Janice Mae Jackson

## VIRTUOUS TEMPERATE

Women of Excellence in the modern world

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Names and references to God are capitalized to acknowledge and worship His deity. In contrast, references to satan are not capitalized, even to the point of violating grammatical rules, so as to equally acknowledge his position of defeat.

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#### Introduction

We are living in a generation where women are displaying a lack of virtue. Many women are living in the ways of this world and not God's ways. Many women feel victimized and then act on their emotions out of desperation, and get themselves into situations that they never wanted to be in. They are hurting, they are living a life of brokenness with a broken Spirit, broken relationships, and broken self-esteem. But most of all a broken heart, which results in living a life of unforgiveness, bitterness, and anger.

Jesus tells us in His Word that His thoughts towards us are thoughts of peace and to give us a future and a hope. But before we can live in that state of peace and hope, there must be a change in our own lives. As women, we need to examine our lives, we need to understand why we are feeling and acting this way.

Do you want a high level of excellence in your life? This book is going to help you achieve a high level of excellence in your life. by helping you to understand that change is needed. This book will bring correction and give friendly advice and encouragement so that you can become a woman of excellence by becoming virtuous and temperate.

This book will also reveal to you who your Heavenly Father is and how to come into right relationship with Him. And once you come into right relationship with God, you will know who you really are and you will be amazed by all He has made available to you for you to live an abundant life.

God, our Heavenly Father, wants to help us renew our minds through His Word. Why? Because real change starts with changing our minds and the way we think. This book will guide you through portions of God's Word to help you change the way you think so that your life can be set on the course of God's peace, abundance, and blessing.

This is my prayer for every woman reading this book.

Heavenly Father, I ask that you bless everyone who is reading this book right now in Jesus' name. Father God, it is not by accident that they are reading this book, but it is by Your design and purpose that You drew them to it.

Father, I ask that You open up their eyes and turn them from darkness to light and from the power of satan to You that they may receive forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ. I ask that You remove the deafness from their ears so that they may hear what You are speaking to them in this season, and I ask that you open up their Spirit to receive the Word of God to allow change to come into their lives. I ask that You renew their minds so they can walk in victory and live their life in excellence in You.

Father, heal their hearts and lives of the pain and hurt that has come from every hurtful word spoken by anyone against them that pierced their heart, and wounded their soul. I ask that You remove the shackles of shame from their feet and set these captives free, because who the Son sets free is free indeed.

Father, I pray all of this in the mighty name of Jesus and seal this prayer with the blood of Jesus so that it cannot be broken.

Amen.

## Chapter One Titus 2: Women Who Are Virtuous & Temperate

In the book of Titus, Apostle Paul instructed a young pastor named Titus, who was pastoring a church in Crete, about how to organize the church. Titus was to be actively involved in instructing, encouraging, and teaching the godly older women so that they would be properly equipped for the task of leading the younger women.

Let's look at Titus Chapter 2.

Titus 2:3: the older women likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things-2:4 - that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children,
2:5 - [to be] discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.

Let's look at two important keys in verses 3 and 4.

Key words in these scriptures are that they:

- 1. Are teachers of good things.
- 2. Admonish the young women.

This is saying that older women are to assume the responsibilities of providing a proper example for women who are less mature on godly living, teaching them how to live self-controlled, exemplary, and fruitful lives.

Admonish: Bring correction whether, or if necessary, by reproof by of encouragement.

Admonish<sup>1</sup>: to express warning or disapproval to, especially in a gentle earnest manner. (2) To give friendly earnest advice or encouragement.

*Titus 2:12 - teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age,* 

Another word for sober is temperate which means self-control. We as women should act in a responsible manner by not acting out on our emotions but being in control of our emotions at all times, conducting ourselves properly.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Merriam-Webster Dictionary

#### Sober: for which sober is translated Temperate

#### Temperate: Self-control

A primary role of a Christian leader is teaching. A godly woman should teach and train women to renounce godlessness and worldly pleasures; how to be temperate, exercising self-control, saying no to ungodly, worldly attitudes and behavior; and saying yes to righteous and godly living so they can live fruitful lives. The Word of God tells us that we should comfort each other and edify one another; edifying one another so we can help each other with spiritual growth and development of character by teaching or by example, therefore encouraging each other and building each other up. Chapter Two Women Who Are Not Virtuous & Temperate

Over the years, I have seen women, even those who say that they are Christians, not being virtuous and temperate in their behavior. What is virtue? Below are three definitions of the word virtue, two from the Bible dictionary, and one from the world dictionary.

Virtue: Moral goodness; Excellencies

Virtue<sup>2</sup>: Moral excellency and goodness

**Virtue<sup>3</sup>:** Conformity to a standard of right, MORALITY, a particular moral excellence; Chastity especially in a woman.

While looking at many definitions of the word virtue, I came across an article that listed the definition of the word. The article did not have a title, nor did it state who it was written by, but out of all the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Word Wealth, NKJV

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Merriam-Webster Dictionary

definitions I had read I really like this definition; this was the best definition that I have found that is closely related to the virtues that I am going to address to you. The article read:

"What is the best definition of Virtue? Noun. Moral excellence: goodness, righteousness, conformity of one's life and conduct to moral and ethical principles, uprightness, rectitude, chastity."

All definitions define the word virtue as dealing with morals/moral excellencies; it is the moral excellence of a person. A morally excellent woman has a character that is made up of virtue valued as good. Virtues are the essence of our character, and character does determine destiny, and when we keep the practice of virtue at the heart of our everyday life, we live with purpose.

In my daily surroundings, wherever I go, I am always observing women:

- 1. How they carry themselves.
- 2. How they are dressed.
- 3. How they are treating their children.
- 4. What they are speaking out of their mouths to their children.
- 5. If they being responsible and training their children.

- 6. How they are speaking to men.
- 7. How men are treating them.
- 8. Women chasing men.
- 9. How so many married women are heads of their household.

I am not only looking at women in my daily surroundings outside the church, but I am also looking at the women who proclaim they are believers, who proclaim to be daughters of the Most High God. It saddens me to see how women are acting in these times, what I see is a lack of virtue, women without virtue. This virtue is not only lacking among women who are still in the world, who have not yet given their lives to Christ, but it is very much lacking among women who are in the Church. What I see is that in each generation of women is that virtue declines.

There is a lack of moral conduct among women today, not just among women in the world, but also among Christian women. We have Christian women who look like, act like, and demonstrate all the facets of the world; and a lack of this morality is happening right inside the Church. Today you cannot tell the difference between the worldly women and the Christian women. Christian women have conformed themselves to the ways of the world and not God's ways. I have seen women who proclaim that they are Christians, women who are in the Church, and worldly women exhibiting the same behaviors in their lives. Things such as:

- 1. No morals.
- 2. No goodness.
- 3. Unrighteousness
- 4. Using profanity.
- 5. Lying.
- 6. Conformity to the world standards.
- 7. Lack of self-control.
- 8. No integrity.
- 9. Having no self-respect.
- 10. Exhibiting Provocativeness.
- 11. Chasing men.
- 12. Cursing children.
- 13. Neglecting their children.
- 14. No domestic skills.
- 15. Married and acting as head of household.
- 16. Women fighting over a male.
- 17. Fornication.
- 18. Adultery.
- 19. Living in sin.

This is what a lot of women are exhibiting in their lives, and we are not to be living our lives in this darkened lifestyle. You may say, "the men are doing many of the same things." And yes, I agree, but I am only addressing the women. Many women would say that society has changed so morality changed, and what seemed immoral a few years ago is considered and accepted as moral today. Society has changed but God's words have not changed and will not change. He has a standard that He requires of us, and that standard has not changed. Once we have the right standard, God's standard, then the image of the world that has been displayed in your life will be removed and the image of God will be displayed. God calls us to a higher standard because He has called us to be Christ-like. We are called to strip off our old nature (our former way of life) because our old nature is thoroughly rotten by its deceptive desires and that we clothed ourselves with the new nature created to be godly, putting Him first in our lives. God's Word tells us:

**Romans 12:2** -And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what [is] that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

This scripture is giving us three important keys:

- 1. Do not be conformed to this world.
- 2. Transformation comes when your mind is renewed.
- 3. That you should be doing God's acceptable and perfect will.

We are living in a godless system, and we are not to