Devotional: What Is True 'Godly' Beauty?

Christian Devotion on pursuing God rather than outward beauty

Charm and grace are deceptive, and [superficial] beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord [reverently worshiping, obeying, serving, and trusting Him with awe-filled respect], she shall be praised. - Proverbs 31:30 (AMP)

The beauty we so often strive for is merely superficial, it fades, it is not lasting and quickly disappears. We age! Even if we age well, keeping active and maintaining good health, we will eventually no longer have a youthful body or a youthful complexion. It's part of life and the aging process.

No matter what we do to ourselves to remain more youthful looking, age will always get the better of us. We need to accept this and embrace the season of life we are in, because each season of life is wonderful! We need to learn to live in contentment within the body God knitted together for us—being happy in our skin, so to speak. It's important to understand that pursuing outward beauty is fruitless in the light of eternity—and we need to live with eternity in our hearts. Chasing after outward beauty is vanity, it's self-focusing and becomes all-consuming, caring more about 'how we look' our 'body image', which screams out: "I'm not happy with my body or how I look". Yet, God created us and thinks His "works are wonderful".

When we are more concerned with "seeking His Kingdom and His Righteousness" above how we look, it puts everything into perspective. We find that we will grow more in our relationship with God and we will discover that He matters more to us than anything else in our lives, which keeps us "eternity focused".

We must cultivate a lifestyle that puts God in His rightful place as Lord and King, to worship Him by how we live our lives, obeying Him and serving Him wholeheartedly with our gifts and trusting Him fully—being in awe of His sovereignty and committing to being conformed to God's standards, not the world's. We must align our lives, and our beliefs, to the truth of God's Word, the truth of who He says we are, by replacing the 'lies' we believe about ourselves with His truth. And He declares that we are, "His workmanship" and that His works are wonderful! Therefore, who are we to argue?

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Additional Scriptures: <u>Psalm 139:13-16(AMP); Ephesians 2:10(AMP); Romans 12:1-2(AMP);</u> <u>1 Samuel 16:7(AMP); 1 Timothy 4:8(AMP); Matthew 6:33(AMP); Psalm 92:12-14(AMP);</u> <u>Proverbs 20:29(AMP)</u>

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