indeed we need Christian men, noble men, clean and manly men, holy men, mighty men, towering, sun-crowned men; but isn't it time to cry out, "God give us women?" Yes, women who are "all glorious within." Glorious in mind, heart, soul, spirit, character. Women who love God rather than nonsense and the degrading, demoralizing, damnable things of evil, sin and wickedness. Yes, women who love children rather than dogs; who love godliness rather than nude styles and fashions; who love the church of the Lord Jesus Christ rather

than the cursed theater, dance hall, card party and wild life. God give 'is women of great moral courage, great grace and powerful influence for the right and against the wrong. Give us women, mothers, wives and sweethearts of prayer, truthfulness, gentleness, kindness, and great strength of character. Give us women who lead heavenward rather than hellward. Give us women who love home rather than the ballroom, the theater and the night club. Give us women who are mighty in prayer, great in faith and pure in life. Give us soul-winning women rather than soul-damning women. Give us women who are "all glorious within" and beautiful without.

## DON'T

Don't think you're beautiful without  
If you are vile within;  
Don't travel on the road of doubt  
And hope in life to win;  
Don't seek the pleasures of the earth  
And hope to gain a crown;  
Don't think you'll live a life of worth  
While evil has you down.

Don't think you're noble and sublime  
If you are full of pride;  
Don't hope in life to rise and climb  
By drifting with the tide;  
Don't stop because the way seems closed  
That leads to Heaven's height;  
Don't go the way that's least opposed  
And think you're going right,

Don't think you're making great success  
Because you're getting rich;  
Don't think because you're in distress  
You're down in failure's ditch;  
Don't go the way you know is wrong  
And think you'll win the race;  
Don't think because you're with the throng  
You've found in life your place.

Don't think with habits that are vile  
You'll climb the hill of fame;  
Don't think because a wrong's in style  
It cannot hurt your name;  
Don't think with hatred in your heart  
That you are heaven-bound;  
Don't stop for persecution's dart  
If God and truth you've found.

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THE END