

Words of Lemuel

Proverbs 31 pt. 2

“Speak up, judge righteously, and defend the cause of the oppressed and needy.”

-Proverbs 31:9

What are some ways we can be a strong voice for the oppressed among us?

*Challenge h_____ speech

*Refuse to be a b_____

*Support those who are t_____

*Volunteer with j_____ organizations

*Attend c_____ events

“I raise up my voice, not so I can shout, but so that those without a voice can be heard.”

● Words of Lemuel Pt 2

6-7 Give beer to one who is dying and wine to one whose life is bitter. Let him drink so that he can forget his poverty and remember his trouble no more.

What is the main idea of this verse?

□ Who & _____ of _____

After warning her son of the dangers of frequent intoxication, King Lemuel’s mother highlights a situation where using alcohol is more appropriate.

● Who? _____; _____: Matthew 27:46-48

● Why? _____ troubles: Job 3:20-21

Are there any other exceptions to drinking alcohol?

*To be m_____; Psalm 104:15; Ecc. 9:7; John 2:10-11 *Cultural Sanitation

*As m_____ 1 Timothy 5:23

What is the general Biblical principle to remember about alcohol?

*Alcohol in and of itself is not a s_____. It is d_____ and a _____ to alcohol is where Christians must refrain.

□ 1 Cor. 6:12; Eph 5:18

8-9 Speak up for those who have no voice, for the justice of all who are dispossessed. Speak up, judge righteously, and defend the cause of the oppressed and needy.

What is the main idea of this verse?

□ S_____ up!

As a king, it was important for Lemuel to understand **how** a righteous leader advocates on behalf of those in need. Instead of failing to protect the afflicted and being a leader who took advantage of the poor and needy, his mother advised him to s_____ up.

Who does she encourage him to speak up for?

- No v_____; Hebrew word Illem means mute, speechless or unable to speak. (Matthew 9:32-33)
- D_____; Hebrew Ben means son, children, afflicted, aliens, exiles, foreigners; those deprived of homes. (Exodus 12:49; Leviticus 19:33)
- O_____ and N_____; Hebrew word ani means lowly, poor or downtrodden.

Why should we remember and speak up for these people among us today?

*O_____ grows when unchallenged

*God's W____ commands it

*People without power cannot f_____ alone

*Silence make us c_____

□ Exodus 22:22-23

How does she encourage him to speak up?

- R_____; Hebrew word Tsedeq means what is right, accurate, just, natural, moral, or legal. In full conformity with God's moral order.(Psalm 97:2)
- D_____; Hebrew word din means vindicate, plead

Notice his mother is not advocating for him to build up the treasury, create monuments to his reign, or establish a military power, but she encourages him to establish his throne on r_____.

□ Proverbs 21:21; Matthew 5:20

“Nothing can damn a man but his own righteousness, nothing can save him but the righteousness of Christ.”

10-12 Who can find a wife of noble character? She is far more precious than jewels. The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will not lack anything good. She rewards him with good, not evil, all the days of her life.

What is the main idea of this verse?

□ The v_____ of a noble w_____.

As Lemuel’s mother concludes her advice, he writes this well known poetic expression in acrostic fashion. With 21 verses remaining, he uses the letters from the hebrew alphabet in each line to express the virtues of a noble woman.

Notice the value of a wife of noble character:

#1 She is hard to f____: raises the question who can search her out?

#2 Her w_____ exceeds material possessions:

#3 She is t_____: Character and nature, speaks acts, and lives with w_____.

#4 She has a good r_____: The sense is that her goodness and faithful character becomes deeper and greater as the years go on.

□ Ruth 3:11

How would you encourage someone to be a wife of noble character?

*Start with identity, not performance (worth in Christ, her gifts, spritual growth)

*Speak l____ into her *Encourage g_____ not pressure

*Model the environment where nobel character thrives

□ Proverbs 12:4; 1 Timothy 2:9-10; 1 Peter 3:4

What is one thing you have learned that you are willing to share with someone else?

“The real ornament of a woman is her character and purity.”