



UNDERSTANDING PROVERBS 31

1

THE GENRE: Proverbs 31 is a poem.

- ▶ It is a twenty-two line acrostic using the Hebrew alphabet.
- ▶ It personifies “lady wisdom” (cf. Prov. 8:1-11, Msg.)
- ▶ It conveys totality by honoring even ordinary achievements in everyday life.





UNDERSTANDING PROVERBS 31

2

THE AUDIENCE: Proverbs 31 is written for men.

- ▶ It called men be more appreciative husbands, not women to be more attractive wives.
- ▶ It was to be memorized by men to sing in praise of the women in their lives
- ▶ "Honor her for all that her hands have done."
(Proverbs 31:31)

UNDERSTANDING PROVERBS 31

3

THE INTENT: Proverbs 31 celebrates valor.

- ▶ "Virtuous woman" is best translated "woman of valor".
- ▶ Eshet Chayil: It celebrates everything done every day in faith and love.

VALOR

is not about *what* I do,
but *how* I do it



A Proverbs 31 Woman is not about creating a life worthy of a Pinterest board. It's about doing what you do out of courageous faith and with great love.

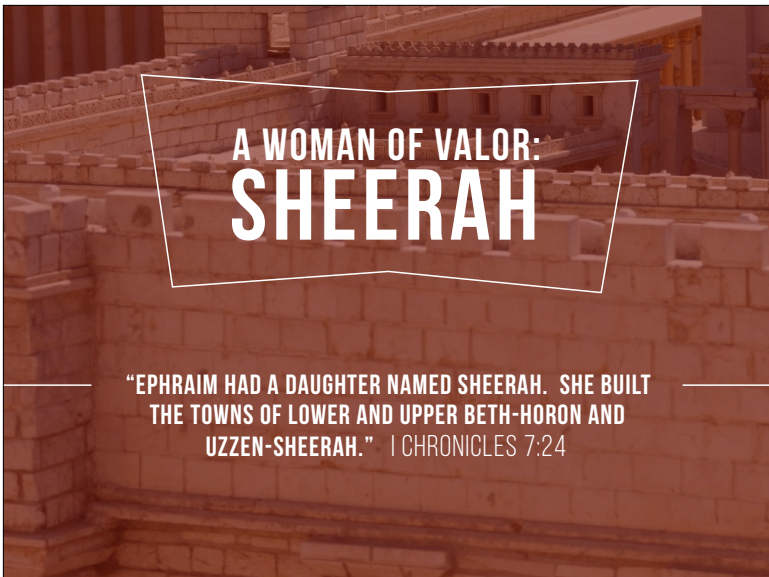
"God has not called us to do great things, but to do small things with great love."

MOTHER TERESA



PROVERBS 31

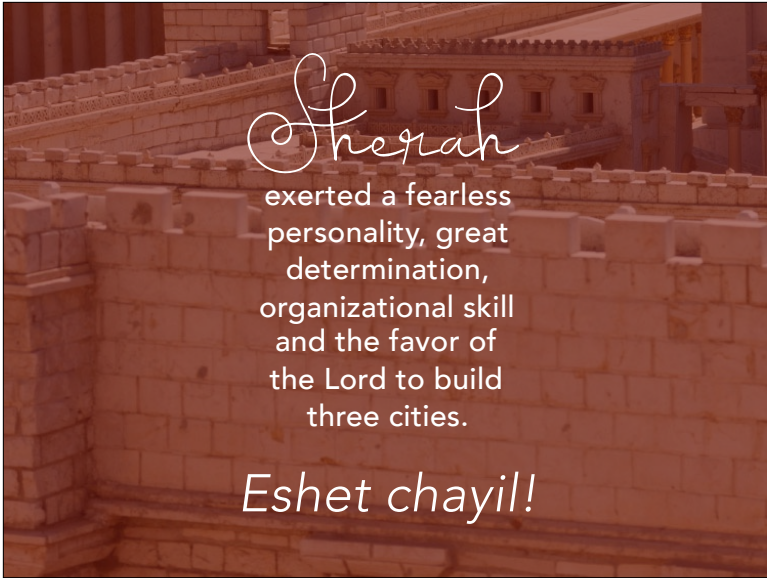
celebrates the glory of selfless love and the wisdom of courageous faith in the ordinary moments of my daily life.



A WOMAN OF VALOR: SHEERAH

"EPHRAIM HAD A DAUGHTER NAMED SHEERAH. SHE BUILT THE TOWNS OF LOWER AND UPPER BETH-HORON AND UZZEN-SHEERAH." | CHRONICLES 7:24

“EPHRAIM’S SONS, ELEAD AND EZER ATTEMPTED TO RUSTLE CATTLE AT GATH, BUT THEY WERE KILLED BY THE LOCAL FARMERS. EPHRAIM MOURNED FOR THEM A LONG TIME, AND HIS BROTHERS TRIED TO COMFORT HIM.”
I CHRONICLES 7:21-22



Sheerah
exerted a fearless
personality, great
determination,
organizational skill
and the favor of
the Lord to build
three cities.

Eshet chayil!



GOD USES WOMEN WHO ARE WILLING TO COURAGEOUSLY EXERCISE FAITH AND DO SMALL THINGS WITH GREAT LOVE IN THE ORDINARY MOMENTS OF LIFE.