



SAVED TO SERVE
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THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN, PART 3

1. In this Sabbath School Lesson, we will be continuing our series looking at the virtuous woman brought to view in Proverbs 31. We will focus on the experience of the woman with the issue of blood.
2. What question is asked in Proverbs 31:10? _____
3. Read Mark 5:25. What ailment did the woman have? _____
4. What two-fold application would her loss of blood represent? Leviticus 17:11; John 6:54

5. In Mark 5:26, she went to many physicians but grew worse. Since none of them could help her, what can we deduce about the disease? _____

“On the way to the ruler's house, Jesus had met, in the crowd, a poor woman who for twelve years had suffered from a disease that made her life a burden. **She had spent all her means upon physicians and remedies, only to be pronounced incurable.**” {DA 343.2}

6. What disease do we all suffer from which cannot be cured by men? Jeremiah 30:11-15; Micah 1:5, 9; Mark 10:27

7. How did the woman with the issue of blood learn of Jesus? Mark 5:27 _____
8. In Mark 5:34, Jesus said that her faith made her whole. How does faith come? Romans 10:17

9. What did she do after seeing Jesus come near? What part of Christ's garment did she touch? Mark 5:28, 29; Luke 8:44

10. What does the border represent? Numbers 15:38, 39 _____
11. **Note:** This healing of Christ points us to the medical missionary work. We are to teach others how to obtain healing in Christ physically and spiritually by adhering to His moral and health laws.

“Pure air, sunlight, abstemiousness, rest, exercise, proper diet, the use of water, trust in divine power,—these are the true remedies. Every person should have a knowledge of nature's remedial agencies and how to apply them. It is essential both to understand the principles involved in the treatment of the sick and to have a practical training that will enable one rightly to use this knowledge.” {CD 301.3}

“The work of the true medical missionary is largely a spiritual work. It includes prayer and the laying on of hands; he therefore should be as sacredly set apart for his work as is the minister of the gospel. Those who are selected to act the part of missionary physicians are to be set apart as such. This will strengthen them against the temptations to withdraw from the sanitarium work to engage in private practice. No selfish motives should be allowed to draw the worker from his post of duty. **The medical work done in connection with the giving of the third angel's message, is to accomplish wonderful results. It is to be a sanctifying, unifying work, corresponding to the work which the great Head of the church sent forth the first disciples to do.”** {CH 540.4}

12. What went out of Christ and was received by the woman? Mark 5:30 _____
13. **Note:** The number for “virtue” here is 1411. It means force, miraculous power, strength, ability.
14. What does Proverbs 31:17 say that the virtuous woman does? _____
15. **Note:** The number for the word “arms” in Proverbs 31:17 means force, mighty, power, strength. It has a similar meaning of the word for “virtue” in the Greek lexicon. This shows us that the virtuous woman receives her virtue from Christ, her spiritual strength from Christ, and her healing from Christ! Mark 5:34 shows us that it was her faith that made her whole. Therefore, this account is also teaching us lessons of healing by faith as well as righteousness by faith. Let us now confirm that this account teaches us about righteousness by faith.

16. Proverbs 31:17 says that the virtuous woman girds her loins with strength which we learned she received from Christ. What is around Christ's loins? *Compare Isaiah 11:1 with Revelation 22:16 & Isaiah 53:1, 2; See now Isaiah 11:5.*

17. **Note:** Let us know transition into some practical godliness.

18. How can we have divine power to give us spiritual life and to help us to live godly? 2 Peter 1:3

19. The woman in Mark 5 was healed because of her faith. What must we add to our faith? 2 Peter 1:5

20. What does this faith look like so that we can know if we have it and add more spiritual graces to it? See quotation below

"The wondering crowd that pressed close about Christ realized no accession of vital power. But when the suffering woman put forth her hand to touch Him, believing that she would be made whole, she felt the healing virtue. So in spiritual things. To talk of religion in a casual way, to pray without soul hunger and living faith, avails nothing. A nominal faith in Christ, which accepts Him merely as the Saviour of the world, can never bring healing to the soul. The faith that is unto salvation is not a mere intellectual assent to the truth. He who waits for entire knowledge before he will exercise faith, cannot receive blessing from God. It is not enough to believe about Christ; we must believe in Him. The only faith that will benefit us is that which embraces Him as a personal Saviour; which appropriates His merits to ourselves. Many hold faith as an opinion. Saving faith is a transaction by which those who receive Christ join themselves in covenant relation with God. Genuine faith is life. A living faith means an increase of vigor, a confiding trust, by which the soul becomes a conquering power." {DA 347.1}

21. What did she do once she was healed and confronted by Jesus? Luke 8:47

"Our confession of His faithfulness is Heaven's chosen agency for revealing Christ to the world. We are to acknowledge His grace as made known through the holy men of old; but that which will be most effectual is the testimony of our own experience. We are witnesses for God as we reveal in ourselves the working of a power that is divine. Every individual has a life distinct from all others, and an experience differing essentially from theirs. God desires that our praise shall ascend to Him, marked by our own individuality. These precious acknowledgments to the praise of the glory of His grace, when supported by a Christ-like life, have an irresistible power that works for the salvation of souls." {DA 347.3}

"Christ did not ask the question for His own information. He had a lesson for the people, for His disciples, and for the woman. He wished to inspire the afflicted with hope. He wished to show that it was faith which had brought the healing power. The woman's trust must not be passed by without comment. God must be glorified by her grateful confession. Christ desired her to understand that He approved her act of faith. He would not have her depart with a half blessing only. She was not to remain in ignorance of His knowledge of her suffering, or of His compassionate love and of His approval of her faith in His power to save to the uttermost all who come to Him." {MH 60.6}

22. We learned that the woman added to her faith, virtue and to virtue, knowledge (2 Peter 1:5). So, as she received healing from Jesus, she gained practical knowledge of how to heal the body from the physical and spiritual ailments from which many people suffer. She was now equipped to share this knowledge with others.

23. **Note:** Let us read the following quotations about the need of gospel medical missionary workers.

"We have come to a time when every member of the church should take hold of medical missionary work. The world is a lazar house filled with victims of both physical and spiritual disease. Everywhere people are perishing for lack of a knowledge of the truths that have been committed to us. **The members of the church are in need of an awakening, that they may realize their responsibility to impart these truths.** Those who have been enlightened by the truth are to be light bearers to the world. To hide our light at this time is to make a terrible mistake. The message to God's people today is: "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." {7T 62.1}

"As religious aggression subverts the liberties of our nation, those who would stand for freedom of conscience will be placed in unfavorable positions. For their own sake they should, while they have opportunity, become intelligent in regard to disease, its causes, prevention, and cure. And those who do this will find a field of labor anywhere. There will be suffering ones, plenty of them, who will need help, not only among those of our own faith, but largely among those who know not the truth. The shortness of time demands an energy that has not been aroused among those who claim to believe the present truth."—Counsels on Health, 506. {MM 321.1}

24. How was the woman's health condition described in Mark 5:29? _____

25. What does Proverbs 31:21 say? _____

26. **Note:** Compare Proverbs 31:21 with Job 38:22, 23. The snow points to the plagues. The first time hail is seen in scripture is in Egypt when God sent the ten plagues (see Exodus 9:18-34). It also points to the seven last plagues that God will bring upon the unrepentant during the time of trouble in these last days (see Revelation 15:1; 16:1, 2). Let us briefly study the ten plagues and the passover to see the practical preparation needed for these last days.
27. Read Proverbs 31:21. With what is she clothed? _____
28. What were the Israelites to apply to their doorposts? Exodus 12:5-7 _____
29. Who does the lamb symbolize, and what does the blood represent? 1 Corinthians 5:7; Revelation 7:14 _____
30. How were the Israelites to wait while expecting deliverance? Exodus 12:11
 a) Loins girded - Proverbs 31:17; Isaiah 11:5; Ephesians 6:14 _____
 b) Shoes on their feet - Ephesians 6:15; Isaiah 52:7 _____
 c) Staff in hand - Psalm 23:4 + Jeremiah 1:11, 12; 1 Samuel 17:7 + Ephesians 6:17 _____
 d) Haste - 2 Peter 3:12; 2 Corinthians 6:2; Romans 13:11, 12 _____
31. **Note:** After these things were done by the Israelites, Exodus 12:12 says, “And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, **and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.**” Just as God protected His people from the plagues in Egypt as they followed His methods of preparation, God will likewise protect from the seven last plagues. Furthermore, we are told that virtuous women have a role to play in getting their homes in order and bringing others into the household of faith (God’s truth) that they may also be saved. One of God’s primary lines of work for His people in these last days is the gospel medical missionary work.

“I wish to tell you that soon there will be no work done in ministerial lines but medical missionary work.”—

Counsels on Health, 533 (1901). {LDE 80.3}

“Sickness of the mind prevails everywhere. Nine tenths of the diseases from which men suffer have their foundation here. Perhaps some living home trouble is, like a canker, eating to the very soul and weakening the life forces. Remorse for sin sometimes undermines the constitution and unbalances the mind.” {5T 443.4}

“I am deeply interested in the subject of medical missionary work and the education of men and women for that work. I could wish that there were one hundred nurses in training where there is one. It ought to be thus. Both men and women can be so much more useful as medical missionaries than as missionaries without the medical education. I am more and more impressed with the fact that a more decided testimony must be borne upon this subject, that more direct efforts must be made to interest the proper persons, setting before them the advantages that every missionary will have in understanding how to treat those who are diseased in body, as well as to minister to sin-sick souls. This double ministration will give the laborer together with God access to homes, and will enable him to reach all classes of society.” {CH 503.1}