

## Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

*Part 170 – The Father Of The Righteous Through Seekers Of Alcohol (Proverbs 23:24-35)*

### 1. What does a righteous child cause his or her parents to do?

Have joy, gladness, and rejoicing: *“(24) The father of the righteous shall greatly rejoice: and he that begetteth a wise child shall have joy of him. (25) Thy father and thy mother shall be glad, and she that bare thee shall rejoice” (Proverbs 23:24-25).*

- **Proverbs 10:1, Proverbs 15:20, Proverbs 23:15-16, and Proverbs 29:3.**
- On the other hand, a foolish child causes suffering (**Proverbs 17:21; 25**).
- Jesus’ outlook is that obedience to God is above giving your mother and father a good name (**Luke 11:27-28**).

### 2. What should we give to our Heavenly Father?

Our hearts: *“My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways” (Proverbs 23:26).*

- First off, we know that the inspired words of Solomon are not telling a child to give his heart to Solomon (**Matthew 10:37-38 and Luke 14:26**).
  - We give our hearts to God (**Deuteronomy 6:5, Matthew 22:37, and II Corinthians 8:5**).
  - We observe God’s ways (**Deuteronomy 12:32, Matthew 28:20, and Hebrews 5:8-9**) first and foremost (**Galatians 1:10**).
  - A child obeys his or her parents if their instructions are right “in the Lord” (**Ephesians 6:1**).
- Our hearts and our obedience are tied together (**Deuteronomy 11:13, Joshua 22:5, and Romans 6:17**).
- A parent who is spiritually correct will guide the home from God’s word (**Deuteronomy 6:6-7 and Ephesians 6:4**).

### 3. What are a whore and strange woman compared to?

*“For a whore is a deep ditch; and a strange woman is a narrow pit” (Proverbs 23:27).*

- A whore shouldn’t even be near God’s people (**Deuteronomy 23:17-18**).
- The strange woman is a narrow pit (**Proverbs 22:14**).

### 4. Do whores and strange women try to trap men?

Yes: *“She also lieth in wait as for a prey, and increaseth the transgressors among men” (Proverbs 23:28).*

- Consider these lessons: **Judges 16:4-22, Proverbs 2:11-19, Proverbs 6:25, Proverbs 7:6-27, Proverbs 9:13-18, Ecclesiastes 7:26, and Luke 15:11-32** [\*vs. 30 shows young man wasted his living with harlots]).

5. Who has woe, sorrow, contentions, babbling, wounds without cause, and redness of eyes?  
*“(29) Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? (30) They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine” (Proverbs 23:29-30).*
- Wine is a mocker (**Proverbs 20:1**) that causes much harm to one’s life (**Proverbs 21:17**).
  - The drinking of alcohol causes people to forget the law of the Lord and to pervert judgment (**Proverbs 31:4-5** and **Isaiah 28:7-8**).
  - Alcohol makes one an easy target for wounds (**II Samuel 13:28**).
6. Should we look upon wine when it is in its intoxicating form?  
No: *“Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright” (Proverbs 23:31).*
- We need not behold evil things (**Isaiah 33:15-16**).
7. How is alcohol compared to a serpent and an adder [viper]?  
That it bites and stings: *“At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder” (Proverbs 23:32).*
- The end is death (cf. **Romans 6:21**).
8. Can alcohol cause us to act foolishly?  
As far as beholding strange women and uttering perverse things: *“Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things” (Proverbs 23:33).*
- Why did Lot’s daughters get him to drink wine (**Genesis 19:32-38**)?
  - Alcohol is certainly a drink used to get people to act like fools (**Habakkuk 2:15-16**).
  - Remember, we’re supposed to be sober/in control (**I Thessalonians 5:6**, **I Thessalonians 5:8**, **Titus 2:2-6**, **I Peter 1:13**, **I Peter 4:7**, and **I Peter 5:8**).
9. Can alcohol shake up your life, cause you physical harm, and still become something you strongly desire?  
Yes: *“(34) Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast. (35) They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not: when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again” (Proverbs 23:34-35).*
- When we’re “out of our minds”, bad things happen (**Ephesians 4:19**).
  - Addictions are horrible (**Isaiah 56:12**).
  - We should never surrender to the wants of the flesh (**Romans 13:14** and **I Peter 2:11**).