

## Advice From a Godly Mother

Text: Proverbs 31:1-31

### Introduction

It is interesting that this final chapter of Proverbs ends with a mother's instruction (v.1). Many times in this book we are exhorted to heed the "*instruction of thy father*" (cf. 1:8; 4:1; 13:1; 15:5). However, this chapter begins with the statement that these are some things "*that his mother taught him.*" It is generally agreed that *Lemuel* is another name for Solomon, and that Bathsheba is the mother in this passage. The name "*Lemuel*" means "belonging to God." This is similar to "Jedidiah," another name for Solomon (II Sam. 12:25), which means "beloved of the Lord." Therefore, it is not unreasonable to deduct that Solomon is the one being instructed here.

As we enter this chapter, we see that the mother is doing some instruction (v.1) concerning a "*prophecy*" (i.e., an oracle or burden). Here is a mother that is obviously concerned for her son. Such a burden should be had by all mothers for their children. As noticed earlier, the collection of Proverbs is instruction of a father and, now, a mother. Our young people of today are being deceived and led astray by the world, because the home is failing in its instruction.

In the latter part of this chapter, we will see the workings of a Godly wife. However, first let us examine...

### **I. The Warnings of a Godly Mother (vv. 1-9).**

—Solomon's mother takes her vows seriously (v.2). In other words, she knows that motherhood is a responsibility. Solomon is warned concerning...

A. \_\_\_\_\_ (v.3).

—She warned that the wrong woman will...

1. \_\_\_\_\_ your accumulation.

—"*strength*" is a Hebrew word that refers to one's riches, wealth, power, substance. Solomon warns Rehoboam concerning this same principle in chapter 5 (Pro. 5:3-11; cf. 7:22-23).

2. \_\_\_\_\_ your reputation.

—"*ways*" refers to the manner of life, or lifestyle (cf. 2:16-19; 6:32-33).

B. \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 4-7).

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of wine (vv. 4-5; cf. 23:31-33).

2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the wine (v.6).

C. \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 8-9).

1. Give \_\_\_\_\_ to the hopeless (v.8).

—Be willing to speak up and defend those who need it (cf. Pro. 3:27-29).

2. Give \_\_\_\_\_ to the helpless (v.9)

## II. The Workings of a Godly Wife (vv. 10-31).

In these twenty-two verses, we find the pattern of a model wife. The writer begins each of these verses with a letter of the Hebrew alphabet. This was a common practice to provide ease in memorization. For those ladies who would be please to God, husband and family, this is a model that should be studied, memorized and practiced. Notice her...

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ (v.10).

—Solomon should know about the rareness of such a wife. He had married 1,000 and still not found one. However, it is probable that this description is something he saw in his mother.

1. She must be \_\_\_\_\_ for.

QUOTE: “Solomon married a thousand wives, but he never married one like mine” (John Phillips).

2. She must be \_\_\_\_\_ for.

—A precious wife requires a precious \_\_\_\_\_.

- B. \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 11-12).

1. \_\_\_\_\_ to her husband.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ to her husband.

- C. \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 13-15).

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (v.13).

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ (v.15).

- D. \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 16-21).

1. Committed to \_\_\_\_\_ solvency (v.16).

2. Committed to \_\_\_\_\_ (v.17).

3. Committed to \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 18-19).

4. Committed to less \_\_\_\_\_ (v.26; cf. Dorcas in Acts 9:36-42).

5. Committed to the family’s home \_\_\_\_\_ (v.21).

- E. \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 22-27).

1. Proper in her \_\_\_\_\_ (v.22; cf. 7:10; I Pet. 3:1-5).
2. Promoting of her \_\_\_\_\_ (v.23).
3. Proven in her \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 24-25).
  - Reputation for \_\_\_\_\_ (v.24).
  - Reputation for \_\_\_\_\_ (v.25).
4. Pure in her \_\_\_\_\_ (v.26; cf. 25:11).
  - She uses the language of a lady and not \_\_\_\_\_ or vulgar words.
5. Practical in her \_\_\_\_\_ (v.27).
  - Does not permit idleness in her \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Does not permit idleness in \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Rewarded (vv. 28-31). —*She will be...*
  - Praised by her children.
  - Praised by her husband.
  - Praised by her Lord.
  - Praised by her works.

### **Conclusion to the Book of Proverbs**

We have reached the end of our journey through this fabulous book of Godly wisdom. Each verse has been examined and its truths have been extracted for application in our lives.

As we have traveled in expositional style through its pages, Proverbs has yielded many life principles, of which we have attempted to glean one hundred of them. Each principle has served to warn of the wrong friends, the wrong woman, the wrong choices. These principles have also served to exhort us to pursue wisdom, knowledge, integrity, moral purity, financial wisdom, and more.

At this point, each believer should commit themselves to making Proverbs a part of their daily biblical diet. Its truths are timeless, eternal and practical. May Proverbs become part of your life.