

# Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 192 – A Mother's Advice (Proverbs 31:1-9)

1. Was Lemuel's [Solomon; according to Strong's Dictionary] mother influential in his life?  
Yes, she taught him: *"The words of king Lemuel, the prophecy that his mother taught him"* (**Proverbs 31:1**).

- Bathsheba was Solomon's mother (**II Samuel 12:24**).
- Mothers should be instrumental in teaching their children spiritual lessons (**Proverbs 1:8, Proverbs 6:20, I Timothy 5:14, and II Timothy 1:5**; cf. **II Timothy 3:15**).

2. What did Lemuel's mother instruct Solomon to do concerning women?  
*"Give not thy strength unto women..."* (**Proverbs 31:3**).

- A man can lose his strength to the wiles of a woman (**Judges 16:1-21, I Kings 21:25, and Matthew 14:1-11**).
- Strange women are predators (**Proverbs 5:1-11 and Proverbs 22:14**) that destroy men (**Proverbs 7:26-27 and Ecclesiastes 7:26**).
- Solomon didn't listen to his mother (**I Kings 11:1-8 and Nehemiah 13:26**).

3. Did Lemuel's mother try to help keep him from being destroyed as a king?  
Yes: *"...nor thy ways to that which destroyeth kings"* (**Proverbs 31:3**).

- **Psalms 2:1-12 and Isaiah 10:5-19**.

4. Should rulers drink wine?

No: *"It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink"* (**Proverbs 31:4**).

- **Leviticus 10:9-10, Isaiah 5:22, Isaiah 28:7-8, and Luke 1:13-16**.
- Take away the heart (**Hosea 4:11**).

5. Will alcohol assist rulers in making wise judgments?

No: *"Lest they drink, and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted"* (**Proverbs 31:5**).

- **Habakkuk 2:5**.
- Alcohol impairs us. We're COMMANDED to be sober minded (**I Peter 1:13, Luke 21:34-35, Romans 13:13, I Thessalonians 5:6-7, I Peter 4:7, and I Peter 5:8**).

6. What was alcohol used for?

To lose your mind: *“(6) Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish, and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts. (7) Let him drink, and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more” (Proverbs 31:6-7).*

- Remember all that we’ve talked about already lest someone get STUPID and think that alcohol is a good thing.
- Now, consider all the warnings, lest someone think a bad day is an excuse to get drunk (**Proverbs 20:1, Proverbs 23:29-35, I Corinthians 6:9-11, Galatians 5:19-21, I Peter 2:11, and I Peter 4:1-5**).

7. What did Lemuel’s mother teach him to do for the dumb [mute], poor, and needy?

Speak up for them: *“(8) Open thy mouth for the dumb in the cause of all such as are appointed to destruction. (9) Open thy mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy” (Proverbs 31:8-9).*

- **Deuteronomy 16:18-20, Psalms 72:1-2, Psalms 82:3-4, and Isaiah 1:16-23.**