We Forgot to be Women, by Alicia R. Sheppard, Copyright © 2007

It was order that was set into place As fixed as the stars that are etched in outer space And you'll see it too If you begin to retrace your steps And look back in time To when God's forbidden fruit still hung on its vine And Eve was still a concept that existed only in God's mind When a helper suitable for Adam God could not find So He created woman

Strong, Beautiful, Helpmeet, Woman Kind, Companion, Dignified, Woman

But fast forward to the 21<sup>st</sup> century And I think some women are still trying to eat from that forbidden tree Because we buy into the lie That the world doesn't need order to survive We traded our lace for briefcases And burned our bras We wore a rebellious attitude Like a banner instead of a flaw We turned our backs on Adam and said, "I don't need him at all, Because I'm an independent woman, Don't try and stop me." So busy trying to do everything a man could do We went from an original to a copy And we forgot to be women

Strong, Beautiful, Helpmeets, Women Kind, Companions, Dignified, Women

And I think sometimes we rebel because we've been hurt And after all that we've been through with men we start to treat men like dirt I too have experienced The lies, the pain, the emotional abuse The trials, the tribulations, the betrayal but it's still no excuse To treat every other man like he's going to be a copy of the last one Because truthfully there's still a whole lot of men out there Who are trying to act like God's Son And I refuse to be the woman who, as soon as I get one, Punishes him for all the past mistakes before he even makes one.

I think we forgot That femininity is a blessin' Like Queen Esther gently entreating the king We Forgot to be Women, by Alicia R. Sheppard, Copyright © 2007

When no one else could address him But we thought the word "submission" Was synonymous with "oppression" Forgetting that God's principles were designed for our protection We were made to stand with men, not fight against them And we begin to lose our power the first day we reject them.

But the truth is there are a whole lot of men out there who aren't even worth your time

So to *them* just say, "God bless you brother! But thank God *you're* not mine!"

But it is time to return to the call to be women Strong, Beautiful, Helpmeets, Women

Am I saying that we can't work or be educated? Please I, too, am an educated woman With three degrees And maybe you don't like the color pink, or tiaras, or teacup parties But does that mean you can't be a feminine woman? Hardly The key is to remember that God created man and woman to be distinct And embracing our femininity is a whole lot more powerful than we think It's about the inner beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit That may not be what our natural personality is But that's the Bible even when we don't want to hear it

We inspire with our beauty We speak life with what we say And under the influence of our gentle wisdom Hardness washes away

And we uplift men, support men, stand by men Women Encourage men, pray for men, respect men Women Love men, honor men, but don't try to be men Women Not doormats Not brain dead Not airheads But women Strong, Beautiful, Helpmeets, Women Let's return to the call To be women Kind, Companions, Dignified, Women